



PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2017

ELC Main Office
10 SE Central Parkway, Suite 200, Stuart

Present: Barbara Clowdus
Rhiannon Forker (via teleconference) Shonda Hunter (via teleconference)
Pat McCoy

Excused: Donna Rivett

Staff: Migdalia Rosado Loretta Toth
Pat Houston

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:22 a.m. by Acting Chair, Pat McCoy. Roll call was taken and a quorum present.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA – None

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion to adopt the agenda, was made by Shonda Hunter, seconded by Rhiannon Forker and passed unanimously.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Program Minutes – August 3, 2017

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Shonda Hunter, seconded by Rhiannon Forker, and passed unanimously.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Workgroup – Reaching Underserved Communities** – Pat Houston provided a brief overview of the August meeting, pointing out that Indian River County has been addressing the needs of the community through various agencies. Ms. McCoy discussed the transportation issues in Okeechobee County preventing the poorest of the poor population from getting to a service center or provider. The same is true for Martin County. Martin County underserved communities were identified as the trailer park in Indiantown, Banner Lake, Port Salerno and Golden Gate.

Barbara Clowdus arrived at 8:28 a.m. and assumed the Chair responsibilities.

An additional obstacle is that many of those families may not meet the criteria to receive School Readiness childcare services, such as migrant workers with stay-at-home moms, who are very much in need of services. ELCIRMO's federal, state and local funding is currently being utilized to the fullest to serve families meeting criteria, however a wait list still exists.

Possible solutions include writing grants to provide services to families that do not meet the criteria for childcare services, providing a mobile unit that can go out to these communities, and partnering with school districts to provide transportation to child care providers. The committee questioned whether CareerSource would be a viable option for training students in childcare education. The TEACH Scholarship Program is available for early care educators working toward an Associate and/or Bachelor degree in early childhood education. Ms. Houston commented that quality funding could be used toward credentialing for CDA's through education stipends, which were

awarded for many years. It was noted that Hope Rural School and Indiantown YMCA have buses which may be utilized.

Tasks:

- 1) Ms. Hunter – Will discuss with CareerSource whether childcare can be added to the CareerSource work experience and on the job training program.
- 2) Ms. McCoy – Will discuss with the Okeechobee School District the possibility of utilizing school district transportation to deliver School Readiness children to childcare providers.
- 3) Ms. Clowdus – Will discuss with Martin County School District the possibility of utilizing school district transportation. Ms. Clowdus offered her assistance with grant writing.
- 4) Ms. Forker – Will contact Indiantown YMCA regarding possible bus transportation.
- 5) Ms. Houston – Will suggest that childcare centers encourage staff to obtain CDA's (Child Development Associate Certificate). Will provide locations of childcare centers in the respective areas discussed. Will provide capacity at respective childcare centers.

Ms. Clowdus requested Ms. Houston prepare a PowerPoint presentation to share with the Board. The presentation will be reviewed by the Program committee at the 11/2/17 meeting.

With the wait list currently at 500+ for School Readiness services, targeted outreach is expected to increase demand. Discussed writing grants for increased child care slots, however, it was explained that during grant presentations, ELCIRMO is asked what fundraising is occurring in the respective counties. Fundraising was discussed briefly, including types of events. Ms. Rosado explained that coalitions may not use federal and state funds, including the use of staff, to fundraise. The committee will bring back ideas to the next meeting.

Follow-up/Action

- 1) PowerPoint presentation – 11/2/17 Program Committee meeting and 11/16/17 Board meeting.
- 2) Tasks to be completed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Program Updates – Ms. Houston provided the following updates:

- ELCIRMO has shared publications about developmental milestones and finding quality childcare with Helping People Succeed and Healthy Families, who in turn provide the information when visiting new families.
- Ms. Houston was trained as a coach for the program "Talk with Me Baby", presented by the Grade Level Reading campaign, about the importance of interaction and brain building.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Ms. Houston's presentation.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS – None.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved 11/2/17

Barbara Clowdus, Chair
BC/lt