

**Early Learning Coalition
Resource Development Committee
July 17, 2018 – 10:00 AM**

Persons in Attendance

Committee Members:

Mary Ann Winstead
Melody Meier

Shawn Jennings

Tammy Hicks

Staff:

Vicki Pugh
Anne Cynkar

Angela Mitchell
Melissa Stankard

Paula Rollins

Partners/Public:

Mellisa Jones

Aisha Adkison

Deborah Goldberg

Teleconferencing:

Mary Ann Bickerstaff

I. Welcome and Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Ms. Winstead. The Agenda was approved upon a motion made by Ms. Hicks and seconded by Ms. Meier.

II. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

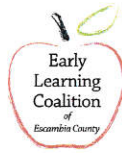
III. Approval of Minutes of May 15, 2018

The Minutes of the May 15, 2018 Resource Development Committee meeting were approved upon a motion made by Ms. Jennings and seconded by Ms. Bickerstaff.

IV. Program Reports

a. Medical Support Services Report

Ms. Jennings gave an end of the year report for ELC Nursing services. There were 186 centers visited in 2017-2018. The medical support staff screened 2,428 children for vision throughout the year and had 197 vision referrals resulting in most of the children receiving corrective lenses. Ms. Jennings also reported that 2,419 children were screened for hearing and 210 were hearing referrals. Heights and weights were included in the end of the year report with 2,246 students being weighed and measured. Of the total number, 208 children (9%) were in the obese category. Overall, this was a positive result in comparison to the community schools percentage of (33%) in the obese category. The educational class visits reached a total of 1,434 students and 400 staff members. These educational classes included dental, health, nutrition and hand washing. Ms. Bickerstaff questioned if there were pre-determined targets or goals already set in place by the



staff prior to the new year and if those goals were met. Ms. Jennings stated yes, and that these targets have been met and in fact have exceeded the target for this year. Unfortunately, she did not have the numbers with her.

b. CCR&R Update

In the month of May there were 180 calls to CCR&R of which 118 were new interviews and 62 were previous callers. In June there were 122 calls to CCR&R of which 81 were new interviews and 41 were previous callers. In both May and June most of the parents that the Coalition assisted were working families and those interested in finding child care centers for school age children. Different from previous months in that parents were often seeking centers for birth to school entry.

As of July 1, 2018, the OEL went to a new computer system. At present there are still a few challenges with the system but, the Coalition is working diligently with CCR&R to work out these issues. The old system is still being used to assist parents along with the Coalition's new addition to the three computers, scanners and a permanent staff member to help parents in transitioning to the new on-line system.

c. Program Support Summary

The highlight addressed by Ms. Pugh for the Program Support report for May and June 2018 was addressed specifically in the areas of Inclusion/Behavioral Support. For the year, there were 32 expulsions/suspensions. The Coalition cannot mandate that providers tell report this information, but the Eligibility Department staff asks clarifying questions when parents come into transfer a child which often leads to behavioral issues being revealed. Research indicates that if a child is expelled from a PRE-K class that it often sets them up for failure for the future and makes a significant impact early on. The Coalition is pro-active in these matters and has taken steps to work individually with the providers, parents and child in dealing not only with behavioral issues but assisting in development of a variety of accommodations. The goal is for all providers to know that if they encounter behavioral challenges the Coalition is available to work with them and the families to resolve issues, and to provide additional support on a case by case basis.

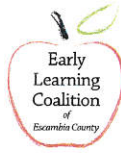
V. Old Business

a. Wait List and Contract Summary

Ms. Pugh and Ms. Rollins addressed the Wait/List Contract Summary. Presently, the Coalition is not pulling off the Wait List because we are at our targeted number of enrollments according to the budget. Total on the Wait List is 226 children, 142 of which are birth to school age. Once the Coalition resumes pulling off the Wait List again children birth to five will be pulled first.

VPK 2018/19 School Program Year has 1,407 VPK approved and 78 submitted. 93 applications have been rejected for various reasons. There are 90 SR providers, with no new contracts, and 78 VPK providers.

Since the last RDC meeting in May there has been one Review Hearing resulting in a contract termination. No new fraud cases to report nor any in pending action.



b. Grow With Me/LENA Update

Ms. Pugh updated the Committee on the recruitment schedule for Grow With Me/LENA Program (Child Care Centers), and LENA Start Program (With Parents). The planned recruitment program will begin in the Fall but, the actual program will start either late Fall or after the holidays. The Grow with Me project is an infant/toddler quality initiative program and presently because programs have either dropped out or graduated the Coalition is recruiting new classrooms for this project. Those interested should contact Ms. Pugh vpugh@elcescambia.org and she will add them to the list. Her staff will then schedule a visit for October or November 2018.

c. Pay for Performance (PFP)

This project is a partnership between OEL and University of Florida. Unfortunately, 2018/2019 will be the last year for this program. We have 32 potentially eligible programs including four child care homes. A point system helps in determining acceptance into the program. The tier levels are all different and contain specific criteria for the centers to follow and so it is critical that the entire staff prior to accepting this project is on board with the requirements. It is a quality initiative a program heavily based program where pay is based on performance.

d. EFS Modernization Transition Update

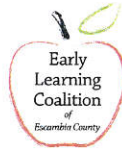
Ms. Rollins reported that the new EFS Child-Care Management computer system (EFS MOD) was released July 1, 2018 and has since presented many challenges. The Coalition is working hard to meet the daily challenges particularly with the migration of data and records correctly from the old system to the new. This by itself has been one of the biggest obstacles. While waiting on the new updates, the Coalition's focus is on assisting the parents and guardians and providers.

