



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, September 19, 2012

Location: Bradford Memorial Library – El Dorado

Attendees (21 total):

Audra Kenneson – Smart Start; Brooke Wolfe – Head Start; Debbie Willsie – DCF Wichita Region; Dale Tower – Community Partner and Employment First of Butler County; Darla Carter – Family Life Center Safehouse; Jill Morrow – Bright Beginnings; Jodi Evans – YMCA ELC Andover; Kandi Schmidt – United Way of the Plains; Kathy Van Zelfden – Smart Start Mental Health Specialist; Kris Nicholson, Child Care Aware of KS – TEACH/WAGE\$/KQRIS; Marcy Cone – Child Start; Nichole Hall – CDDO of Butler County; Rikki Bowker – CDDO Butler County; Sue Givens – USD 490; Susan Harsh – Bright Beginnings; Tamara Bernard, Smart Start; Teresa Thompson – BCC Early Childhood. **New:** Holly Whitson – SCMHCC; Maggie Duncan – Augusta First Baptist Preschool; Jan Weber – Skelly Elementary; Melody Gault – Foster Grandparent Program.

Introductions & Announcements:

- Dale – Employment First of Butler County will host a lunch and learn tomorrow from 1130 to 1230 at Pizza Hut on North Main. They are looking for mentors. For more about Employment first, Dale can be reached via email at dtower@sktc.net.
- Teresa– EduCare was recently reaccredited through NAEYC!
- Melody – They found out they have the Foster Grandparent program. It was previously held and relinquished by a program in Winfield. It covers 9 counties. They are currently reaching out to the work stations and grandparents who were previously active to see who wishes to continue. It will start on October 1. For more information Melody can be reached at mgault@bucoks.com or 775.0500.
- Susan – The Rainbows Run/Walk has been scheduled for May 4, 2013 in El Dorado.
- Marcy – Marcy passed out Child Start sticky note pads.

- Audra

- Legislative Candidate Forum on Early Childhood Priorities to be held tomorrow (Sept 20) from 10 am to Noon at Heart Spring Conference Center 8700 E. 29th Street North, Wichita (see notes pages)
- Home Visitation Training will be held on September 24 from 8:30 to 10:30. The topic is “Safety for the home visitor” and will be free to anyone who attends. It will be at Wesley Hospital’s Cessna Conference Room.
- Audra passed out “The Canvas,” a publication from Rainbows (see notes pages)
- Audra passed out information from the Wichita Art Museum about activities for families with young children (see notes pages)

Guest Presenter

Rikki Bowker - CDDO: Rikki is the Assistant Executive Director of the CDDO. Nicole Hall is the Executive Director. The CDDO is located at Main and Ash in El Dorado. It is the Community Developmental Disability Organization and contracts with the State to ensure that services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are available locally. They coordinate with community service providers to ensure a wide range of services and supports are available. Rikki gave us a brochure (see notes pages). For more information, the Rikki can be contacted at rikki@cddobutlercounty.org or 322.8777.

BCCAECE Update – Teresa Thompson

September 7 was the group’s first meeting of the year; Audra spoke to the attendees about the importance of being a registered voter and voting. Additionally, instructors brought examples of past projects for current students to look at. Three scholarships to KAEYC were given; two were paid for by Smart Start and one was paid for by BCCAECE. They currently have 34 members. Next month the meeting will be at Great Plains Nature Center. The KAEYC conference is October 12 and 13 in Manhattan. Teresa and Audra will do a break out session on Ethics for the Child Care Provider and Tamara Bernard (Smart Start) will do a break out session on Brain Development. For more information about BCCAECE (Butler Community College Association of Early Childhood Educators), Teresa can be reached at tthompson@butlercc.edu.

Child Start Head Start Update – Brooke Wolf:

Brooke brought flyers for Head Start programs in Butler County. They currently have several vacancies, no site is full. There is a lot going on with getting sites ready. They have been doing home-based visits with families – 1 ½ hours per week with each child/family. The tentative dates for starting are Augusta – October 1; Bluestem & El Dorado – October 8. For more information about Head Start you can reach Brooke at bwolf@childstart.org

Smart Start Lending Library – New Items for Supervisors/Leadership:

In our work with the Butler Directors group, we've seen a need for information in our lending library to offer supervisory support to child care directors. New items have been purchased and are available to others in the community (not just those who work in child care). Items include:

- Thumb balls (to spark conversation before team meeting)
- CDs
 - How to Supervise and Produce Real Results
 - Dealing with Different, Diverse, and Difficult People
 - 12 Secrets to High Self Esteem
 - Communicating with Poise and Power
- Books
 - Life Scripts: What to say to get what you want
 - Ice Breakers Pocket Book
 - Team Builders Pocket Book
 - Customer Service Pocket Book

November & December Meetings:

- Looking at November, we see that the third Wednesday is the day before the fourth Thursday (Thanksgiving). We voted to move the November meeting to November 14 instead of having it on the 21st.

Other:

Susan – The El Dorado First United Methodist Church is establishing a MOPS group and they hope to have it running in October/November.

Maggie – Augusta First Baptist has a MOPS program that runs on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 9 to 11.

Next Meeting:

- October 17 – Bradford Memorial Library – 611 S. Washington; El Dorado
 - Guest Speaker: Miles Harvey – Butler County Special Education Cooperative

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
Monday, October 1, 2012