

Minutes

Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.

Community Partners System Gathering

11/19/08

10:00 a.m.

6301 NW 5th Way, Suite 3400

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

Attendees:

Penny Bernath, Howard Bakalar, Efay Brooks, Willie Cameron, Nicole Carter, Sharon Cohen, Claudia Dean, Risa Demator, Jill Gelman, Ilene Gevirtz, Yanick Goutier, Jane Hafer, Maria Hernandez, Monica King, Angelina Michel, Jill Mosovich, Gilbert Rincon, Chris Sieber, Wendi Siegel, Charlene Swanson, Melissa Trentham, Jenny Turnquest, Mary Jean Woika
Presenters: Grace Kolbe, Debra Mazzota, Peggy Roanne Moreno

Staff in Attendance:

K. Lee Tirpak, Chief Program Officer, Leticia Strasser, ECE Program Specialist, Janice Carter, ECE Program Specialist, Inez Webb, Administrative Assistant

I. Welcome and Call to Order

K. Lee Tirpak

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

II. Introductions

Self-introductions were made.

III. Review and Approve Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus.

IV. Review and Approve Minutes –10/20/08

The minutes were approved by consensus, no corrections.

V. System Celebrations and Updates

Partners

Nova Southeastern University

1. Department of Children and Families (DCF) Public Hearing will be held December 8, 2008, at 10:00 am regarding updating Administrative Code 65C-22 for child care & 65C-20 for Child Care Family Home Providers. The areas to be discussed will be published on www.myflorida.com/childcare under the heading “What’s New” as of November 21, 2008. Suggestions may be submitted in writing if you are unable to attend.
2. There are also changes in how to obtain CEUs. Persons who need the certificates for the introductory courses will still need to take a competency exam; however, those persons who only need CEUs for renewal now need to take an online assessment. There are time and test taking limits regarding the CEU assessment. For additional information page go to: www.myflorida.com/childcare click on “What’s New” to find changes in obtaining CEU’s.
3. Prior to March 2008, if a person left child care before completing all the mandated training and returned, they were immediately out of compliance. DCF has now provided a 120 day grace period to complete the missing or updated training before the person is out of compliance. The new Rule language can be found at: www.myflorida.com/childcare; click “what’s new”.

Question: What are the requirements in the Ordinance regarding compliance when an employee leaves and returns? Would Broward Child Care Licensing & Enforcement (BCCL&E) consider their in-service training from the center they previously left?

Answer: All training completed and documented prior to leaving would be counted. BCCL&E now has a data base on a laptop computer that can track all employee mandated requirements.

Broward County Child Care Licensing & Enforcement (BCCL&E)

1. Continuing with Training – BCCL&E is working on revisions of the Family Child Care Home Ordinance and is contacting child care agency matter experts and providers to invite them to serve on the Ad-hoc Committee. This is an opportunity to give input to the changes that the state has either already passed or is proposing, in addition to recommended changes by the Child Care Licensing and Enforcement Section.
2. Director’s Credential has to be updated by December 31, 2008, according to State standards, however, the County’s Child Care Facility Ordinance for owner/director found out of compliance on December 31, 2008, provides a time frame of 30 days to replace or find a child care personnel that meets the requirement which allows a facility to come into compliance.
3. Owners/Directors and Teachers have been advised during routine monitoring visits of the approaching date to comply with the renewal of their credentials. The County will begin the process to determine the number of owners/directors that will be in compliance with the requirement.

Department of Children and Families**Staff Credential Renewal**

Many staff credentials will become inactive or expire on January 1, 2009. The staff credentials that require renewal are the National CDA, Florida Child Development Associate Equivalency (DCF and DOE), the DOE Child Care Apprenticeship Certificate and the School-Age Professional Certificate (DCF and DOE). Staff credentials will expire on January 1, 2009, if it was received prior to January 1, 2001. An expired

staff credential will not be eligible for renewal. If the staff credential was received prior to January 1, 2004, the staff credential will become inactive and is eligible for renewal for 3 (three) additional years. Staff with inactive staff credentials will not be eligible to teach VPK or be counted in the classroom ratio for licensing purposes. Inactive staff credentials can be renewed up to one (1) year prior to the inactive date. An expired or inactive national credential, i.e., National CDA can be renewed for the DCF Florida Child Care Professional Credential (FCCPC) until January 1, 2009. As of January 1, 2009, applicants for renewal must contact the original issuing agency for renewal criteria.

Family Central, Inc. (FCI)

1. Providers with pending Service Agreement are asked to contact FCI.
2. FCI has become a full access partner with DCF; clients are able to get full services which include applying for food stamps.
3. Resource and Referral has a staff member fully trained in American Sign Language and is available to help hearing impaired clients.
4. Michelle Sponder is the new Training Academy Manager hired by FCI.
5. FCI completed the Proposal to the Department of Education to continue to offer the FCCPC and has been approved by the Commission.
6. FCI is partnering with Kid Vision VPK by providing statistical data, through the 10 Early Childhood centers enrolled in the C-QuELL Program.

