

Visions for Early Learning



Board Member Meeting
September 17, 2013

Present at the meeting: Cristi H., Mary P., Jeanette S., Dan T., Linda W., Abby B., Annie C., Sandy N., Betzy M. *Present by K-20 phone/video conference:* Ryan B., Princess, Erin S. Jodi W.

I. Welcome Betzy opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Dan Teuteberg led an opening activity for participants to share proudest impacts on early learning over the summer and excitement about upcoming early learning events.

II. Reports & Updates

a. County Updates

i. Grays Harbor reported on activities offered as part of the county Fair. Community families responded positively to the events. Work was done applying for a home visit project, Parents as Teachers was chosen as the home visit model, the coalition awaits to hear if proposal is accepted. The next meeting is today, Sept. 17

ii. Lewis County is working toward a stakeholder meeting, planning a breakfast event for fall and looking for a STEM presenter. The Lewis County Autism Coalition hosts it's 3rd annual Autism Conference on October 11 at Bethel Church in Chehalis.

iii. Mason County executive group is working toward meeting times that work for coalition members, the coalition has received stage three of their grant.

iv. North Pacific coalition members attended County Fair giving away 95 backpacks with school supplies, also gave 250 filled backpacks to school districts. The coalition offered a "Know and Grow" resting area during the fair and found positive response from fair attendees. Fall work on coalition action plan will be revised in October.

v. Thurston County coalition executive committee will be meeting today, Sept.17.

b. ECEAP Expansion - Entitlement Bill was passed stating all children 110% below poverty level will be served by 2018-2019. DEL is creating a plan for ECEAP expansion which is due to legislature by Oct. A draft plan is in process, and will be presented. The plan includes mixed delivery systems incorporating ECEAP into existing child care and preschools to ensure free preschool is provided to all families.

c. Early Achievers in ECEAP/Head Start - This quality rating and improvement system piloted a project approximately one year ago. Head Start and ECEAP programs will begin applying in Early Achievers 2015. Incentives are in place for enrolling in Early Achievers, once enrolled, ECEAP and Head Star will manage this system through each individual organization versus acquiring mentors/coaches and technical assistance from Child Care Aware.

d. Community Momentum Grant (2014 RFP) - This grant will be released Friday, Sept. 27. Betzy has sent a webinar invitation for this same day. More information will be presented at next months Visions meeting, as planning will occur quickly through the months of Oct., Nov., and Dec.,

i. WaKIDS CommunityConnection - Schools are working toward the next step, bringing WaKIDS to each community. OSPI has asked school districts to appoint a child care coordinator

III. Action Agenda

a. Advancing Racial Equity- Betzy supplied a hard copy of the Letter of Intent to the group, this letter will also be coming electronically. In this letter, Visions Regional Early Learning Coalition is requesting just over \$51,000. The organization proposed to consult with for Racial Equity Advancement is *Cultures Connecting, LLC*. Visions awaits approval to apply for grant.

b. Community Needs Assessment - Visions region is looking at the data tracked by WA State Early Learning Plan. Betzy will be updating data. In this process she will be sending documents and data electronically. This data will need to be incorporated into the regions strategic plan for review as it will be included in the application for the Community Momentum Grant. The report will be completed prior to the October Visions meeting.

IV. Announcements

Reminder to invite county coalition members to the Fall Autism Conference hosted by Lewis County Autism Coalition in Chehalis on Friday, Oct. 11. The conference provides sessions pertinent to both caregivers/parents and professionals working with children and families with children on the autism spectrum.

Annie and Jodi reported on the Infant-Toddler project work, stating that it is in full swing.

Next meeting - October 15, 2013, ESD 113, Mason Room

Those interested in participating via conference call or K-20 please contact Betzy by Oct. 1.