

October Metro Work Group Minutes

The Metro Work Group met on October 29th 2010 at the Mystic Lake Event Center located in Prior Lake, Minnesota.

Present: Faith Littlewolf, Jennifer Bendickson Betty Jane Schaaf, Janice LaFloe, Elizabeth Lonelodge Kay Tellinghuisen, Fay Hopkins and Theresa Fountain

Minutes Review

Correction was found for the August 20th 2010 Metro Work Group Meeting under program updates Reuben Lindh the first bullet was kinder but should read kindergarten.

Reviewed the folder items

Presenter:

Theresa Fountain introduced our presenter Scott Parker Community Outreach Coordinator from the Network at Child Care Resources and Referral (CCR&R) who gave an overall view of CCR&R services:

- Pointed out the local RCC connections sitting at our tables Ramsey and Hennepin County
- CCR&R are the child care data keepers for Minnesota.
- There are 20 CCR&R agencies throughout the state of Minnesota.
- Encouraged the group to check out the website at www.mnchildcare.org
- People looking for child care can access the web or can call a referral specialist at their local CCR &R
- CCR&R is partnering with the Minnesota Center for Professional Development.
- Promoting trainers to register on the Minnesota Center for Professional Development.

- Tends to be a lot of negative stories about childcare in the news that is why it is so important in knowing what to look for when looking for childcare services. CCR&R is here to help and to help promote the positive side of childcare services and if anyone wants to write a story Elizabeth Cooper can assist.
- Grants that are available are regional grants, start up /support and quality improvement and are offered once a year according to the grant cycle.
- Family Friend and Neighbor (FFN) are unlicensed childcare provider support services available are: play & learn, home visits and FFN info night.
- Reasons why people chose FFN childcare are the cost, trust issues and cultural.
- Talked about Building Quality
- Talked about Parent Aware
- Talked about Child Care Services for Military Families
- Talked about Eager to Learn

Tribal Poster Ojibwe and Dakota

MnTRECC is looking for a fluent Dakota speaker that can put the audio to the tribal poster on the website. The group was asked if they knew of anyone that might be interested in doing the audio. Jennifer stated that she may know someone and will get back to me with the details.

Program Updates

Minnesota Tribal Resources for Early Childhood Care (MnTRECC) Outreach
Coordinator/ Faith Littlewolf

- MnTRECC will provide a \$25.00 stipend to the core group members who stay the duration of the meeting.

- Tribal posters are now posted on the MnTRECC website and that MnTRECC is looking for a speaker to do the audio, for the Dakota poster. If anyone has an idea of someone who may assist with the work please let MnTRECC know the contact information of the individual.
- The Moccasin Information Trails Resource Guide was put together with 9 of the reservation in Minnesota and is now posted on the web and it is free to download at www.mntrecc.net
- MnTRECC Program Manager and Professional Development / Grants Coordinator held a regional grants review committee meeting in Walker Minnesota on 10/27/10.
 - 4 Family Licensed Providers were awarded grants
 - 2 Childcare centers were awarded grants
 - Monies left over will be for start up and emergency
- FFN monies are available until the monies are exhausted- application and guidelines are available on line at www.mntrecc.net
- ERS / BQ have recruited 6 candidates statewide to participate in the project.
- FFN data base for Native American provides is complete for the reservations that participated.

Hennepin County Baseline Coordinator/Fay Hopkins

- Starting on October 1st 2010 Building Quality is the newest project, she has 5 or 6 prospective providers that maybe participating.
- The Getting Ready providers that are finished will enter the Parent Aware project.
- Continuous work with FFN Play and Learns.
- She has 3 play and Learn sites.
- Still working with the renovation loans.

Ramsey County Baseline Coordinator/Theresa Fountain

- Still working with the FFN providers in Ramsey County
- Still has FFN grants available
- Provides Play and Learn Events at Sun Ray Library and the American Indian Family Center.
- Providing Building Quality and has 5 or 6 possible providers
- Looking for Childcare Centers and Family Childcare Centers sites to do the Getting Ready and Building Quality
- Promoting of G.E.D. certificates for Family Childcare providers to pursue.

