



Early Learning Coalition
Resource Development Committee
March 20, 2018 - 10:00 AM

Persons in Attendance

Committee Members:

Mary Ann Winstead
Tammy Hicks

Shawn Jennings
Brenda Hardy

Cindy Kirk
Peggy Steward

Staff:

Bruce Watson
Holly Stratton

Vicki Pugh
Kelly Todd

Sarah Whipps

Partners/Public:

Dynita Bufford

Kimberly Pace

Beth Ramirez

1. Welcome and Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Ms. Winstead. Mr. Watson requested to add to the Agenda as item 6.c. the Early Childhood Career Commitment Incentive/Supplement Program. The amended Agenda of the March 20, 2018 Resource Development Committee was approved upon a motion made by Ms. Steward and seconded by Ms. Kirk.

11. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

III. Approval of Minutes of January 16, 2018

The Minutes of the January 16, 2018 Resource Development Committee meeting were approved upon a motion made by Ms. Hicks and seconded by Ms. Ramirez.

IV. Program Reports

a. Medical Support Services Report

The medical support staff screened 226 children in January and 270 children in February. Ms. Jennings reported that in January there were 12 vision referrals and 23 hearing referrals, and in February there were 9 vision referrals and 22 hearing referrals. Ms. Jennings shared a positive note that 20 children received glasses after their screenings. They conducted a total of 23 education classes in January and February combined.

b. CCR&R Update

In the month of January there were 104 calls to CCR&R, of which 19 were previous callers. Most of the callers were one adult households, parent/step parent who were working. The main inquiries were for location/transportation, quality, and affordability/cost. The most frequent



requests were for information regarding full time care, child care centers, and school age care. In the month of February, there were 99 calls, of which 30 were previous callers. Most of the callers were one adult households, parent/step parent who were working. The main inquiries were for location/transportation, affordability/cost, and no opening. The most frequent requests were for information regarding full time care, child care centers, and school age care.

CCR&R is handing out to parents information about upcoming community events and activities in the area for children and families.

c. Program Support Summary

Ms. Pugh reported that the numbers speak for themselves on the report and her department has been very busy. In the area of Inclusion/Behavior Support, child behaviors issues have been increasing, with many incidents of children assaulting adults. The Coalition is starting the process to hire another TA Coach to assist with Behavior Support.

Not much has been going on in the Fraud investigations. However, there is one fraud case that will go before the Executive Committee this week for an Appeal Hearing. The parent did not notify the Coalition that she has been married for two years.

V. Old Business

a. Wait List and Contract Summary

Mr. Watson encouraged providers to get in to QRIS now because statutory changes will eventually require that all SR providers will have to be assessed, especially class assessments.

As of March 11, there were 3,168 children enrolled in the SR Program. There are currently 185 children on the Wait List, of which 102 are school age. The Coalition will increase the Wait List limit to 3,250 so as to spend the excess funds. The Wait List reports shows that only 47% of children are enrolled. There is a severe shortage of infant slots at providers. There are about 100 more infants and toddlers in care today as compared to this time last year. Many parents have had a voucher for over a month now from Eligibility but have not executed it yet because they cannot find available providers to place their baby. The Coalition has come up with a few ideas to spend about \$250,000 in Infant/Toddler Quality funding. A few ideas include buying cribs and changing tables, and offering cash incentives to centers and teachers to help increase the capacity of taking in more babies. Ms. Winstead stated that by taking on more infants it puts additional stress on the teachers and children. Ms. Hardy mentioned that more cribs take up more space and decreases the play space for children.

There are 1,938 children enrolled in VPK for program year 17/18, and already 446 approved for program year 18/19.

There are currently 94 SR providers and 79 VPK providers under contract. Recently a couple of providers left the child care business due to economic reasons.



b. Grow With Me/LENA Update

The Coalition has begun a new LENA cohort. At least once a month the Coalition has a conference call with the LENA Research Foundation to review the results of teacher and child interaction. If a teacher is not scoring well, interacting with the child, the score will really impact the Provider's contract for the next year, as well as the class assessments.

