
Sussex Early Childhood Council (SECC)- Monthly Council Meeting
in partnership, with
Sussex County Health Coalition (SCHC)

Meeting Minutes
DATE: June 25, 2019

Easter Seals Conference Room, 22317 DuPont Blvd, Georgetown, DE 19947 - 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Attendees: Attendees: 15 with 2 new attendees

Meeting was called to order at 10:00am by Chair, Christine Hoeflich Olley.

Daphne Evans made a motion to accept May Meeting Minutes, Rita Hovermale seconded the motion. The group voted unanimously to approve the May Meeting Minutes.

Action Items:

- United Way, Delaware's Campaign for Grade Level Reading and DAEYC expressed interest in participating in the Awareness Campaign. SCHC will follow up.
- DAEYC rep will share digital copies of materials with SCHC to disseminate.
- Crystal will share the contact for Amy Beane with Schlonn.
- Updates from NAEYC and DAEYC:
- Michelle Spencer from NAEYC shared information about the "Power to the Profession" movement
- Working toward universal guidelines and language. They are working with eight decision cycles to create standards, competencies, clearly defined levels, policy, framework and pay parity. See attachments.
- Michelle will share links as they become available to allow input from the workforce.

Guest Speaker: Michelle Spencer

- NAEYC Update
- Information on T.E.A.C.H. and WAGES

Speaker Discussion Points:

NAEYC and DAEYC are always looking for members to join to help with the work they do. Getting input from stakeholders is very important. This membership allows discounts on educational seminars and workshops.

Del Tech is dropping their accreditation for Early Childhood Educators. This is a huge work force issue for Early Childhood Educators. This workforce in non-traditional group. They need quality evening and weekend classes.

Michelle asked for attendees to get involved in advocacy. We need more professional accreditation. She urged this group to reach out to their school districts and local colleges to ask for more specialized services for Early Childhood Educators. Michelle feels that we need more quality curriculum for the birth to five sectors. She shared a post card with the group with more information.

T.E.A.C.H update:

- T.E.A.C.H. currently has a wait list. They are still accepting applications. T.E.A.C.H. helps pay for professional development and encourages career advancement.

WAGES update:

- Childcare WAGES Program – Is run through TEACH National through DAEYC. The supplements the salary of childcare providers to keep them in the classroom. They have eight levels and are based on their educational level. This encourages professional development and retention.
- Changing teachers is the second most traumatic event for children birth to five. The first is death of a parent. Keeping teachers in the classroom help children on a social and emotional level.
- WAGES gave a 31% increase to participants this year.
- Applications are available. Attendees were asked to share applications with centers and interested parties.

Purple Awareness Campaign:

Crystal shared information about the Purple Awareness and Anti-Stigma Campaign.

Asked for all attendees to participate in the Awareness and Anti-Stigma Campaign.

Crystal shared the pledge cards and fliers with the group.

Christine shared her good experience related to last year's campaign.

Everyone can get involved in simple ways.

CoIIN Update:

Daphne shared an ECCS CoIIN update with the group.

HRSA is coming to do a site visit in August 6th and 7th. Anyone interested in being a part of the community activities related to the site visit.

Lisa met with Read Aloud Delaware to discuss potential collaboration.

Vroom Cards are being passed out in the Community.

Speaker Updates:

August - Child Development Watch – Christine will reach out to confirm

September – Fetal Alcohol Syndrome – Mary Moor will connect us to a contact for Kelly Stanley.

October – Emergency Preparedness / Fire School Presentation – SCHC will reach out to Pat Heineman with University of Delaware and Kim O'Malley.

November – Brain Injury Association of Delaware – SCHC will ask Kristy Handley

December – Holiday Celebration?????

Partner Updates:

Barbara Johnson schedule for the Cape Book Mobile – July 9th to Aug 8th the book mobile in the Cape Henlopen.

Barbara Johnson asked for support for Senate Bill 150 – Lobbying for November registration for kindergarten and a universal kindergarten registration. See attachment.

Community Baby Shower is being planned for mid-August. Barbara asked for support. SCHC will support books.

Schlonn Hawkins shared information about “Get Delaware Reading” Campaign. An event is planned for July 8th in Greenwood. Tracy Carney will be on site for this event. Schlonn invited those agencies providing summer camps or classes to bring their children to enjoy this event.

SCHC is hosting the Children’s Health Fair at the Delaware State Fair on Tuesday, July 23rd. This event is open to vendors that provide information to children and families. We expect over 5,000 children at this event.

Westside Family Healthcare – Growing Healthy Families event will be held in Dover on August 22nd from 3:00pm to 6:00pm.

Christine shared information related to a Father (or male role model) / Child event. This is a five-week program. It will take place in Cupolo Park in Millsboro. No cost.

Mary Moor will share a flyer related to mental health education with this group for mass dissemination.

Adjourned

Next Meeting is on August 27th at 10:00am at Easter Seals