Wicoie Nandagikendan Early Childhood Language Immersion Program /Betty Jane Schaaf

- The American Lung Association did a free training on Asthma; participants will receive a certificate for 1 hour of training.
- CPR and First Aid training for all staff will take place on the 4th and 5th of November 2010.
- Attended the Breakfast Bites at the All Nations Church at 1515 East 23rd street Bloomington Ave MPLS, that is facilitated by the Native American Community Development Institute. They started out with a light breakfast, they stood /sat around a fire, was asked what value was important to them. The activity focused around what was wrong in the community and what they could do to make it better. They talked about what others or they themselves are doing in their agencies to make things better. This took about an hour and a half. It was a very good experience.
- On December 12th the Minneapolis Institute of Art is having a Family Day the staff of Wicoie Nandagikendan Early Childhood Language Immersion Program will take

a private tour prior to December 12th and will be hosting Dakota and Ojibwe language lessons in classrooms provided by MIA at this event.

- Star Lab is up and running again for the year.
- Twin Cities Public Television First Speakers will be airing “Restoring the Ojibwe Language” on November 1st @ 8: p.m. and will be downloadable after it has been aired.
- The website for Wicoie Nandagikendan Early Childhood Language Immersion Program website is up and running at www.earlychildhoodpro.org featuring the phrase of the week, Betty Jane’s job is to keep the calendar updated.
- Three employees of Wicoie Nandagikendan auditioned for an Native American Cartoon character with PBS which will air in 06/11/11

Wicoie Nandagikendan Early Childhood Language Immersion Program / Jennifer Bendickson

- Decided to come back as a core member
- Sits on a volunteer work group they meet every two weeks the purpose is to complete 10 mandates and a report to the legislation by February 2011 in on ways that the state of Minnesota can help with revitalizing the Dakota and Ojibwe languages. They are also getting input from other tribes.
- William Mitchell Law still working on amending the copyright law
- Canadian Language teachers in Canada can use their Canadian degrees in the United States to teach.
- Have funding to start a Dakota House it will be a program for 2 to 4 year olds learning the Dakota language and it will also be a place to gather for people to sit at language tables or to come and learn about other cultural activities.
- St Thomas has a program to get teaching licensed in a shorter amount of time and still meets the state criteria.

American Indian Family Center/ Janice LaFloe

- School is moving forward and it will be a Language and Montessori School, Janice asked group members if there was anyone who would be willing to sit on the planning board.
- Loss of funding for Community-- Doula was a hit hard.
- East Metro Diabetes Initiative has started and its focus is to engage men in the community
- Expansion in the Mental Health program and doing therapy of using cultural and traditional activities such as making regalia for adults and children.

American Indian Family Center / Leah Loud

- Absent

Rueben Lindh Family Services Four Directions Family Center / Kay Tellinghuisen

- Reuben Lindh Family Services received “Stars of the State” award in the Kid’s Count Data book, for the 3 Early Childhood Centers.
- Four Directions Family Center is receiving an award for “Innovation” First Children’s Finance at their 20th Anniversary. The celebration will be held on November 1st 2010
- Reuben Lindh Family Services opened new childcare in North Minneapolis called Children’s First Early Learning Center contact information:
 - 1501 Xerxes Ave. N MPLS, MN 55411 763-521-3477X 227
 - It is NAEYC Accredited, 4 Star Parent Aware site with 40 years experience in early childhood education.

Cherish the Children / Heather Reynolds

- Absent

Marketing the Resource Guide

- Still looking for help with printing costs

Electronic News Letter

- Janice will create the template
- Group will decide the content of the news letter at the next Metro Work Group meeting.
- The MnTRECC Outreach Coordinator will E-mail it out.

Recruitment

- Liz Lonelodge is our newest core member recruited by Janice LaFloe.
- Jennifer Bendickson has decided to come back as a core member.
- We will continue to recruit for one more core group member.

Cook Book Project

- Each group member agreed to submit at least one recipe and e-mail it in by November to 14th 2010.

FFN

- Betty Jane took FFN flyers to Minnesota Chippewa Tribes resource board
- Will start by using the list from the Health and Safety Training that was put on by individual Metro Group members in 2009

Internet Mask Module (IMM)

- Angie Bowman had to cancel she will present in the near future.

Early Child hood Fair

- Date is set for Thursday March 31st 2011
- Location is American Indian Center in Minneapolis
- Liz Lonelodge will be coordinating the invites and confirmations.
- Theresa will send out Save the Date for 03/31/11 set up time 10:30 event 11:00-2:00 at the American Indian Family Center
- Betty Jane will coordinate the room with American Indian Family Center.

Follow up

- Will e-mail group a reminder to send at least one recipe with the deadline date of November 14th 2010
- Next meeting: December 3rd 2010 at the Mystic Lake Casino and Hotel 9:00a.m. – 3:00p.m.