



GREAT START COLLABORATIVE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 12:11. Present were Sharon Arend, Cathy Benda, Lynette Borree, Dennis Harbour, Eva Hatfield, Jo Lorichon, Taryn Mack, Cheryl Mills, Dave Olsson, Linda Reynolds, Heather Store, Louisa Wills and Emilie Krznarich.**
- 2. Jo moved and Eva supported to approve the minutes of the July 23rd meeting. The minutes were approved.**
- 3. Emilie presented the Director's report (see attached). Emilie thanked members for their work on the committees. Members should look for our billboards near the Moyle site coming into Houghton on M 26 and near the Monument business on U.S. 41 coming from Calumet. Emilie asked members to take the new Collaborative information cards and distribute them to parents or place them in a gathering place in your buildings. The cards and website are designed to improve our name recognition in the community and attract people, especially parents, to our website. Dave emphasized the importance of getting the cards out as soon as possible.**
- 4. Cathy reported on the Executive Committee activities. She discussed the Director's evaluation which was sent to all members to fill out. Results were very positive. The evaluation was discussed with Emilie at the Executive Committee meeting. The committee also spent two meetings reviewing and discussing recommended changes to the Operating Guidelines. They worked on action agenda goals in the areas of collaboration, coordination and system building as well as fund development.**
- 5. Heather presented the Parent Liaison report (see attached).**
- 6. Emilie and Dennis updated the group on the latest budget information. As of early Thursday morning the legislature had agreed to extend the budget through the end of October. They still hadn't agreed on a state aid budget for schools. Some of the early childhood money appears to be back in the budget including 0-3 Prevention and the Regional Resource Centers for Child Care. Louisa added that there was some additional money that was found, and therefore, child care was not going to suffer as devastating cuts as originally anticipated. Most agencies, however, are going to have to work with decreased finding for the next year. Funding for ECIC and the Great Start Collaboratives has been reduced, but they are still in the budget. Emilie will notify the group of any other news as she hears it.**

- 7. Taryn moved and Louisa supported to table the election of officers for 2009-2010 until the December meeting. Motion passed. Cathy has agreed to stay one more year as chair and Jean will remain the secretary. We are still seeking a candidate for vice chair with the understanding that the vice chair will then become the chair for 2010-2011.**
- 8. Sharon moved and Lynette supported to approve the changes to the Operating Guidelines. Motion passed.**
- 9. The draft of the Strategic Plan will be submitted to ECIC within the next week. Members have received a copy of the action agenda goals. Eva moved and Jo supported to approve the Goals and the Letter to the Community. The motion passed. Members will receive the complete document at the December meeting.**
- 10. Members shared updates from their organizations. Early On will receive some additional funding from the Recovery Act. KFRC has three playgroups, but 0-3 home visiting has 32 families on a waiting list. There is great concern that if these children and their families don't get the services they need now it will lead to greater problems in the future. The Treehouse indoor playground project will be holding fall and spring fundraisers. The fall fundraiser will center around a silent auction that will be held during the Hot Peas and Butter concert at the Rosza Center on November 12th. The HSCB will be holding Information Round Ups at the Ramada in Hancock on October 15th from 9-noon and in Baraga on November 12th at the Lakeside from 9-noon.**
- 11. Louisa moved and Taryn supported to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:14. The next meeting will be on December 3rd at noon at the ISD. We will present the completed Strategic Plan at that meeting and we hope our new Scope of Work for 2009-2010.**