

**Early Learning Coalition
Resource Development Committee
May 16, 2017 – 10:00 AM**

Roger Thompson and Tammy Hicks, Co-Chairs

Committee Members:

Tammy Hicks
Brenda Hardy
Beth Ramirez

Mary Ann Bickerstaff
Pam Hagan

Brittney Curtis
Cindy Kirk

Members Call In:

Kermit Housh

Staff:

Bruce Watson
Karen Abney

Paula Rollins
Holly Stratton

Vicki Pugh

Partners/Public:

Debbie Goldberg
Melissa Jones

Lakesha Lewis
Aisha Adkinson

Shawn Jennings

I. Welcome and Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Ms. Hicks.

II. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

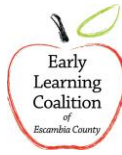
III. Approval of Minutes of March 21, 2017

Mr. Watson stated that Ms. Pugh was present at the 12 March meeting even though her name is not listed on the minutes as being present. The Minutes of the March 21, 2017 Resource Development Committee meeting were approved as amended on a motion made by Ms. Bickerstaff with a second by Ms. Hagan.

IV. Program Reports

a. Nursing Services Report

The nurses saw 261 children in March and 208 children in April. Ms. Hagan reported that the nurses are doing very well with the screenings and they are seeing fluid in the children's ears causing a lot of hearing problems. In the two combined months, there were 15 vision outcomes reported, resulting in 11 children receiving glasses; and there were 16 hearing outcomes reported,



resulting in 1 child having tubes inserted surgically and 3 children scheduled for tube replacement. There were 2 children seen by an audiologist with recommendations for a physician evaluation and 1 child is receiving speech services. There was 1 CPR training class scheduled for March and four in April.

b. CCR&R Update

In the month of March there were 65 calls to CCR&R, of which 9 were previous callers. The majority of the callers were one adult households, parent/step parent who were working. The main inquiries were for location/transportation 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 April, there were 54 calls, of which 25 were previous callers. The majority of the callers were one adult households, parent/step parent who were working. The main inquiries were for location/transportation and affordability/cost. Again, the most frequent requests were for information regarding full time care, child care centers, and school age care. Ms. Whipps mentioned that summer is coming soon and parents will be looking for summer programs. So CCR&R has put in the Coalition's lobby information for parents regarding summer activities for their children. Such activities include the reading summer program, free bowling at Cordova Lanes for ages 16 and younger, and free roller skating for ages 12 and under.

c. Program Support Summary

Ms. Pugh reviewed the Support Summary report with the Committee. The Coalition distributed considerably less books this year than last year. One reason is that the books are not available from First Books by time the Coalition places an order, and the second is feedback from the providers indicates that the Disney books do not always promote the values we would like them to and they are not always developmentally appropriate. The Coalition will have all monitoring completed by the end of May for the fiscal year, and no monitoring is done in the month of June. Mr. Watson shared with the Committee that the monitoring this year has gone very well.

V. Old Business

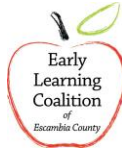
a. Wait List and Contract Summary

As of May 7, there are 2,991 children enrolled. There are currently 971 children on the Wait List, of which about 320 are school age. The Wait List has been pulled through the first of October 2016 as of May 7. There are over 1,000 children already approved for VPK fiscal year 2017-2018. Mr. Watson shared with the Committee that transportation is the number one reason that parents elect not to put their child(ren) in VPK. There are currently 140 SR providers and 85 VPK providers under contract. The Coalition is currently in the middle of contract signing with providers for 2017-2018 fiscal year.

b. Infant/Toddler Institute Advisory Work Group

Ms. Pugh provided an update to the Committee. This workgroup met in March and will meet again on June 6. A work group update will be provided to the Committee at the July 18 meeting.

c. Inclusion/Behavioral Work Group



Ms. Karen Abney provided an update to the Committee. There were four expulsions in the month of April. Three of the four were Protective Services children who were expelled for behavioral problems and they were in the 3-5 year old age group. The fourth child is now in a different program and is doing better. There were three referrals in the month of April. The Inclusion/Behavioral Work Group provided a training class in April for providers to help them address children with behavior problems and learn tips on positive discipline.

d. LENA Update

Ms. Pugh informed the Committee that the Coalition observations will be exiting out of the Grow With Me classrooms in the next three to four weeks. She will provide a LENA end-of-the-year update to the Committee when they meet on July 18.

The Coalition has been invited to go to the LENA conference in Colorado in September. Mr. Watson has received pre-approval from OEL for the Coalition to send two people. Mr. Watson suggested sending one Coalition staff member and one parent practitioner. Mr. Watson asked Ms. Curtis if she would like to attend as the parent practitioner representative and she accepted.

