



TRIBAL EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM WORK GROUP MAY 15TH, 2006

Attendance: Kathleen Hedberg, Lucy Carlson, Lisa Anderson, April Ironheart, Jean Default, Rebecca Garay-Heelan, Deb Robertson, Kim Lage, Martha Allen and Sandra Williams.

Absent Members: Betty Jane Schaaf-Beck, Audrey Roy, Angie Johnson, Melvin Monette, Darlene LaBelle-Manzanares, Sylvia Manthey, Sue Heisler, Denise Merschman and Diane Smith.

Overview/Updates

Group members reviewed the notes from the April 13th notes and there were no corrections made to the notes. Sandy notified group members that we had been given an extension to complete our work in the Tribal Early Childhood Work Group. Sandy went over the timeline with meetings occurring in June, July, August and possibly in September. Sandy explained to the group that one of the later monthly meetings would be designated for a recognition dinner in honor of the work group members for all their efforts in reaching the goals of this group. Sandy explained to the group that we had been given the opportunity to present at the Sharing The Wisdom Of Many Voices Conference that will be held at Breezy Point on September 15th, and September 16th, 2006. Sandy asked for two group members who would be willing to sit on a panel and give an overview of the PIP & ITTI Curriculums and a synopsis of the Tribal Early Childhood Work Group and its function in regard to the blending of the two curriculums. Kathi Hedberg was asked if she would be willing to present an overview of the curriculums at the workshop. Kathi agreed that she would be willing to present the ITTI (due to her experience as a trainer); but felt Kim Lage should present the PIP piece of the workshop. It was decided that we would contact Kim Lage as she was not present at the meeting. It was discussed that perhaps if there were other group members who were interested in sitting on the panel that could give an overview of the group and its function in regard to the blending of the curriculums. April Ironheart and Deb Robertson may have an interest in this piece of the conference presentation. One or both of them will follow up with Sandy in regard to whether or not they will be able to assist with the panel presentation. Sandy will attend the conference and assist with the panel presentation as needed by group participants. Presenters will have their conference fee, lodging expenses paid through CCR&R Network and MnTRECC. Presenters will also receive a stipend for providing a presentation at the conference. Sandy mentioned to the members of the group that we are able to utilize the CCR&R chat room in between meetings to share information and to work on items between group meetings. Kathi mentioned that she is familiar with the chat room set up and would be willing to help facilitate a group chat meeting. Sandy will contact her if we decide to have a group chat. Sandy reminded members to turn in stipends and to be sure to write on the reimbursement form their program name and tax id number if that is where the stipend is intended to go for payment. Lucy said that her stipend is coming in her name and should be going to her program. She has been turning the stipend into her program but does not want to be taxed for the monies. Sandy asked her to contact her with the program she wanted it sent to and the tax id number. Kathi mentioned that she was confused about stipend dollar amounts she had received. Sandy said she would follow up with Tamie Finn regarding stipend checks and then follow-up with Kathi. Sandy provided a handout on Family Literacy Initiatives that are being offered through the Minnesota Humanities Commission. One of the literacy initiatives that is going to be offered is the Dakota/Ojibwe Language and Literacy Workshop that is going to be held on July 10th at the Humanities Commission. Sandy told group members

that the registration fee for the workshop is \$25.00 and individuals are able to register now for the workshop. Sandy provided the group with a copy of the Social Change Fund guidelines and application packet. Sandy mentioned that this may be a grant that we would want to look at for funding projects in the future. Other items in the folder were a postcard announcing the SuperConference 2006 Caring for Minnesota Children which is slated for October 26th-28th, a MnTRECC brochure, map, and a stipend form. A variety of curriculums were brought in by Sandy and group members for review. Lunch vouchers were given to members of the group to have lunch at the Grand Casino Buffet.

