

TRIBAL EARLY CHILDHOOD NETWORK MEETING
October 12, 2007 Notes

Members Present: Jean DuFault, Dru Osterud, Theresa Fountain, Sylvia Mathney, Nicole Terry, Betty Jane Schaaf-Beck, Mary Vanderwert, Kevin Hedstrom, Ofelia Lopez, Lora Kussman, Michelle Weber, Vondalee Carr, Audrey Roy, Kim Lage, Kathleen Hedberg, Tammy Wickstrom, Julie Fredrickson, Mary Schwartz, Naomie Munzner, Sandra Williams and Lee Turney

The meeting was held at the Northern Lights Event Center in Walker, Minnesota. Facilitation of the meeting was provided by Lee Turney-Early Childhood Director/Leech Lake. Agencies represented at the meeting included: Fond Du Lac, Resources for Child Caring, Grand Portage, Alliance of Early Childhood Professionals, Minnesota Department of Education, Department of Human Services, Bois Forte, Red Lake, Mille Lacs, North East District, MnTRECC and Leech Lake.

Agency members came to the table to provide updates on their programs. It was a large group with much networking and sharing of successes and challenges being shared by agency members across the state.

In the afternoon individuals from Head Start met to discuss the Tribal Early Childhood Advisory Committee and Head Start reauthorization. Tammy Wichstrom gave an update on the Minnesota Head Start Association.

Funding for this group is made possible through a grant from the Department of Human Services. The group meets on a quarterly basis and provides an avenue to bring together Tribal Early Childhood and other Early Childhood Programs across the state to network and share program updates. Minnesota Department of Education, Department of Human Services and members of CCR&R Network are invited to attend and provide information on state-wide initiatives. The next Tribal Early Childhood Network meeting will be held in February 2008.