The Coalition is partnering with the Studer Community Institute to do a parent cohort, which will start after Labor Day. Ms. Curtis' child care center will cohost one of the sites. The parents will attend the site one day per week for thirteen weeks and go through a curriculum, and the LENA recording device will go home with the parent and child in hopes to get parents to talk more with their child. This is an even bigger initiative than the professional development in a classroom. This initiative will be offered to all the Grow With Me sites.

e. QRIS Revision

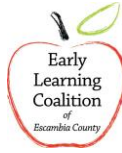
Mr. Watson reviewed the latest version of the QRIS. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee asked Mr. Watson to review the initial criteria for a provider to become a one STAR and amend the one STAR scoring. Once the Coalition's Board approves the QRIS, it will be given to all providers to use as a guide. Upon a motion made by Ms. Bickerstaff and seconded by Ms. Ramirez, the Resource Development Committee recommends that the Executive Committee approve the QRIS Revision as amended.

f. Rate Change, QRIS, Child Priority Proposal

Mr. Watson reviewed with the Committee the Rate Change, QRIS, Child Priority Proposal documents. All items on the proposal sheets that are colored green are the Coalition's recommendation, those colored yellow or not colored at all are alternative options.

To help with public awareness of a facility's STAR rating, a pamphlet of all providers listing their STAR rating will be put in the lobby of the Eligibility department. For facilities that are rated a zero STAR, they will be listed as "not yet rated".

The Coalition recommended that provider rates be changed by reducing the after school age rate by 10% and all other rates by 5%. This option was accepted upon a motion made by Ms. Curtis and seconded by Ms. Hardy.



The Coalition recommended that policy be changed to only serve children in the Priority 6 classification up through age 9, and to discontinue serving children in Priority 6 who are 10 or older. This will allow more children birth to 5 years old to be served. Mr. Watson is hoping this change will reduce the 600+ birth to 5 year old children on the Wait List. With Board approval, implementation of this proposal would begin on July 1, 2017 on the enrollment side. All children currently enrolled who are Priority 6 and are age ten or older will be allowed to continue in care until the end of their current voucher, and implementation of discontinuing care for older school age children would not begin until August 10, 2017. Upon a motion made by Ms. Curtis and seconded by Ms. Ramirez, the Committee accepted the recommendation.

In addition to changing ages served, the Coalition recommended that the Policy to include older siblings in Priority 3, as afforded by statute, be discontinued. If approved, all school age children will be classified as Priority 6 starting on July 1, 2017. Upon a motion made by Ms. Curtis and seconded by Ms. Hardy, the Committee accepted the recommendation.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Hardy and seconded by Ms. Curtis, the Resource Development Committee recommends collectively approval of the Rate Change, QRIS, and change in Child Prioritization as proposed by the Coalition.

VI. New Business

a. Developmental Screening Process Procedure, ELCEC 4300.1A

Mr. Watson reviewed this policy with the Committee. Upon a motion made by Ms. Bickerstaff and seconded by Ms. Goldberg, the Resource Development Committee recommends approval of the Developmental Screening Process Procedure, ELCEC 4300.1A.

b. Division of Blind Services Appreciation Award to ELCEC

The Division of Blind Services recently had their 75th anniversary celebration. They recognized the Coalition with an Appreciation Award for providing employment to three blind people in the last three years.

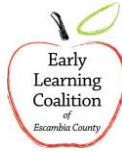
VII. Community Partner Updates

a. ARC Gateway

Ms. Bickerstaff provided an update. ARC Gateway met with the Coalition to discuss ASQ cases and they had no concerns with any of the cases. Ms. Lakesha Lewis reviewed with the Committee the child care speech and sensory screenings report.

b. Early Steps

Ms. Goldberg provided an update. Early Steps is working on public awareness and now the State supplies them the templates to use to print and distribute their information, such as name and phone number, to the public.



c. School District Academies

Ms. Adkison shared that the School District Academies currently have 20 senior early childhood academy students receiving their CDAs. Since they had 20 students this last semester, Ms. Adkison and Ms. Pugh have discussed having a professional development institute per semester planned for the next school year. Ms. Adkison will provide more update on that at the next Committee meeting on July 18.

d. DCF Licensing

No representative was present to report.

e. DCF Outreach

No representative was present to report.

f. Gulf Coast Kids House

No representative was present to report.

g. VPK School District

No representative was present to report.

h. Pensacola State College

Ms. Pugh and Ms. Adkison attended an advisory council hosted by Pensacola State College and Ms. Kirk.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 18, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.