

# Child Development Coordinating Council (CDCC) Minutes

Feb. 29, 2024

10 am - 3 pm

**Voting Members Present:** Tonya Krueger, Shelley Horak, Beth Van Meeteren, Heather Rouse (arrived at 11:30a), Jessica Burger (via Zoom at approximately 11:00a)

**Voting Members Absent:** Kimberly Villotti, Bebi Manns

**Non-Voting Members Present:** Teri Orr (via zoom), Sharon Burke (via Zoom), Ami Leath (via Zoom)

**Non-Voting Members Absent:** Monica Garner

**Staff to Council:** Marianne Rodrigues, Amy Stegeman

## INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM

### Welcome and Roll Call

Tonya Krueger, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order and asked members to introduce themselves. Tonya acknowledged a quorum was expected for the meeting, but determined that since a quorum was not currently present, no action items would be discussed until that time.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

## INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM

### Updates

#### ***Preschool and Parent Support***

Marianne Rodrigues gave an update on the FY23 Annual Report and stated that it was given to the governor as a part of a larger legislative report. Once it is posted to the Iowa Legislature site, the Department will notify grantees and other agencies. She encouraged members to share it when available. Amy Stegeman clarified that it previously used to be linked on the Council's webpage, but that webpage now links to the Iowa Legislative website due to website changes. Marianne then said all Shared Visions mid-year reports have been submitted and approved. Shared Visions Preschool Programs are required to complete three checkpoints in GOLD. She noted that the second checkpoint just occurred in February and those reports are being pulled.

Continuing with the updates, Marianne reminded the Council that Community Action of Eastern Iowa (CAEI) elected not to renew one of their grants for FY24. At the September meeting the Council discussed how those unspent grant funds would be utilized. Per the Council's decision

to offer those funds to programs in Scott County where programming was lost, staff contacted the CAEI grant coordinator. CAEI confirmed that they could utilize the funds to serve more children. Based on Council decision, all of the unused funding was added to the approved CAEI Fairmount Pines grant for a total state allocation of \$204,623. Funds will be released in the third and fourth quarters to support the extension of services. As a result of the additional funding, 47 children are being served.

Next, Marianne stated she will send out an email with options for potential FY25 meeting dates. Once Council member availability is reported, the dates with the most votes will be chosen. Amy Stegeman noted that due to the legislative changes, there are fewer voting members; ensuring meeting dates where the most attendees are available is vital.

Amy gave an update on ReadyRosie. She reminded the Council this service was offered to Shared Visions families at no cost. ReadyRosie has been in implementation for almost a year. Amy reminded the Council professional development for Shared Visions preschool and family support staff was offered in the fall where over 100 Shared Visions staff attended. Since this time, there has been a 47 percent increase in registered users connected to the Shared Visions Programs, and data indicates increased activity by families. Two additional training sessions for Shared Visions staff are planned in March.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION Item**

### **Iowa Child Care Workforce Study**

Ashley Otte, from Iowa Association for Education of Young Children (IAEYC), shared the [2023 Iowa Child Care Workforce Study](#) findings. The Council discussed potential responses to the concerns identified within the findings. One option was to develop a statement offering feasible action steps. There was agreement to add this discussion to a future agenda and to consider who would be the recipient of such a statement from the Council.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION Item**

### **Health and Human Services Presentation**

Shelley Horak gave a presentation about the Health and Human Services Early Intervention and Support Team. She shared that the team is housed within the Division of Family Well-being and Protection, along with Child Care and Child Protective Services. Shelley shared the unofficial tagline of, "More good days for families." The team's mission is to leverage resources and utilize data to customize services that meet the needs of families.

Shelley said they are asking questions of both providers and families to find out what is currently going well and not so well. She discussed focusing service and care around goals, pathways, and agency.

She also discussed Health and Human Services' new governance structure. Some of these structure elements include individual, interpersonal, organizational, community, and policy. Shelley added that the goal is to communicate changes as transparently as possible.

At Shelley's conclusion, Vice Chair Tonya Krueger noted that updates could continue until there was a full quorum.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **Updates Continued**

#### ***Early Childhood Iowa (ECI)***

Shelley Horak spoke on ECI changes and work related to service options, specifically using Tool O; this helps to determine how to use ECI to address family overload. There has been concern that family support was going away within the ECI system of support. Shelley confirmed that family support will not go away, but ECI is considering how to utilize the system to increase service offerings. There have been some early conversations happening which include talking about [Thrive Iowa](#) and how to do a better job of creating partnerships.

