



NOTES

TRIBAL EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM WORK GROUP

Date: October 2, 2006

Attendance: *Lisa Anderson, Lora Kussman, Jean DuFault, Audrey Roy, Kathi Hedberg and Sandra Williams (Sylvia Mathney receives information through direct mail/unable to attend)*

Absent Members: *Kim Lage, Sue Heisler, Diane Smith, Lucy Carlson, Martha Allen, Darlene LaBelle-Manzanares*

Resignations

Deb Robertson from Lower Sioux and April Ironheart from Upper Sioux submitted emails resigning from the Tribal Early Childhood Curriculum Work Group due to other commitments. I would like to extend a thank you to both Deb and April for all their hard work and contributions to the group; we will miss their wisdom!! We are currently in the process of trying to recruit a member from both Lower and Upper Sioux to sit on the Tribal Early Childhood Curriculum Work Group.

☀️☀️Audrey Roy agreed to take notes for the October 2nd, 2006 Tribal Early Childhood Work Group Meeting and Sandy will compile and type the notes and send them out to all members.

Information & Updates

Group members reviewed the August 21, 2006 notes and there were no corrections or additions to the notes. The work group did not hold a formal meeting during the month of September. Sandy went over the contents of the folders that each group participant received at the meeting. Sandy asked members to

look over minutes from the July 21, 2006 meeting with Red Lake participants who are unable to attend the meetings but wish to stay connect to the project. Good News! Since the meeting, Audrey Roy from Red Lake has decided to re-open her daycare and will now have the availability to attend the meetings. Sandy welcomed Audrey and introductions among the group members were exchanged. Sandy also provided the group with notes on the August 3rd planning meeting with MDE. The group was provided with a survey from Louise Derman-Sparks and Meg Thomas regarding the Anti-Bias Curriculum. Sandy told participants that she had also emailed it to group members so they may have already seen it or responded to it. Sandy informed the group that we had received written authorization from Louise Derman Sparks to utilize segments of the Anti-Bias curriculum when updating the PIP curriculum. Sandy shared a flyer on an upcoming Birth- to- Three Conference entitled “Poverty: It’s Effect On The Youngest Children” which is slated for January 25-26, 2007 in Alexandria, Minnesota. Sandy also shared a flyer on Voices for Children Advocacy Day at the Minnesota State Capitol with the event being held on March 29, 2007. Sandy shared the results of a survey which addressed Early Childhood Curriculums in Minnesota Public School Programs and shared information about the website surveymonkey.com. Informational handouts were presented to the group on how an individual or group is able to obtain permission from WestEd when using their curriculum thus not violating copyright issues. Other items in the folder included: MnTRECC Newsletter, W-9 form, Stipend form, Please Put Me Back To Sleep Door Hanger, MnTRECC brochure, First Children’s Finance- Minnesota brochure, Power Point Presentation and a handout detailing the Three Components Of Implementation.

Presentation

Kathi Hedberg showed the group the terrific Positive Indian Parenting and Program for Infant Toddler Caregivers power point presentation that had been created to use at the Sharing The Wisdom conference. Kim Lage, Kathi Hedberg and Jean DuFault presented the power point at the Sharing The Wisdom Conference in September. The presentation was not well attended and it was determined that it was most likely due to the

fact that we had a poor time slot-many attendees did not stay until the very end of the conference which was our time slot. If we are asked to present again in the spring it was suggested that we speak to Julie Wasiluk for a better time slot. Lora Kussman will also follow-up on this with Julie. Upon review of the power point, it was discussed that some minor adjustments to the power point information should be done. Kathi Hedberg agreed to make the language changes in the document. The document would then be brought back to the group for review. On page 3 of the power point presentation, we would like it to read; Minnesota Positive Indian Parenting curriculum was made possible through funding from the Blandin Foundation in cooperation with Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). We feel it is important to have this language added, as this is the website that individuals can access to download a copy of the curriculum. With the wording, Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning people may become confused as to where to find the information on the web. The same change would occur with the same language being used on page 4 of the presentation. On page, 5 of the presentation the following information would need to be added: Minnesota ITTI was funded by the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Bush Foundation. Page 27 add the following information- Barriers: Copyright Issues, Core participants unfamiliar with curriculums at the onset of the group. Add the following information under –Successes: Networking of 10 of the 11 tribes in Minnesota, Resources compiled from different areas, 8 individuals from the group became Positive Indian Parenting Trainers. It also may be helpful to number the pages in the power point for easier reference. A discussion ensued in regard to utilizing the presentation as a teaching tool and perhaps presenting it again in the future at other workshops and conferences.

New Positive Indian Trainers

Great News!! Per information from Diane Smith we now have 8 new Positive Indian Parenting trainers who were core participants of the work group. They include Lucy Carlson (Fond Du Lac), Martha Allen (Metro), Audrey Roy (Red Lake), Lisa Anderson(Bois Forte), Jean DuFault (Fond Du Lac),

Denise Mershman (Leech Lake), Darlene LaBelle-Manzanares (Metro), Sandy Williams (Leech Lake).

