

*Metro Work Group Meeting
June 2nd, 2008
Notes*

Attendance: Louisa Cox, Theresa Fountain, Betty Jane Schaff-Beck, Heather Reynolds, Lee Turney, Rita Fairbanks, Sandra Williams

The Metro Work Group met on June 2nd, 2008 at Mystic Lake Casino in Prior Lake, Minnesota. Group members were welcomed and introductions were provided by the members. Sandra introduced Rita Fairbanks as the new Outreach Coordinator for MnTRECC and the new facilitator for the Metro based work group. Rita will begin facilitating the work group in August 2008 at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Sandra introduced Louisa Cox as the new MnTRECC Urban staff. Louisa job tasks will be inclusive of recruiting members for the group and assisting Fairbanks in linking individuals to metro resources. Louisa will also be working with the American Indian FFN providers in the Metro area.

Updates on upcoming workshops were provided and program information in the participant folders were discussed with links given on resources and websites for Metro area participants. Sandra provided a MnTRECC update and talked about the ERS project, Tribal Posters, PIP Trainings, Trainer Gathering, White Earth Brain Development Scholarships, and the MnTRECC Grant Program. Sandra informed group members that MnTRECC would be holding a grant round that would target emergency grants to applicants who need funding to fix broken equipment, appliances, and other childcare items that diminish the quality of care the center or family child care is able to provide. She encouraged individuals to apply when the notices of available funds reach their mailboxes. She also informed Metro participants that there will be FFN Health/Safety Kits and Literacy Kits available statewide. Programs will be eligible to receive the kits to give out at FFN events. Requirements to receive the kits will involve agencies to provide documented information to MnTRECC on the event, number of kits given and the names of individuals receiving the kits. Programs will

also be required to hold a Health/Safety training. All documented information must be received back into the MnTRECC office by August 15th, 2008. Metro group members gave updates on their programs.

The Metro group reviewed the American Indian Resource Directory that is distributed by the Native American Indian Community Development Institute. The group agreed that it was a wonderful resource for the Metro area and brainstormed ideas on making it more user friendly. Suggestions included utilizing page numbers in the table of contents at the front of the guide, adding a index at the back of the guide and listing services by category and formatting the resource listing by detailing program services offered by each agency under its listing. It was determined that Louisa would connect with the NACDI (Justin Kii Huenemann) to revisit suggestions with the publisher. Louisa will make a request for MnTRECC to be given permission to add the link to the directory to the MnTRECC website.

It was determined that future work for the Metro Work Group will be to participate in the development of a American Indian Advisory Group and to begin to develop talking points to ensure American Indian voices are heard in regard to issues tribes are encountering and the need for services for all American Indian people.

Sandra went over the stipend process, documents and accounting procedures for payment to attend the work group. The group did not determine a future location for upcoming meetings—this will be determined at the next meeting. Until a location has been finalized the group will meet at the Mystic Casino Event Center in Prior Lake, Minnesota.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.