



**Butler County Child & Family Development
Task Force
July 21, 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 (16 total):

Audra Kenneson, Smart Start; Brandi Smith, SCMHC Social Stars Preschool; Debbie Mai, Rainbows United; Jamie Downs, Butler County Health Department; Jamie Jellison, EduCare & Parent; Kandi Miller, United Way of the Plains; Kris Nicholson, KACCRRRA; Leslie Sissel, Rose Hill Parents as Teachers; Luann McFadden, Bright Beginnings; Mark Wirth, Butler Dads; Marla Canfield, ECAAP; Sue Barrientos, BCC Early Education Dept; Susan Duncan, BCC EduCare & Grandparent/Guardian; Suzi Thien, SCARF; Laney Uphoff, Rocko, Inc; Crystal Franks, Child Start.

Introductions & Announcements:

Audra welcomed the group.

- Info from Teresa L (library) – There are books to give away about the food pyramid. See Teresa after the meeting.
- Jamie D – the Baby Shower for New Moms and women who are pregnant. They will have wonderful give-aways. Jamie passed out the flyer – please post and send info to others. Thursday, August 5. 7 – 8 pm at the Health Department in El Dorado.
- Crystal – Child Start has some grant opportunities for child care providers that will be coming up. Keep your eye on their website for more information.

Guest Presenters:

- Brandi Smith – SCMHC's Social Stars Preschool: Brandi provided handouts. They serve 3 – 5 year olds and some 6 year olds. Brandi shared a story about a child who has autism and his successes after attending the Social Stars program. They have a teacher/child ratio that typically allows 1 staff to 2 children. They work directly with the child's treatment team from SCMHC on social/emotional skills, but also on kindergarten readiness. They do "Second Step" and "Conscious Discipline." Children must have an SED diagnosis (explained in the brochure). They have a part time class and a full time class. They can serve up to 12 in each class – a total of 36 children. Currently they are serving 12 children with 8 staff members. Teachers have a wide variety of backgrounds. Funding comes from Health Wave, the waver program, and sliding fee scales. Brandi handed out brochures and referral pages and encourages us to pass the information along. For more information Brandi can be reached at 452.5660 or via email at brandismith@scmhcc.org.

Butler Dads:

The 2nd Annual “Our Time: Dad and Me” events were held and were successful. June events in El Dorado, Augusta, Rose Hill and Andover. A Total of 58 kids and 38 dads were served. Area dads volunteered in each community; in Augusta the Kiwanas volunteered and in Rose Hill the Fire Department volunteered. Audra extended a special thank you to Mark Wirth who did the majority of the community work and planning on these events. Butler Dads continues to grow because of his commitment!

Visioneering Birth – K Alliance:

The B – K Alliance will be meeting in October. At that meeting they will discuss whether or not there continues to be a need to meet. The MSA Council meets with one representative from each county and would continue to report back to their local ICCs.

Greater Butler County Campus-Community Partnership:

Darla was unable to attend, but she sent the following information to Audra, who shared it with the group:

The meeting went very well; we had about 45 to 50 people attend. We heard from United Way of the Plains and they talked to us about United Way 211 call center, the Volunteer Center, Community Needs Assessment and the United Way GIV program. The 211 Call Center is very exciting, anyone in Kansas can call 211 and get resources about anything. You can also go on www.211kansas.org and get information and they encouraged all non-profit organizations to register they organization with the 211 call center. The GIV Program is another neat program, they have a warehouse in Wichita that you can set up an appointment and get office supplies and furniture for free. Our next partnership is August 16 at 11:00 (bring your lunch) and Marv Loucks will be talking about Vision 2010 and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. They September 20 meeting will be about the Adopt a Classroom.

Hopefully that gives you a pretty good overview of the meeting.

Thanks,

Darla

Child Care Provider Professional Development Day – Saturday, July 24:

As a fundraiser for EduCare, this full day of health/safety training will be provided free of charge to child care providers. Wonderful Door Prizes as well as a \$100 stipend for each program in attendance. Attendees have enrolled on KS Train and the registration has been closed because the sessions are full. Debra Mattingly, Jamie Downs, and Audra are helping EduCare work on this project. (handout)

Future Meetings:

This is a reminder to mark your calendars for our September meeting, which will be held in Rose Hill at the Parents as Teachers program. Audra will send lots of reminders.

We will be doing our Strategic Planning in October. The date will be the regular meeting day (October 20). Please mark your calendars so you can join us for this important meeting.

Although the locations and exact times have not been set in stone yet, please reserve most of the day for this meeting.

Other

None

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 18 from 11 am – 1 pm Bradford Memorial Library in El Dorado. Please bring your own lunch. Our guest presenter will be Kris Nicholson – KACCRRRA T.E.A.C.H. & WAGE\$ programs.

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
July 28, 2010