Purpose/Focus

Sandy mentioned that she would like to take a minute to go over the group focus so that we are all going in the same direction. She mentioned that the work group purpose is to blend pieces of the ITTI curriculum and possibly other curriculums into the PIP curriculum, that we need to work on a certification process, the development of strategies regarding delivery of the curriculum to the communities and a provider piece. Sandy also mentioned that since one of the gaps of services that most of the communities felt existed was services for teens and women perhaps the curriculum delivery could target this population. It was also mentioned that we might want to look at the Social Change Fund Grant when we begin to seek avenues of funding. Sandy asked the group to be thinking about some questions that the group will need to address at some point. The questions to reflect on were as follows: Will this curriculum that is being supplemented have a new name or just an expanded name of PIP? Will individuals need to be certified in PIP and the ITTI curriculum or just certified in the new version of the PIP? If certification is needed in the ITTI, will the Minnesota certification process be used or will the West Ed certification process be utilized? How and when will we get these individuals trained and in what areas? What will be the expectations of these trainers once the training is completed? What audience will be focused on to receive the training (American Indian communities, teens, providers, FFN etc.)? Members were asked to be thinking about the answers to these questions. Sandy mentioned that she had contacted Julie Wasiluk regarding assistance with the certification piece and that she could contact Val Tanner to help with the blending of the curriculums. Sandy mentioned that she had received from Tamie Finn a copy of an agreement between Leech Lake Early Childhood Development Division (LLECD)-Minnesota Tribal Resources for Early Childhood Care (MnTRECC and the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE)-Indian Education Program and had brought it to the meeting for review. Within this agreement it states that MnTRECC will be utilized as a resource when updating and or revising the Minnesota Positive Indian Parenting Curriculum. The agreement is in effect through June 30th, 2007. Rebecca discussed with the group the agreement as she is a signer on the agreement. This agreement gives our group permission to supplement the PIP curriculum. Sandy mentioned that a few grants we should be thinking about for future funding could include: Blandin, MELF, and Womens Social Change and any other sources group members may be aware of that would fund our projects. Lisa gave Sandy a list of potential grant sources that she had compiled.

Brainstorming

It was decided that we would remain in a large group format to begin to brainstorm the framework of a curriculum base with which to work off of in the development of the curriculum. The work group began with Kim presented information and cited examples on the 8 lessons documented in the Minnesota Positive Indian Parenting manual. Kathi wrote the information onto large pieces of paper and Kim and Kathi helped the group brainstorm resources that could be added to the curriculum. (Please see attachment to the notes with the brainstorming ideas and resources.) It was decided that the PIP would be the framework of the new curriculum and the group would blend in ITTI curriculum information and pieces from various other curriculums. Group members cited resources that they would like to see added to

this new version of the curriculum. It was decided if a group member cited a resource they would be responsible to bring in the author of the resource. Group members will also be looking for additional resources and will bring them to the next meeting. Lisa provided information to the group on a new curriculum that her area had just been trained in and was using with teens. Lisa brought in her curriculum manual and shared it with the group. The curriculum is titled Live It! and Lisa explained to the group that training on this curriculum is free and available to anyone interested in delivering this curriculum to a teen audience. She also mentioned that there is a \$2000.00 stipend that is given to programs to deliver the curriculum to areas. Lisa will send the contact information to Sandy so she can distribute it to the members of the group who have an interest in looking into this curriculum for their area. Deb mentioned that she is currently using the curriculum in her area and thinks it is very good. Members from other areas in the group expressed interest in receiving more information on the curriculum.

Wrap Up/Reflection

Sandy asked the group if they wanted our meetings to go back to the 2nd Thursday of each month as the casino had available time slots for Thursdays. The group decided they wanted to have meetings occurring on Mondays. Sandy said she would meet with the Event Center staff after the meeting to set up the dates for the upcoming meetings. The group cited the following dates for upcoming meetings providing the casino had availability on these dates. The dates are June 5th, July 17th, August 14th and a tentative date of September 11th or September 25th should there be the need for a meeting. Sandy mentioned that accessing the CCR&R chat room is always an option between meetings. Sandy mentioned she had spoken to Julie Wasiluk and she may be able to come to one of our upcoming meetings or provide assistance by phone to help with the certification process in regard to the curriculum. Sandy also mentioned inviting Val Tanner to help with the blending of the curriculum. Rebecca asked who was going to write the curriculum when it is at that stage? Other questions that came up from the discussion were copywriting laws and the importance of asking permission if we are using pieces from other curriculums. It was decided that Sandy would compose a letter that could be sent to authors of the curriculums that we would be taking information from asking them for the permission to use information from their work. The meeting was concluded and the next scheduled meeting will be held on June 5th, 2006 at the Grand Casino in Mille Lacs.

NEXT MEETING: JUNE 5, 2006 @ GRAND CASINO MILLE LACS
