

Minutes

Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.

ECE System Community Partners Gathering

1/20/2010
 10:00 a.m.
 6301 NW 5th Way, 4th Floor
 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

Attendees:

Stacy Angier, Penny Bernath, Willie Cameron, Sharon Cohen, Kimberly DiLuzio, Ana Maria Garcia, Ilene Gevirtz, Joy Gordon, Maria Hernandez, Debbie Kay, Danielle Liebman, Angie Michel, Ilene Miller, Doreen Moskowitz, Dee Nevares, Naomi Parker, Layne Polakoff, Monica Pujol, Doris Rivas, Nurit Sheinberg, Chris Sieber, Wendi Siegel, Melissa Trentham, Karla Walker, Carol Wasserman

Staff in Attendance:

K. Lee Tirpak, Chief Program Officer; Jessica Novak, ECE Program Specialist; Leticia Strasser, ECE Program Specialist; Lisa Feeney, Sr. ECE Program Specialist; Inez Webb, Administrative Assistant

Presenter

ELC Program Department

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: Attendees announced their name and agency or organization. Ms. Tirpak announced that Janice Carter was promoted to the position of Director of Community Relations and Resource Development; Jessica Novak, was hired as the new ECE Program Specialist. Welcome was also extended to Leticia Strasser who returned from maternity leave.

III. Review and Approve Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus.

IV. Review and Approve Minutes – 12/09/09

The minutes were approved by consensus, with no corrections.

V. Presentation:
 FY 2008-2009 Annual ECE System Presentation
 U-Tube Video: The First Five Years

ELC Program Department

FY 2008-2009 Annual ECE System Presentation

The Coalition staff presented an overview of the results of services offered through contracted Service Provider activities involved in achieving the Coalition mission to serve the children of Broward in the 2008-2009 contract year. PowerPoint presentation handout was made available.

The following programs are offered by service providers contracted with the Coalition.

Family Central, Inc.

- ELC 1 Resource and Referral and Family Education Supports
- ELC 2 Eligibility Determination, Application Processing, Slot Management and Provider Payment
- ELC 3 Quality Improvement Supports
- ELC 5 Developmental Screening

School Board of Broward County, Inc.

- ELC 3 Quality Improvement Supports
- ELC 6 Florida First Start

Broward County Child Care Licensing and Enforcement

- ELC 4-1 Quality Assurance Services/Quality Rating System
- ELC 4-2 Quality Assurance Services/Health and Safety and VPK Monitoring

Comments and Questions regarding specific slides:

- Are “all kindergarten children” inclusive of those screened by FLKRS or only VPK children?
- Of all kindergarten children who were administered the FLKRS, what percentage had completed VPK? The coalition will look further into obtaining data from Department of Education.
- What is the percentage of children that were tested in Broward to make up “all” the VPK Children?
- Why is the word “quality” not included in the ELC Vision?
- Stacy Angier, Faith Based Provider Board Member representative explained the process the Coalition Board used to develop a better understanding of the Mission of the Coalition, better working relationships among the Board Members and her understanding of the carefully crafted statement to be non-specific, but inclusive of all the parts of the ECE system. Clarify Slide on page 9 regarding Accredited center made 1 star and 7 had 2 stars
- Are the QRS results communicated to other accreditation agencies? A discussion followed; the topics below will be included as future agenda items.
 - Reporting results of QRIS to accrediting body
 - Review FLKRS data for percentage of VPK students in “all” kindergarten children who took the test

The ELC Board and staff will continue to address these challenges which the Coalition faces.

U-Tube Video: The First Five Years

The group commented that the video was hands-on and suggested that it should be shown to the ELC Board, sent to parents and to the business community.