Other issues involve doing CCR&R. Currently requests for data and information are being processed into the old EFS system because the new system it is not yet functional. Likewise, reimbursements are another function that cannot be done in the new system yet because enrollments are not accurate, and they must be corrected before reimbursements can be processed, and attendance sheets cannot be accessed. OEL's intent is to have reimbursements ready by the end of the month with July payments completed in the new system for August. That is not yet confirmed. Providers will be paid for July no matter what the system can or cannot do.

Special kudos from Ms. Rollins to her staff for their efforts during this very challenging transition. They have been diligent in assisting the parents and working with OEL in the migration process and their team efforts have been commendable.

e. 2018 Legislative HB1091/ Class Assessments Updates

Ms. Pugh reported on both the HB1091 and Class Assessments while giving her updates. An HB1091 handout was distributed to the Committee to review the various facets of this House Bill and how it impacts what actions the Coalition is taking. It includes helpful terminology and definitions, initiatives to help Providers perform better on the annual CLASS assessments and allows Providers to know in advance what is expected of them through this new HB1091. This is important because the score from the CLASS assessment will determine if the Providers may or may not be eligible to contract the following year. Most of the requirements of HB1091 do not go



into full effect until July 1, 2019. This should give the Coalition and Providers ample time to prepare.

VI. New Business

a. CLASS Observation Planning

The CLASS assessments done for ELPFP will have to be done within the next 30 days and count as the CLASS assessment required for contracting purposes every year. The Coalition is scheduling these CLASS assessments now. In the past, most assessments were done in the morning, but due to the additional requirements of HB1091, assessments also must be done in the afternoon to ensure there is time to complete all the assessments that are required. In particular, CLASS assessment for infant classrooms will occur in the afternoons. What providers should be aware of is that, unlike CLASS assessments done for ELPFP, the observations conducted for performance assessments, those that impact contracting eligibility, will be based off the classroom observed, vice teacher, regardless of which teacher is in the classroom the day of the observation. The Coalition will work with the Providers by calling in advance or emailing to schedule the observations to better ensure that the primary instructor will be available when the observations are conducted.

b. Eligibility Priorities

Ms. Rollins discussed the Eligibility Priorities Survey. This survey is to assist in determining our new eligibility priorities for serving children. The Legislation now allows the Coalitions the opportunity to determine our local priorities. Priorities one and two must remain as is, but the Coalitions can reorder the remaining priorities based on needs of the community. Mr. Watson, Executive Director, encourages the Committee members to review and rank priorities three through nine and return the surveys to the Coalition.

VII. Community Partner Updates

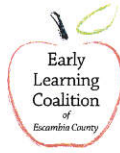
a. ARC Gateway

Ms. Bickerstaff reported that in partnership with Achieve Escambia and other community agencies she has continued working with the Early Screening Matters Task Force. As Task Force Co-Chairs, Ms. Bickerstaff and Ms. Goldberg conducted the first strategic planning day where they narrowed the Task Force's focus to two target areas. One target area is a Developmental Screening Awareness Campaign and the other target is to prepare an RFP to become a Help Me Grow community. This will better enable our community through a screening processing system to identify children birth through eight with developmental delays and/or issues. Progress on the workgroups for these two target areas has been positive. Ms. Bickerstaff encourages anyone interested in joining the Early Screening Matters Task Force to contact her via email at mbickerstaff@arc-gateway.org.

b. Early Steps

No representative was present to report.

c. Florida Association for Infant Mental Health (FAIMH)



Ms. Goldberg reported that FAIMH is focusing on an Endorsement System purchased from Michigan. After many years of discernment, FAIMH decided to purchase the license from Michigan rather than create their own for Florida. It was reported that it is a wonderful program with many benefits and TA. Even though the program may take up to two more years to officially get up and running they have made significant strides in getting the system in place with the first two cohorts to be endorsed. These will be the pilot groups and they are part of the leadership group. The first pilot group started, and the second group is the Review Advisors group for the next group coming up. At present, two Pensacola representatives are participating in the second pilot group; Ms. Chaffin from Early Steps and Ms. Adams from Adult Childhood Mental Health. Ms. Goldberg is thrilled that this program is going so well and feels that as a cross disciplinary program there is a huge potential for categories one and two, and building skills. For more information on the Endorsement System Ms. Goldberg encourages all to visit the FAIMH website <https://www.faimh.org> and to view the endorsement level requirements for all four categories.

d. Department of Health 5-2-1-0

No representative was present to report.

e. School District Academies

Ms. Adkison announced that students who earn the National CDA will receive 9 college credits at Pensacola State College. She has reiterated that a student does not have to have the State mandated 40 hours as part of the National CDA classes even though it is recommended. Also, not all states have state mandated classes therefore the National CDA will be accepted, but some states, including Florida, require the 40-hour training course. Ms. Pugh recommended that certification requirements and general information be shared and discussed at the next Professional Development Day. Ms. Pugh shared that one Child Care Career Commitment bonus check for \$100.00 was awarded to a graduate from the Academy who is now working at Treehouse, and if funding allows she may also be entitled to receive \$500.00 if she continues to work through the 18/19 school year. These bonuses are an incentive to build up the program and entice graduates to stay in the early learning field in Escambia County.

f. DCF Licensing

No representative was present to report.

g. DCF Outreach

No representative was present to report.

h. Gulf Coast Kids House

No representative was present to report.

i. VPK School District

No representative was present to report.

j. Pensacola State College

No representative was present to report.



VIII. More New Business

A special visitor, Ms. Melody Meier, ELC Board Member and NFCU representative, spoke to the RDC members about NFCU's support for the Coalition and expressed that they are especially interested in supporting educational endeavors for the Coalition in our community.

IX. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Next Meeting: September 18, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.