

EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, August 14, 2013

The Early Childhood Council (ECC) convened for a regular meeting on Wednesday, August 14, 2013, at IBC Bank, Community Room, 2817 E. Cesar Chavez Street, Austin, Texas.

Board Members in attendance are listed on the attached attendance roll sheet. Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) staff in attendance was Ron Hubbard. Guests that signed in for the meeting were: Michelle Crawford, Margie Calderon, Hannah Berle, Linda Ruiz, Alma Lyra, Franciell Farris, Sue Carpenter, Tara Carmean, Linda Welsh, and Edith Gray.

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Holder at 9:05 AM.

- 1. INTRODUCTIONS: Chair Holder asked guests to introduce themselves.
- 2. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None
- 3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: None
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The June 12, 2013 regular meeting Minutes were approved on Council Member Son's motion, Council Member Elsner's second on a 6-0-1 vote with Council Member Breithaupt abstaining. Council Member Rodriguez and Vice Chair Porter arrived after the vote.
- 5. PRESENTATIONS: Korey Darling and Lori Miranda, Research & Planning Division, Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service presented about the County's report: Focus on Children in Travis County: Snapshot from the American Community Survey 2009-2011. Handouts of the report were provided.

Council Member Brook Son presented about the outlook for early childhood funding in the Fiscal Year 2014 County budget. She also discussed the planning for a competition for early childhood funding for services in Fiscal Year 2015.

- 6. WORK GROUP REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS
- a. Executive Work Group Kyle Holder
 - Chair Holder reported that he and Council Member Son are compiling a calendar to outline dates that are significant to the ECC's activities.
 - b. Policy and Finance Work Group –

- Council Member Huston discussed plans to compose and send a letter thanking the Commissioners Court for its support of early childhood funding using previous ECC actions.
- Brook Son has agreed to chair the Policy Work Group. The Work Group will have regular meetings the Monday before the ECC meeting at 10:00 AM.
- c. Providers Work Group Council Member Koenig provided a library service update on the Group's work with the Library related to increasing parental requests for story times and helping parents advocate for services. She discussed the PARD Aquatics assessment and the opportunity for input with PARD.
- 7. STAFF BRIEFING AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS Ron Hubbard, Early Childhood Coordinator, provided an update on the following items:
 - a) The YWCA has been recommended as the contractor for the Bridge Child Care Voucher Program from the Request for Applications. The recommendation is pending Departmental and Council approval.
 - b) The Medicaid 1115 Waiver Projects are underway. The Prenatal program is having meetings with providers and stakeholders, and has conducted focus groups with women about their experiences. The Healthy Families program is pending federal approval but is proceeding to interview for staff.
 - i) The City Council endorsed the School Readiness Plan and instructed staff to develop an Alignment Process for agencies that received City early childhood funding. The ECC reviewed the proposed HHSD Alignment tool
 - (a) Possible Action to confirm review
 The Early Childhood Council reviewed and endorsed the proposed draft process with two recommendations:
 - 1. That the alignment be scored for applicants for early childhood funding in solicitations.
 - 2. That the process be applied to any contract that includes City-funded early childhood services even if early childhood is not the primary service of the contract or the agency.

The ECC's endorsement was approved on a motion by Council Member Huston second by Vice Chair Porter on a 9-0 vote.

- c) Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Initiative Report A copy of the Early Childhood items from the report were distributed.
- 8. SUCCESS BY 6 UPDATE Sue Carpenter gave an update on the School Readiness Plan and some of the goals for the upcoming year.
- 9. RELATED GROUPS -None

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Holder adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 10:30 AM.

Early Childhood Council
Attendance with 12 Month History

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