Mr. Watson, Ms. Todd, and Ms. Leah Finneseth-Meyers are going to be part of an Association of Early Learning Coalitions conference next month.

c. QRIS — Star Rating Application Review/Approval

The first Star Rating Application that includes the Provider's scoring was presented to the Committee for approval of the Provider to be rated a 5 Star facility. Upon a motion made by Ms. Hicks and seconded by Ms. Steward the Committee approved the Star Rating Application.

d. QRIS

Mr. Watson recommends that if any Provider intends to get into the PFP program next year, that they submit their application before May 1 because it takes a while for the Coalition to do the foundation part of it before they do the assessment. With the statutory changes that are soon coming, QRIS is becoming important enough that Mr. Watson and Ms. Pugh are getting ready to open another position and will give a bonus to the person hired if they come into the position already CLASS certified.

e. PFP

Ms. Todd provided a PFP update. Benchmark two is due at the end of March so the numbers for February will change a little bit since everyone is trying to get their deliverables completed and submitted by the end of March. As part of the LENA deliverables some of the teachers had to complete their Early Learning classes through the University of Florida. The bright spot about this class is that all of the teachers registered in those classes earned their mastery for the first term, and are registered to begin their second term.

The Making the Most of Classroom Interaction (MMCI) classes are wrapping up, and the teachers who participated and completed the class are getting their Quality License.

Mr. Watson shared with the Committee that bill HB 1091 got passed last week in legislation. This most significant element of that bill requires that the Coalition put in place program assessments with cutoffs of a minimum acceptability for Providers to receive a contract and a minimum acceptability for providers to retain a contract. Mr. Watson is a member of a six-member Executive Director team that has been invited to go to Tallahassee to discuss with OEL how to implement this bill before it gets to rule. One item in this bill is an anticipated cut off that next year a provider will not get a contract with the Coalition unless that provider is a Class assessed 1 Star 1 facility or higher, that includes new providers as well as existing providers.



VI. New Business

Specialized Instruction Services (SIS) Policy, ELCEC 2202.1B revision approval

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Upon a motion made by Ms. Hicks and seconded by Ms. Kirk, the Committee recommends the Board approve the Specialized Instruction Services (SIS) Procedure, ELCEC 2202.1B revision.

- a. Specialized Instruction Services (SIS) Procedure, ELCEC 2202.2B revision approval

Upon a motion made by Ms. Hicks and seconded by Ms. Kirk, the Committee recommends the Board approve the Specialized Instruction Services (SIS) Procedure, ELCEC 2202.2B revision.

- b. Early Childhood Career Commitment Incentive/Supplement Program Mr. Watson came up with a proposal to incentivize and reward the community of child care practitioners, especially those students who are graduates of the Early Childhood Career Academy within the Escambia County School District, to continue or advance their education in early childhood or to go work for a facility. Beginning in May, the Coalition will solicit providers to inform their staff that if they achieve any of the milestones listed in the Early Childhood Career Commitment Incentive/Supplement Program in a year, then they can put in an application to receive a monetary payment that year. Upon a motion made by Ms. Ramirez and seconded by Ms. Steward, the Committee recommends that the Board approve the Early Childhood Career Commitment Incentive/Supplement Program.

VII. Community Partner Updates

- a. ARC Gateway

No representative was present to report.

- b. Early Steps

No representative was present to report.

- c. Florida Association for Infant Mental Health FAIMH No representative was present to report.

- d. Department of Health 5-2-1-0

Ms. Pace provided a flyer to the Committee about the Open Streets event in downtown Pensacola on March 24. The USDA Food Program will present a "Feeding Your Center" event on April 28 which will be held at the Coalition. The toolkits prepared for the providers will contain information about healthy eating and will include the Walk of Wiggle book.



e. School District Academies

No representative was present to report.

f. DCF Licensing

No representative was present to report.

g. DCF Outreach

No representative was present to report.

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h. Gulf Coast Kids House

No representative was present to report.

i. VPK School District

Ms. Buford reported that there were no updates to their program to report.

j. Pensacola State College

Ms. Kirk will send an email invite to everyone regarding the Advisory Group meeting to be held on April 20. PSC has begun a Textbook Adoption program to help students with the cost of textbooks. There has been about seven provider Directors interested in the Leadership and Management class, Ms. Kirk has put in a request for the college to offer it as an online course. Her schedule is changing in the Fall so she will need a substitute to attend in her place for the Coalition meetings. She will be in Tallahassee on April 10-13 for the Network meeting and therefore will not be able to attend the Coalition's Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 :38 a.m.

Next Meeting: May 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