W-9 & Stipend Update

Sandy informed the group, that if a core participant is claiming stipend reimbursement that will be going to their perspective program they need to have the form filled out by their agency and include on the form their tax identification number. If the stipend is to go to the individual personally, then the individual may sign it and provide their own social security number. This process will need to be followed to receive payment.

DHS Grant & Bush Foundation

Lora Kussman updated the group on DHS funding and the recent review with the Bush Foundation. Lora informed the group that the review did not go as planned and that DHS will be resubmitting the data in December for March funding.

However, Lora stated that the Bush representative was very impressed with the MnTRECC component of the grant. Lora explained to the group that the work was strong enough for MnTRECC to stand alone. She further stated that it was viewed as a very positive piece and was the highlight of the meeting.

Three Component Process of Implementation

Sandy provided the group with a handout detailing the three components of the implementation process. Please note the following ways implementation will take form in regard to the project. The process shall be three part in its origin.

Component I

Revisions and updates will be made to the Minnesota Positive Indian Parenting Curriculum. Alignment of key concepts from the ITTI and other curriculums will be utilized in the process. Addition of supplemental information which will include health care tips, story quotes, literacy activities, and an accessible website will be incorporated into the curriculum.

Component II

The process provided in this component shall make available to trainers the necessary resources to obtain certification that will allow them to deliver the revised curriculum to American Indian communities throughout Minnesota.

Component III

This component will provide for the expanded Positive Indian Parenting curriculum to be delivered to American Indian communities throughout Minnesota. The curriculum shall be delivered to parents and providers and will provide a model of positive Indian parenting techniques.

Sandy informed the group that currently we have the funding available to successfully implement component I. Sandy and Tamie are seeking out other areas to secure funding for components II and III. Sandy explained to the group that a work group will begin in January to implement component I. Sandy expressed the importance of people from the current work group remaining on and being core members of the implementation group. Sandy explained that more information regarding the group will be sent to current work group members in the near future and recruitment for members in Upper and Lower Sioux communities would have to begin with the recent resignations of April Ironheart and Deb Robertson.

Questions and Reflections

The meeting was opened up to miscellaneous follow-up business, questions, reflections and talking about where we started and where we are today as a group. Lora mentioned that when talking about certifying individuals it would be most logical to continue the process of working on getting trainers who are presently working on their ITTI certification or papers completed. How do we help these trainers or give them incentive to complete the coursework despite challenges of home, family, work schedules and time constraints? Once these trainers have completed the process and are certified in all the modules then we could look at trying to secure finances to send new individuals to be trained. It was also clarified that to be Minnesota certified in the ITTI you must still go to California West Ed to get training on the modules; however the research paper can be submitted to

Minnesota and not California West Ed. Once again, concerns were mentioned that getting individuals trained in ITTI is a challenge due to the cost associated with this training. A discussion regarding avenues of funding we might research for implementation of components I and II were brainstormed. It was mentioned that perhaps we should connect with North and South Dakota to see what their curriculum looks like and talk to them about the challenges they encountered. Sandy will follow-up with North and South Dakota. It was mentioned that adding the quotes to the updated curriculum was a great idea however questions came up in regard to how they would be incorporated into the curriculum. It was mentioned that the quotes should be incorporated into the lessons that have a similar focus. It was suggested by Audrey Roy that the updated curriculum be turquoise color. It was suggested at the meeting that we should be referring to or using the words Minnesota Positive Indian Parenting Curriculum when we are talking about the curriculum we are updating. This is important so there is no confusion and so everyone understands that we are not updating the (brown) Oregon curriculum, as we do not have permission to do any revisions to that curriculum. Lora agreed to work on researching reliable websites to add to the updated curriculum. Jean mentioned she had an interest in the story telling and quote gathering for the curriculum.

Wrap-Up

Door prizes were drawn at the meeting that were supplied by the Grand Casino in Mille Lacs and Leech Lake Child Care Services. Lisa Anderson's name was drawn for the big prize of the day which was 2 Ronny Milsap tickets and 2 Buffet Dinners donated by the Grand Casino and a set of Children's Diabetic Books donated by Leech Lake Child Care Services. Jean DuFault's name was drawn for a \$20.00 coupon for supper and free buffet coupons donated by the Grand Casino and an arts and crafts caddy donated by Leech Lake Child Care Services. Lora Kussman's name was drawn for a \$20.00 coupon for supper and free buffet coupons donated by the Grand Casino and a poster donated by Leech Lake Child Care Services. Kathi Hedberg's name was drawn for a lighted cup/cooler and 2 dinner

coupons donated by the Grand Casino and a poster donated by Leech Lake Child Care Services. Audrey Roy's name was drawn for an arts and craft caddy, candles, candy, and poster donated by Leech Lake Child Care Services and buffet tickets and a t-shirt donated by the Grand Casino. Sandy will send a thank you for the donations to the Grand Casino and Lee Turney at Leech Lake Early Childhood.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m. and Sandy informed the group that she would stay connected with them through emails, phone calls and direct mailings regarding the implementation group.