CDA Scholarships

1. Eight (8) coaches, mentors and raters from ELC 4 and both ELC 3 models are attending a new ECCERS eight (8) day training in Miami; they are learning new ways to approach Technical Assistance offered to providers.
2. Applications for CDA scholarships are still being accepted; forty-one people are on the waiting list and the ELC has recently received \$50,000 from the Henderson Foundation for professional development and will be increasing the number of teachers who are able to participate in CDA courses. Scholarship funds are still available for In-service and ECE College Credit courses.

VPK Conference Update

The VPK conference venue was changed to Plantation High School, a new date will also be announced. FCI staff will be visiting the child care provider site to tell them about the conference.

School Board of Broward County (SBBC)

Kid Vision will be filming their VPK Standards field trip at Oakridge Elementary. That arrangement was possible thanks to Gloria Leonard, a SBBC mentor, who has established a linkage between the elementary school and neighboring child care centers where she provides technical assistance. Students from the centers will be participating in the video taping event.

BAEYC

Jill Mosovich is now serving as the BAEYC representative to the Community Partners Gathering. The newly appointed Board is very excited to become more relevant in the Early Childhood community and look forward to expanding its membership. In January, the Board will be hosting a BAEYC membership appreciation at Nova Southeastern University (date and time TBA).

Ms. Mosovich mentioned that she represents BAREFOOT BOOKS (children's book by English publisher) and is thrilled to announce a new partnership with PBS. The PBS PARENT COLLECTION, can now be viewed at www.mybarefootbooks.com/jillmosovich. In December, PBS will be offering 10% off to the teachers on their email list; this amount will be matched.

Child Care Provider

1. Wendy Siegel, Director of Once Upon a Time Early Education Center is very excited that her center is part of the new C-QuELL program.
2. Ms. Siegel announced the expansion of her company and will be opening a third center next week that will provide child care services for the children at Central Homeless Assistance Center. Ms. Siegel gives credit to FCI staff for helping to get the new program through the process of opening the center and expediting the Service Agreement.

The Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.

1. Baby Boomers Child Care Center received the 2008 Best of Pompano Beach Award partnership in the child care designation.
2. Information regarding Miami-Dade Provider Advocacy Training was available to anyone interested in attending; please speak with coalition staff.
3. A coalition Board member is very interested in determining what percentage of child care programs allocates funds for student scholarships; a volunteer analyst is working with the Coalition to analyze the data gathered from the survey.
4. Partners were asked to identify system elements, ranging from \$5,000 - \$50,000, that could be purchased between March and June *IF* there is any unspent dollars later in the year.
5. Announced Coalition Meeting will be on December 8, 2008: Presentation of 2007-2008 system highlights. All were invited.

Action Items:	Person Responsible	Deadline
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VI. Old Business 2008/2009 Action Topic: Identify Use for Unspent Funds in 08/09	Partners
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- \$50,000 and up
1. Curriculum training and materials for all centers: infants and up
 2. CDA Scholarships
 3. Articulated (sequential) professional development/training
 4. Retroactive raises
 5. Data-base for tracking spectrum of services
 6. Train the trainer for all Directors
 7. Use of video cameras for assessment: Cameras; mentors to oversee, write reports and meet with trainee for growth and support.

\$10,000 - \$50,000
 Incentives for good trainers

- \$5,000 - \$10,000
1. Director's Training: Business, Personnel, Finance
 2. New owner mentorship training program.
 3. AWI family checklists for choosing quality child care

Action Items:	Person Responsible	Deadline
Next week add additional items and vote priorities	Partners	December 17, 2008

VII. Presentation: Palm Beach County Early Childhood Professional Development System	Grace Kolbe/Debra Mazzota (PBCC) Ilene Silber and Kathy Haight (PD ²)
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Early Childhood Professional Development System of PBC:

The presentation consisted of the history of the professional development system and the work of the system partners from the beginning of the Career Development in Child Development (CD²) to the present Personal and Professional Development (PD²), the core competencies, the work of NCCIC, the scholarship supports for formal and informal training, WAGES, Educational Incentive Awards, career advising, and the PBC registry.

Hand-outs and flyers were given to the partners.

Comments:

1. Video Tape observation to record the positive to share
2. Working with Directors in PBC to participate more closely with the Institute

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

VII. Public Comments

None.

IX. New Business

None

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

X. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 17, 2008

These minutes contain the action items of the Community Partner Systems Gathering. They do not contain all items discussed. A tape recording of the meeting is held in the Coalition office. Submitted by: Inez Webb