



**Butler County Child & Family Development
Task Force
June 17, 2009**

VISION STATEMENT

The Butler County Child and Family Development Task Force, with community support, ensure quality, available, and affordable childcare, early childhood education, children's health services and family support for all children in Butler County.

Meeting Minutes

Attendees (14 total):

Angie Baur, Community Foundation of Greater Butler County; Audra Kenneson, Smart Start; Darla Carter, Family Life Center Safehouse; Jamie Downs, Butler County Health Department; Jamie Jellison, Butler Community College; Jill Morrow, Bright Beginnings; Jodi Evans, YMCA; Ken Grochowsky, SRS; Luann McFadden, Bright Beginnings; Jackie Tanner, Child Start; Marla Canfield, ECAAP; Susan Duncan, Butler Community College; Susan Harsh, Bright Beginnings; Suzi Thien, SCARF.

Introductions & Announcements:

Audra welcomed the group and everyone introduced themselves.

- Jodi – They are working on getting everything ready for child care at the Y in Andover. Supplies have been ordered and they are looking at information to determine how many slots (and for what age groups) are still open. The Y will be having child care for children 2 weeks old through Kindergarten-ready. For information about child care at the Y, please contact Jodi at jodi@wichitaymca.org.
- Audra – Dental clinics were last week; 11 children were served. Audra handed out Rainbows Readers.
- EduCare – Looking at adding a camera system for the parents to look online at their children in the child care rooms. BCC security is also working with EduCare to do safety drills, etc. When Sue B returned from vacation, she had a larger office! (Staff of EduCare cleaned her office and found documents that were older than some of the staff!)
- Suzi – Nichole Stump left the coordinator position at the Children's Advocacy Center because her family moved to Denver. A new person has been hired and is currently going through SANE/SART training.
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Guest Presenters:

- Angie Baur – Community Foundation of Greater Butler County: Angie presented a power point. Three distinguishing characteristics of a community foundation: Personalized service, local expertise, and community leadership. The mission of the foundation is to assist donors in building a permanent pool of assets for the people, organizations and causes in the Greater Butler County area. They began in 2001 via a seed grant from the Kansas Health Foundation. They currently hold 30 funds and have given out \$210,000.

The Foundation became a partner with the Task Force when we joined with the Visioneering Birth – K Alliance in writing for the block grant last fall. For more information about the foundation, please contact Angie at info@communityfoundationbc.org.

Smart Start and Early Childhood Block Grant Update:

Report on how we are on filling available supplements and scholarships

- Smart Start Funds
 - Infant Care Supplement – 2 of 4 filled – (one applications for advisory committee today)
 - Start Up Grant – 2 of 5 filled
 - Grant to Existing Provider – 0 of 5 filled (five applications for advisory committee today)
 - Butler Community College Early Childhood Classes - \$1940 of \$4500 used. (summer scholarships not yet submitted)

- Early Childhood Block Grant Funds
 - Infant Care Supplement – 1 of 3 filled
 - Special Needs Care Supplement – 3 of 3 filled
 - Child Care Scholarships to Families – 10 of 20 filled (three applications for advisory committee today)

2009 Schedule, Where can YOU help?

We have added several folks and the schedule is nearly complete. Suzi Thien (SCARF) has been added. Audra will add Sue B. to speak about the BEST Team.

Fatherhood Initiative:

Saturday, June 20 in El Dorado and Augusta there will be an activity at the libraries that focus on children and their dad (granddad, uncle, etc). The event is called “Our Time: Dad and Me.” Audra handed out flyers. Currently there are 17 children signed up for El Dorado and 3 signed up for Augusta.

Early Head Start:

The Early Head Start Grant is coming along. Several partners have been notified that we need letters of support or agreement. If you haven’t heard from us, you will. We had a community meeting on June 2 and a meeting for child care providers on June 15. We will be writing for Butler County and will write to serve 80 children. The grant will be submitted the first week of July. We will have a party and Audra will bring a cake WHEN we get the grant!

Strategic Plan:

Audra passed out copies of the strategic plan – with updates. Audra goes through the strategic plan quarterly to ensure that the dates of accomplishments are posted. We have made great strides as a group of partners working together on the identified needs from our plan which was created in the fall of 2007. As we look forward, keep in mind that we have new members at the table and we have met some of the goals that we set. As we continue to work on the strategic

plan, we will continue to identify areas where need exists. (for those who were not in attendance, the updated strategic plan will be posted with these minutes on the web page).

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 15 from 11 am – 1 pm Bradford Memorial Library in El Dorado. Please bring your own lunch. Guest presenters will be Stefani Brand: Marriage for Keeps and Marta Curry: Financial Advisor.

Note: If you or someone you know would like to be added to the mailing list for the Butler County Child & Family Development Task Force, please email Audra Kenneson at akenneson@rui.org

Minutes written by Audra Kenneson, LMSW
June 17, 2009