



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, October 17, 2012

Location: Bradford Memorial Library – El Dorado

Attendees (29 total):

Amanda Dorey – SCMHCC Social Stars; Audra Kenneson – Smart Start; Debbie Willsie – DCF Wichita Region; Darla Carter – Family Life Center Safehouse; Debbie Mai – Rainbows United; Jill Morrow – Bright Beginnings; Kathy Van Zelfden – Smart Start Mental Health Specialist; Leslie Sissel – Rose Hill PAT; Luann McFadden – Bright Beginnings; Maggie Duncan – Augusta First Baptist Preschool; Melody Gault – Foster Grandparent Program; Miles Harvey – Butler County Special Education Coop; Susan Harsh – Bright Beginnings; Tamara Bernard, Smart Start; Tricia Bassingthwaighte – New Generation Christian Learning Center. **New:** Jamie Bailey – Foster Grandparent Program; Joyce Stockham – Mid-Kansas CAP; Bonnie Duden – ECAAP Dept of Commerce; Cheryl Dunn – Child Start. (+ 9 guests with Miles for the presentaion).

Introductions & Announcements:

- Melody – All grandparents who were with the program before are back and starting. They have 10 openings for grandparents in Butler County. She handed out a brochure with enrollment form (see attachment for brochure). For more information about the Foster Grandparent Program you can reach Melody at 775.0500 or mgault@bucoks.com.
- Cheryl – Child Start is awaiting news from Child Care Aware of Kansas. They will continue to provide training and will publish that information in Crib Notes and online. They will make decisions about staffing when they know more. For more information about Child Start's training check out their website at www.childstart.org.
- BCCAECE – They have had a coat drive and will be giving the coats away at Trick or Treat Street in Augusta on Saturday, October 27. Gently used or new coats and new hats and gloves are needed. You can drop them off at the First Christian Church in Augusta (1600 State St).

Guest Presenters

Miles Harvey & Friends – Butler County Special Education Cooperative: Information was shared by members of the staff and included the information about the following topics:

- School Psychologist
 - Child Find / Count Your Kid In
 - Diagnostic Services
 - Transition From Part C program (Birth to 3) to Part B program (ECSE)
 - Transition from ECSE to Kindergarten
- Early Childhood Teacher
 - Centers focus on cognitive, fine motor, gross motor skills
 - 4th grade buddies come to spend time in the class
 - Classes have combined children with special needs and peer role models
- Speech & Language
 - Assess as part of the early childhood comprehensive evaluation
 - Articulation, Voice, Fluency, Receptive and Expressive Language
 - Therapy (individual and group work)
- School Social Worker
 - Work with early childhood kids focus on social/emotional skills
 - Provided contact information for social workers
 - Work mostly with special education program but can help with kids who are not in special education
- Structured Learning (Autism)
 - Individualized support for kids with autism or identifiers
 - Teach social and preacademic skills needed to be successful in class
 - Support the autism specialist
 - Work on specific behaviors and provide training for staff
- Vision Services
 - Teacher of students with visual impairments
 - Provide assessments – look at how they will use their vision in real life (vs. how the eye doctor sees it in a room with perfect lighting, perfect print, etc).
 - Can do consultation or direct services
 - No specific class – they go everywhere.
- Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services
 - Be an advocate & mentor for the parents & student
 - Assist parents in learning about the communication modalities for their child & family
 - Oral-Auditory-Verbal
 - Sign language in SimCom or American Sign Language
 - Provide accessibility to language/communication full time
 - Language therapy
 - Train staff & family on hearing devices & communication techniques
 - Auditory training or brain training to use residual hearing amplified
 - Teach families and staff sign language if they choose to sign
- Occupational Therapy

- Look at what a young child is supposed to do – “their job for learning”
- Look at specific things that will help the child reach developmental milestones, remediate or try to correct the form of what they do (like grasping a crayon), and adaptation.
- Fine motor, visual perception, self care skills, sensory processing
- Physical Therapy
 - Motor groups conducted (along with Occupational Therapist)
 - Circle time activities focus on different skills
 - Mobility, self help skills, balance and coordination, play skills, equipment needs – assistive devices.

For more information Miles Harvey can be reached at 775.6904 or mharvey@eldoradoschools.org.

Smart Start and Early Childhood Block Grants

The Smart Start and the former Early Childhood Block Grant will no longer be released in the form that they have been. We had the Smart Start grant for 8 years and the Early Childhood Block Grant for 4 years. The two funding streams have been combined and will now be put into a new Early Childhood Block Grant. The Request for Proposal (RFP) was released and the focus is on certain school districts who showed a high need due to low AYP Fourth Grade Reading Scores. The information for that report to the Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund will be connected as a report to our website for your information. We will write a proposal for 2013. Because the RFP looks different than the past, our program will take a different look – should we be fortunate enough to receive funding. We have talked with Sue Givens to obtain information about El Dorado schools. We will write and turn the grant in the first week of November. When we know whether or not we are funded we will report to the group. We are also looking at other funding streams. We will report more when we know more.

Child Start Head Start Update – Brooke Wolf:

Representative was unable to attend. They do have openings for children and for staff. For more information contact Brooke Wolf at bwolf@childstart.org.

Other:

None

Next Meeting:

- November 14 – NOTE this is the second Wednesday of November
 - The meeting may be cancelled. Keep your eye out in your email.

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 31, 2012