

**MINUTES OF EARLY LEARNING COORDINATING COUNCIL**  
**Kansas Children's Cabinet & Trust Fund Conference Room**  
**Landon State Office Building, Room 152**  
**900 SW Jackson, Topeka, Kansas**  
**November 3, 2009**  
**1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Present: Leadell Ediger, Kansas Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (KACCRRRA)  
Mary Baskett, Kansas Head Start Association  
Doug Bowman, Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services  
Chris Ross-Baze, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)  
Jackie Counts, University of Kansas, Institute for Educational Research & Public Service  
Rebecca Gillam, University of Kansas, Institute for Educational Research & Public Service  
Carol Ayres, Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE)  
Gayle Stuber, Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE)  
Janet Newton, Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE)  
Bobbi Mariani, Kansas Department of Social & Rehabilitation Services (SRS)  
Karen Beckerman, Kansas Department of Social & Rehabilitation Services (SRS)  
Carrie Hastings, Kansas Department of Social & Rehabilitation Services (SRS)  
David Lindeman, University of Kansas Center on Developmental Disabilities  
Shelley Mayse, Kansas Association for Infants & Early Childhood Mental Health  
Terry Leatherman, Kansas Association for Infants & Early Childhood Mental Health  
Dana Moses, Kansas Head Start State Based TA, *via telephone*  
Tracie Lansing, Kansas Children's Service League, *via telephone*  
Bethann Smith, Kansas Head Start State Based TA  
Jim Redmon, Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund (KCCTF)  
Jane Weiler, KCCTF  
Dyogga Adegboire, KCCTF

**Welcome and Introductions**

Jim Redmon welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for introductions. Leadell Ediger introduced her guest, Vicky Pugh, who is from the Early Learning Coalition of Escambia County in Pensacola, Florida. She is in the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NACCRRRA) Leadership Program that is intended to train upcoming leaders in the field of child care resource and referral. Also welcomed were Shelley Mayse and Terry Leatherman, Kansas Association for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health (KAIMH).

**KECCS Stakeholders Meeting Follow up**

Rebecca Gillam asked for feedback about what worked and did not work at the October 16 KECCS meeting. A lot of information was captured and presented in six hours. Sometimes that works and sometimes not. She asked members to e-mail her with comments which will help the KU team plan for the next meeting. The date of the next meeting will be discussed following the awarding of the ECAC grant, and that date could be some time in May or June 2010. Jim suggested also coordinating with SRS to combine the KECCS meeting and Child Care advisory meetings.

## **Early Learning Coordinating Council Meeting of November 3, 2009**

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#### **Update on Parent Initiative**

Rebecca reported the parent research initiatives results will be presented in upcoming webinars. Information gathered from the recent Parent Leadership Conference held October 2-4 in Topeka will be included. Results will be incorporated into the report and recommendations. The KU team shared the demographics information such as education level and family income. There was general agreement that the participants reflected the families who receive services from early childhood programs in the state. Gayle Stuber and Janet Newton will be sharing information with Rebecca about the parent information which KSDE has on file. Once the report is received, ELCC members will be asked to provide input on next steps.

#### **LAUNCH Grant**

Jackie Counts remarked that at the last meeting, it was announced that Kansas is a recipient of the LAUNCH grant and will be receiving \$850,000 annually over the next five years. Both state and local team leadership are participating in weekly conference calls with the program officer to talk about technical assistance, grant logistics, and a cross site evaluation. The next step will be to cover the needs assessment.

#### **Update from Kansas Coalition for School Readiness**

Mary Baskett announced the resignation of Tiffany Fisher as Executive Director of Kansas Coalition for School Readiness effective 10/28/09. KCSR is recruiting for the position with several applications having already been received. Interviews will be held in early December and they hope to have the new person on board by January 4, 2010. Kansas Action for Children will provide support and training during the 2010 legislative session.

Mary reported the Coalition members participated in an early childhood event in Wichita hosted by Governor Mark Parkinson and Coalition Trustee Barry Downing. Both did a great job hosting and it was clear of their commitment to early childhood in Kansas. The Governor made a strong statement of support for the Children's Initiatives Fund. Mary commented that the Kansas Action for Children Governmental Relations staff will assist with covering legislative news, updates and lobbying. The Coalition is gearing up for next legislative session particularly child care registered family day care and CIF. Leadell Ediger commented that the Coalition is working on its media campaign.

Mary announced a joint event of Early Learning Day at the Statehouse and the Kansas Action for Children (KAC) 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration at the Statehouse. She asked everyone to mark February 4<sup>th</sup> on their calendars.

Mary and Leadell reported that the KCSR's legislative agenda would include: 1) protecting CIF and 2) child care licensing.

**Early Childhood Advisory Council Grant Application Status**

Jackie Counts and Rebecca Gillam reported receiving a lot of feedback from the ELCC members on the ECAC grant application. They have been contacting partners to clarify changes and to update the draft grant application. Feedback fell into three main categories: funding streams, communication structure, and collaboration. Jackie and Rebecca are in contact with the ECCS technical assistance staff on that and other questions to find out what other states are doing with regard to funding streams. All attempts to maintain the parameters and statutory requirements of state agencies in conjunction with ECAC are ongoing. Updates to the ECAC grant application are currently being made, and will be posted 11/4 on the KECCS website. There will be a two-week window for comments and feedback.

Certain other tasks must take place prior to the grant submission, i.e., the Governor's Executive Order establishing the ECAC chair and membership and completion of the application process.

**Update from the Strengthening Families Conference in Atlanta**

Jackie, Rebecca and Jim reported on the Strengthening Families Conference held in Atlanta, Georgia, October 26-29. It was a great conference and Kansas was well represented.

**Adjournment**

The next meeting of ELCC is scheduled Thursday, December 10 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Kansas Children's Cabinet office.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.