Action Items:	Person Responsible	Deadline
<p>Agenda Item for next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report results of QRIS to other Accreditation bodies • Review FLKRS data for answers to questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are “all kindergarten children” inclusive of those screened by FLKRS or only VPK children? • Of all kindergarten children who were administered the FLKRS, what percentage had completed VPK? • What is the percentage of children that were tested in Broward to make up “all” the VPK Children? 	<p>Inez Webb</p> <p>K. Lee Tirpak</p>	<p>March 2010 Agenda</p> <p>February Agenda: Old Business</p>
<p>VI. Old Business</p> <p>Identify Use of any Unspent Funds in 2009/2010 – Creative Curriculum Training</p>		<p>K. Lee Tirpak</p>
<p><u>Spending funds for Creative Curriculum</u></p> <p>The goal is to find which training will be most useful to the child care providers; be mindful that the Creative Curriculum will be changed by June 1, 2010. Funds are available to bring the Teaching Strategies Consultants to Broward to provide appropriate training.</p> <p>Should we purchase training related to the current curriculum or the training related to the revised curriculum?</p> <p>Participants suggested/noted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creative Curriculum is a philosophy and only works when it is implemented. 2. There is a need for training focused on the Infant/Toddler Pre-school assessment. Members were informed of the BCCLE Informational sessions expanded to include more targeted information regarding ECERS and ITERS –. The Coalition staff will research the opportunity in the spring for additional overview training by the Authors. 3. ELC Scholarships pay for in-service training that can be used for sessions offered elsewhere on these topics; Mid-year funds may be available to meet the waiting list needs. Family Central, Inc. (FCI) reported that as of January 1, 2010, the ELC CDA scholarship funds had been exhausted; \$11,250 is needed to meet the waiting list; further information will be sent to providers regarding the balance in the In-service and 3 Credit College Course Scholarship funds. There are 3 types of Scholarships funded by ELC: College Scholarships, National Child Development Association (CDA) Credential Scholarship and In-service Professional Development Scholarships. Centers are qualified and prioritized based on the Coalitions’ Scholarship Policy. 4. SREL Transition sub-committee members reported their discussion related to the importance of onsite follow-up to make the best use of any Creative Curriculum training provided. 5. Training offered to directors or teacher to take back to the classroom. 6. Implement follow-up process. 7. Other options: Technical support on-site; provide books 8. Customize training: ELC will talk with Teaching Strategies and Kaplan how to develop the best training possible to meet the needs of Providers to implement the Creative Curriculum and work 		

with coaches, mentors and CSC staff to offer follow-up opportunities.

Action Items:	Person Responsible	Deadline
(1) Review opportunities for ECERS & ITERS training	Lisa Feeney/Anita Platt	March 2010
(2) Send out information for Scholarship funds	ELC staff	February 2010
(3) Talk to Teaching Strategies about a customized training in Broward; Kaplan and others about what they have to offer	ELC staff	February 2010

VII. System Celebrations and Updates

Partners

BAEYC

Early Childhood-Grade 2 Professional Development Workshop presented by the Ooey Goey Lady will be held on Sunday, February 7, 2010

Family Central, Inc. (FCI)

1. Provider packets will be mailed by next week
2. Many providers participated in the Webinex held on January 8, 2010, by the Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) to review VPK 10, 11 and VPK Provider Agreement.
3. Rules Workshop for VPK Re-enrollment and Low Performing Providers will be held Friday, January 29, 2010, 9am to 12:00noon and Monday, January 25, 2010, 1:00pm to 4:00pm.
4. VPK/Preschool Conference; committee waiting for date from Piper High School.

Professional Development

The ESE Department in collaboration with FDLRS Parents Services offers a variety of parent workshops and information for parents of students with disabilities, see flyer for website information. Scholarship funds to attend workshops are available from IDEA grants for parent or staff with children with disability, up to \$100 is available; however expenses are reimbursed after participation. Deadline for applications is March 2010. Funds that are not used are redirected in the SBBC budget to parent training.

Department of Children & Families (DCF)

Rule Revision adopted on January 13, 2010, includes forms that have been revised; visit DCF website. There are no mail-outs to providers at this time; Melisa Trentham will look into communicating this information to providers.

Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.

- (1) The Broward/Haiti Task Force Symposium met this morning at Children’s Services Council (CSC) to build a task force to partner in assisting with relief efforts for the children coming from Haiti; the Coalition’s priority for care includes families affected by disasters.
- (2) February’s meeting will be a Provider Focus meeting, send topics of interest to the Coalition.
- (3) The Board is in the ITN phase of its business cycle; deadline for receiving proposals is Thursday, January 21st, 2010; visit the website @ www.elcbroward.org for further information.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Send email from DCF to ELC to forward to Partners regarding DCF rule changes Send revised DCF forms to FCI when received	Melisa Trentham /ELC	February 2010
VIII. New Business		Partners
None.		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
IX. Public Comments		
None.		
X. Adjourn		
The meeting was adjourned at 12.09 p.m.		
Next Meeting – Provider Forum: February 17, 2010		

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