



**Butler County Child & Family Development
Task Force
May 19, 2010**

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 (21 total):

Audra Kenneson, Smart Start; Barb Roths, Butler County Extension; Barbara Ehret, Mid-CAP Head Start & Parent; Brandi Smith, SCMHCC Preschool; Darla Carter, Family Life Center Safehouse; Debra Mattingly, SRS – El Dorado; Jamie Jellison, BCC EduCare & Parent; Jill Morrow, Bright Beginnings; Jodi Evans, Andover YMCA; Kandi Miller, United Way of the Plains; Kathy Gann, Children's Mercy; Luann McFadden, Bright Beginnings; Mark Wirth, First Church of the Nazarene & Butler Dads; Marla Canfield, ECAAP; Traci Pohlenz, Unicare; Sue Barrientos, BCC Early Education Dept; Susan Duncan, BCC EduCare & Grandparent/Guardian; Susan Harsh, Bright Beginnings; Teresa Thompson, BCC Early Childhood Program. Guests: Amy Karr, KCSL; Sandy Seward, BCC.

Introductions & Announcements:

Audra welcomed the group.

- Brandi: Social Stars Therapeutic Preschool is officially licensed.
- Sue: July 24 will be a Professional Development Day for area child care providers. Focus will be on Safety. Audra will let everyone know more as we work together as a team to plan this day (so partnering agencies can set up information booths). It will be held at the new building on BCC's campus.
- Darla: The OARS advocate is retiring and they are going to have a grant that will allow them to hire a new position for here in this county. This advocate will help women with children who have been abused and are on TANF.
- Kathy G: Brought hand sanitizers and magnets to hand out. Also information about services are on a post card. Saturday, October 16 will be the Wichita community baby shower. It will be a resource fair.
- Barb R: June 21 – 25 will be Kids College. They will have a money management for middle school kids called "Moolah Venture." All week, 8 am to 5 pm for \$120.
- Sue Barrientos was given an award at last night's Children's Champions award reception for Child Start. Congratulations to Sue for a well-deserved honor.

Guest Presenters:

- Marla Canfield – Apprenticeship Program, ECAAP – Department of Commerce: Marla shared four handouts with us that explain her program. ECAAP provides workers with skills and credentials that meet the Kansas early care and education requirements. The program takes approximately 2 years to complete and requires 4,000 hours of on the job training and 20 hours of early childhood college credit. In Butler County, participants are at EduCare, Andover YMCA, and WeeRockets. First Baptist in El Dorado are signed up but does not yet have an active apprentice. For more information

talk with Marla or email her at mcanfield@kansascommerce.com or check out the ECAAP website www.kansasecaap.org.

- Amy Karr – KCSL, Period of Purple Crying: Amy passed around packets of information that included a magnet that has the parent help line on it and tip cards. The letters in Purple stand for:
P – Peak of crying – Your baby may cry more each week. The most at 2 months, then less at 3 – 5 months.
U – Unexpected – Crying can come and go and you don't know why.
R – Resists soothing – Your baby may not stop crying no matter what you try.
P – Pain-like Face – A crying baby may look like they are in pain, even when they are not.
L – Long Lasting – Crying can last as much as five hours a day, or more.
E – Evening – Your baby may cry more in the late afternoon and evening.
The word PERIOD means that the crying has a beginning and an end. All women who give birth in one of the hospitals in Butler and Sedgwick Counties are given the CD in the hospital and they are encouraged to show family members and care takers. For more information, Amy can be reached via email at akarr@kcsl.org.

Butler Dads – Mark Wirth:

We will be having our second annual Dad and Me event in June (because of Father's Day). Events will be June 5 – Augusta (Kiwanas will be the volunteers), June 12 – El Dorado (members of the First United Methodist, with help from their youth group), June 19 – Andover, and June 26 – Rose Hill (members of the fire department will be there). Mark and Audra are working on these events and, with the help of local librarians, locating people in each community to help.

Children's Initiative Funds:

Kansas lawmakers voted to increase the sales tax one cent for three years. In doing so, they did not take any money from the Children's Cabinet for 2010. This means that, for now, our budget remains as it was. We will go forward with our plans for parenting classes, scholarships and supplements, etc. Thank you to everyone who contacted your local legislators and please take the time to send them a thank you.

Other

Teresa – Prairie Land Food is being offered in this community again. Audra has been getting information and some of the partners would like to have it to spread the information to their agency. Audra will again forward Prairie Land Food information.

Kathy G – They are now able to pay for breast pumps!

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 16 from 11 am – 1 pm Bradford Memorial Library in El Dorado. Please bring your own lunch. Our guest presenters will be our friends from Child Start to talk with us about KQRIS: Marcy Cone, Clairissa Maddy, and Jackie Tanner.

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@ruj.org

Minutes written by Audra Kenneson, LMSW
May 19, 2010