

Tribal Early Childhood Curriculum Work Group Notes

October 22, 2007

Members Present: Kathi Hedberg, Audrey Roy, Kim Lage, Jean DuFault, Diane Smith and Sandra Williams

Absent Members: Lucy Carlson, Sue Heisler, Vondalee Carr, Betty Jane Schaaf-Beck, Loretta Kloster, Darlene LaBelle-Manzanares and Lora Kussman

Members/Mail: Sylvia Manthey, Amy LaBatte, Linette Tellinghuisen, Heidi Mans

HISTORY

The Tribal Early Childhood Curriculum Work Group was formed in March 2006 with the focus of the group being to work on plans and strategies to update and supplement the Minnesota Positive Indian Parenting Curriculum. Members of ten of the tribes located in Minnesota met over a six-month period to work on the project. The group focused on enhancing the PIP by aligning it with child development resources, health & nutrition tips, literacy activities, informational websites and quotes from each of the reservations in Minnesota. The planning grant for this project was funded by the Department of Human Services and the Bush Foundation. The group's work reached completion in August and an additional wrap-up meeting was held in October to discuss future plans of the implementation of the project. The implementation component of the project was put on hold until additional funding could be secured to continue the project.

NEW WORK

In July 2007 the Department of Human Services provided the funding to implement the plans and strategies and bring the project to completion. The Tribal Early Childhood Curriculum work group members came back together on October 22, 2007 to continue the work.

The group met at 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the Grand Casino Event Center on October 22, 2007 to align child development resources with the Minnesota version of the Positive Indian Parenting Curriculum. The Infant Toddler Training Intensive (ITTI) and other relevant curriculums will align the PIP as supplemental resources. At the meeting the group developed the draft of the PIP aligning it with other child development curriculums.

NEXT STEPS

It was determined by the group that over the next few weeks group members would begin to gather health and nutrition information to include: SIDS, Diabetes, Shaken Baby Syndrome, Car Seat Safety, Fetal Alcohol etc. Members would continue to work on obtaining quotes from individuals on their reservation and completing a permission slip authorizing the quote's usage in the curriculum. Members will submit resources complete with the author or publisher of all books, articles and videos that will be included in the update of the curriculum. Sandy will contact Lora Kussman to discuss the list of informational website's she has been compiling for the project. Literacy tips and activities will be compiled by group members per a suggestion from MDE to add this section to the updated curriculum. Per a conversation with Val Tanner it was decided

that the name of the curriculum would remain the same; the color of the cover and the words 3rd Printing 2007 would signify the curriculum had undergone changes. Per discussion with MDE it was discussed that it would be a good idea to update the first page of the Minnesota PIP curriculum. The following information Office of Indian Education is reflected on the first page. Due to a change in governors the name was changed from Office of Indian Education Department of Children, Families and Learning to Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). It would be important to revise the name change as the website is accessed through MDE and may create less confusion for those individuals looking for the website. Sandy will contact MDE to revisit this conversation. Per a discussion with MDE MnTRECC will draw up an agreement between MDE Indian Education Office and MnTRECC detailing what each of the collaborating partner's roles will be in relation to the curriculum. Diane Smith will develop the form and submit it to the work group for review and then the document will be discussed with MDE.

NEXT MEETING

The group will meet on November 16, 2007 to review and discuss the information collected and to develop a certification process and delivery component for the enhanced PIP curriculum. Absent members were mailed group packets with the information from the meeting and the notes.