Updates were paused by Tonya Krueger who asked the Council to review the action items now that quorum was present.

## **ACTION ITEM**

### **Adoption of the Agenda**

In consultation with staff to the Council, Tonya determined that since a large part of the agenda had already been addressed, this action item was no longer necessary. Tonya moved to the next action item.

## **ACTION ITEM**

### **December 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Tonya Krueger asked the Council to review the December 21, 2023 draft meeting minutes. Jess Burger made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Beth Van Meeteran. Tonya called for a vote. Approval was unanimous.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **Updates Continued**

#### ***Member Updates***

Tonya Krueger stated Child Health Specialty Clinics (CHSC) did get a new director, Vanessa Curtis. She also stated their Year-End Review for 2023 is available. This document provides specific population services and available programs. She also stated that today is [Rare Disease Day](#) and that CHSC does have a designation as a rare disease center. Tonya reminded the group that nearly 10 percent of the population is affected by rare diseases.

Heather Rouse noted that I2D2 has been working with ECI to update a lot of data resources. The 2023 ECI Annual Report characterizes a lot of the state-wide approved indicators as well as the updated data drive as a resource from which one can get data. Heather shared they are upgrading drive resources to be more interactive. I2D2 has been working with Head Start

directors to add more data to the drive and there will be many more additions to this resource during the upcoming year.

Sharon Burke shared that the Iowa Head Start Association spring conference is coming up in April. There's also an approaching legislative breakfast at the Capital. Lastly, she shared most Head Starts are busy with registrations for the upcoming school year.

Ami Leath noted that AEAs are continuing their work and advocating while providing day to day support. She stated that many AEA staff have been asking her questions about how the CDCC will be affected by the AEA legislation that is currently being discussed. Tonya stated that we will be discussing legislative updates after member updates.

Teri Orr talked to local legislators about solutions that are working in CCR&R areas. As a state-wide system, they apply for funds every five years and they just submitted the grant RFP. They are starting to plan for FY25 and are seeing an uptick in challenging behaviors in programs across the board. CCR&R is trying to determine how best to support programs with IQ4K. The higher levels of IQ4K take more preparation and planning. CCR&R is hearing about an increase in workload stress due to staff vacancies. [The Child Care Collaborative of Iowa's Business Library](#) recently launched. This online library includes financial and business resources specifically for child care providers and business administrators.

Jess Burger highlighted a partnership with Grant Wood AEA where staff are supporting implementation of Prevent-Teach-Reinforce for Young Children (PTR-YC). The partnership involves some ECI dollars. Among those that can receive PTR-YC training, coaching, and support are child care providers and Head Start teachers.

### ***Legislative Update***

Amy Stegeman noted that the Department of Education is tracking several bills with some affecting the preschool population and programs. The Department is offering feedback when asked for input. There is a bill that could have a direct impact on how CDCC meetings function. It currently is being proposed that boards and commissions shall provide an electronic option for attending meetings. Amy said the funding that supports the Council also funds the AEA network. The last bill version Amy read would change how funding flows and indicated funding would go to the Council rather than the AEAs and be used for the same purpose.

Amy shared it is anticipated Kimberly Villotti will return from medical leave around March 11th. In her absence, an update related to the Department of Education was offered stating there are four open positions within the Early Childhood Bureau to be posted soon.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **Proposed Agenda Items for April Meeting:**

- Grant Work
- Updates
- Dates for (five) FY25 CDCC Meetings

- Other items

Tonya Krueger stated the items listed above will be on the agenda for the next meeting. She reiterated that the Council will need one additional meeting date, for a total of five meetings in FY25. In addition, Tonya said the Council will have a discussion around the Childcare Workforce Study. Amy Stegeman added that more time for grant work would be helpful.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **Grant Work Cycle**

Members prioritized content related to the preschool and parent support competitive grant applications. This will be used to develop updated drafts and guide work during the next meeting.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **Connections with Stakeholders**

Tonya Krueger encouraged Council members to think about stakeholder connections and content being communicated from each meeting.

### **Adjourn**

Tonya Krueger adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm.