



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

For Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Location: Bradford Memorial Library – El Dorado, KS

Attendees (18 total):

Amanda Dorey, SCMHCC Social Stars; Audra Kenneson, Smart Start; Becky Hadicke, SRS; Darla Carter, Family Life Center Safehouse; Debbie Mai, Rainbows United; Jamie Downs, Butler County Health Department; Jamie Jellison, BCC EduCare; Jennifer Hecker, Child Care Aware of Kansas; Kandi Miller, United Way of the Plains; Kris Nicholson, Child Care Aware of Kansas; Leslie Sissel, Parents as Teachers; Marcy Cone, Child Start; Marion Nichols, Mid-KS CAP; Suzi Thien, SCARF; Sue Barrientos, BCC Early Childhood & EduCare; Tamara Bernard, Smart Start; Trisha Smith, SCMHCC; and Miles Harvey, Butler County Special Ed. Coop.

Introductions & Announcements:

- Jamie D. – Health Department purchased infant carriers, booster seats, bike helmets, breast pumps, playpens, etc. using a Maternal Child Health Grant with the purpose of preventing childhood injury. If people are interested in obtaining items, contact Jamie for more information: Jdowns@bucoks.com. Also, Jamie is required to have a Strategic Plan and will list the Butler County Child and Family Development Task Force as a collaborator. They will have another Baby Shower this year and it will be held during world breast feeding week (August 4). More information will be sent out. Also, Janice Powers has been hired as the new administrator of the Health Department. Jamie will invite her to a future task force meeting so we can meet her.
- Jamie J. – Former EduCare lead instructor, Brooke Wolf, has been hired by Head Start to be the Education and Disabilities Manager.
- Marion – Mid-KS CAP received a grant from Delta Dental and have 1600 dental kits. They will do education and will give kits out. They are writing a grant to have a Train the Trainer event and host the Parent Talk trainer in October. She will send out more information when they know more. The Transitional Housing program in Butler is full and they are doing a waiting list. For more information, contact Marion at mnichols@mid-capinc.org.
- Leslie – PAT in Rose Hill has been funded again. Leslie's husband is expected home from Afghanistan on Friday of this week!!!

- Darla – The Kids Safe program is starting again in August for children who are 8/9 years old and up. If you know of families who are interested, contact Darla at safe.house@flc.kscox.mail.com or 321.7104.
- Audra – Smart Start trainings for the remainder of the year were listed and passed out on a handout by Audra. (see Handouts)

Guest Presenters:

Trisha Smith & Amanda Dorey – South Central Mental Health Counseling Center & Social Stars Preschool: This is the 48th year of SCMHC serving Butler County. They have 150 staff. They served approximately 3000 clients last year. They do not deny service because of inability to pay. Last year they provided approximately \$1,785,000 in free/reduced fees. They have 24/7 Crisis services available. They have a new doctor and nurse on staff. In August they will be adding another physician. In the Community Based Services, 61% of their kids graduate successfully. Social Stars Learning Center is located on Oil Hill Rd in El Dorado. They provide a service for children 3 – 6 years who are exhibiting signs of emotional or behavioral problems. For more information contact Trisha at trishasmith@scmhcc.com or Amanda at amandadorey@scmhcc.org. (see handouts).

Jennifer Hecker – Child Care Aware of Kansas ® - KQRIS Program: Jennifer provided a power point and handouts explaining the KQRIS program in Butler County. The information she shared is on the handouts. (see handouts). For more information, Jennifer can be reached at Jennifer@kaccrra.org.

Butler Dads

The events in June served 58 total children. Events were held in the following locations with the following volunteers.

- June 4 – Whitewater – Held at the Swiss Church - local business men volunteered.
- June 4 – Augusta – Held at the Augusta Public Library. - the Augusta Kiwanis group volunteered.
- June 11 – El Dorado – Held at Bradford Memorial Library – the men from the First Church of the Nazarene volunteered.
- June 18 – Andover – Held at Andover Public Library – local dads and the Andover Fire Department volunteered.
- June 25 – Rose Hill – Held at the Rose Hill Public Library – local dads and the Rose Hill Fire Department volunteered.

Mark Wirth provided a HUGE amount of volunteer time in planning, preparation, and execution of these events. We have relied on him heavily in the future and he needs help. If you or any man in your world wishes to volunteer to help us in the execution of these events in the future, we would appreciate the help. If we had 1 – 3 men who would pitch in, the event takes little time (1 hour) in April and May and then a few hours in June. No other time is needed at this point. If our Butler Dads program continues to grow by leaps and bounds, Mark cannot do it alone.

MSA Council Update – Audra

Audra met with the MSA Council earlier this month. No new news to report. We are waiting on the information about the grant release from the Children’s Cabinet.

(Note: As of the date of the writing of these minutes, we have information about the grant release. We have been notified that the RFP for the grant will be “Around Labor Day.” We are told that the Smart Start and the Early Childhood Block Grant will be combined into one grant with a submission date of sometime in Mid-October.)

Other:

The newsletter has been sent out in May, June, and July. We’ve collected names over the course of the three months. Today the group is asked to choose one or two titles that appeal to them. The highest favorite will be compiled, Audra will check those for availability and then the Smart Start Advisory Committee, with the help of the marketing department at Rainbows, will choose a name for the newsletter! Audra thanks everyone who submitted an option.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on August 17 at Bradford Memorial Library (611 S. Washington; El Dorado, KS) at 11 am. The presenter will be Anne Sehie – Butler County Health Department Healthy Start Program.

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 22, 2011