

**Early Learning Coalition
Resource Development Committee
September 19, 2017 – 10:00 AM**

Committee Members:

Peggy Steward
Brenda Hardy
Shawn Jennings

Brittany Curtis
Mary Ann Winstead

Tammy Hicks
Cindy Kirk

Staff:

Bruce Watson
Dawn Engel

Paula Rollins
Holly Stratton

Vicki Pugh
Sarah Whipps

Partners/Public:

Beth Ramirez

Paige Morton

Roger Thompson

I. Welcome and Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Watson as the Committee currently does not have a Chair. Everyone present introduced themselves since two new Board members were present, Ms. Winstead and Ms. Steward. Committee members present agreed to allow Mr. Watson to conduct the meeting in absence of a Chair. The Agenda of the September 19, 2017 Resource Development Committee was approved upon a motion made by Ms. Hardy and seconded by Ms. Ramirez.

II. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

III. Approval of Minutes of May 16, 2017

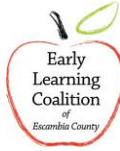
The Minutes of the July 18, 2017 Resource Development Committee meeting were approved upon a motion made by Ms. Hicks and seconded by Ms. Winstead.

IV. Program Reports

a. Nursing Services Report

The nurses saw 162 children in July and 125 children in August. Ms. Jennings reported that in July there were 83 vision screenings and 82 hearing screenings, and in August there were 105 vision screenings and 105 hearing screenings. In July they had several education classes. There were 20 referrals in July and 18 in August.

b. CCR&R Update



In the month of July there were 79 calls to CCR&R, of which 27 were previous callers. Most of the callers were one adult households, parent/step parent who were working. The main inquiries were for affordability/cost, location/transportation, and quality. The most frequent requests were for information regarding full time care, child care centers, and school age care. In the month of August, there were 156 calls, of which 54 were previous callers. Most of the callers were one adult households, parent/step parent who were working. The main inquiries were for location/transportation, affordability/cost, and schedule. Ms. Whipps mentioned that a couple of providers closed recently which contributed to CCR&R seeing more clients in August.

On September 30, Sheriff David Morgan and the Escambia County Sheriff Office School Resource Officers will host a free Cops and Kids Fall Festival at the Hellen Caro Elementary School.

OEL, on behalf of VROOM, gave cards to CCR&R with information about the VROOM Brain Building Moments app. They hope to encourage parents to turn moments with their children into brain building moments.

c. Program Support Summary

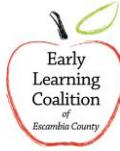
Ms. Pugh provided an update to the Committee. In August there were several trainings on TSG Gold. Performance Funding Program (PFP) had 32 classrooms in 10 programs. OEL approved 10 slots for PFP, therefore, we potentially doubled last year's PFP enrollment. Mr. Hardy complimented Ms. Pugh and her staff on the MMCI course work saying that she has thoroughly enjoyed her classes. QRIS has changed completely and providers have been part of the changes over the summer. Mr. Watson announced that today is kick off day for Coalition's new QRIS, and all documents needed can be found on the Coalition website. Mr. Watson gave kudos to Ms. Pugh and her department for being very supportive and noted that her department currently has a good mix of people with a wide range of experience in child care and early learning.

V. Old Business

a. Wait List and Contract Summary

As of September 17, there were 2,818 children enrolled. The unexpected low number is mostly due to failure of clients to re-determine, leaving the TANF program, and other reasons at a rate that makes it hard for the Coalition to match with new enrollments. The Coalition has been pulling 60-80 children per week from the Wait List and still cannot get ahead for the past two months. The Coalition is pulling applicants who applied only three months ago and the successful enrollment rate has gone back down to around 40%. Many applicants simply do not reply to the notification letters, while others come to their appointments but do not qualify. There are currently 774 children on the Wait List, of which 334 are school age.

There are 1,942 children approved for VPK. There will be approximately 2,000 children enrolled, which is over a 100 less than the previous school year.



There are currently 101 SR providers and 80 VPK providers under contract. Recently, due to an incident a provider chose to close down. They had 16 children enrolled in VPK and over half of those children did not re-enroll in another VPK program. Two new contracts we signed recently, two provider contracts were terminated, and eight providers up and quit recently for a variety reasons.

There is nothing to report regarding Fraud investigations.

b. Grow With Me/LENA Update

Ms. Pugh reported that the Grow With Me/LENA initiative ended for the fiscal year in early June. The LENA data showed that by the end of the evaluation period 61% of the children were hearing more words each day, 21% were hearing less words, and 18% heard about the same. The next phase of the program is that the child cohorts will move up to the next classroom with the children continuing to wear the devices, and the new teachers receiving training and coaching. One GWM program elected not to participate this year, and that was the decision of the center's Director. However, two additional programs were picked up for the second year.

The first year there were 14 classrooms, some infant and some toddler, in 6 centers. There has been great improvement in the classrooms. In the second year of LENA, the Coalition wants the Directors to take MMCI classes. Mr. Watson thinks there is enough data collected to do a summary report of the Year One results. Ms. Gonzalez said she would like to receive such a report. In the second year of GWM, in addition to using the LENA in the centers, parents of children at some of the GWM centers will be offered the opportunity to use the LENA devices with their child in their homes.

Ms. Pugh had planned to attend a LENA Conference in Boulder, CO, but was unable due to Hurricane Irma. The LENA Research Foundation awarded Ms. Pugh with the Terry Paul, Making A Difference Award. Ms. Curtis attended the LENA Conference and commented that it was the best conference she had ever attended, and that many attendees were interested in how LENA was working at the Coalition.

c. QRIS

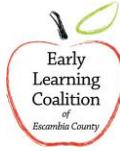
MMCI has been added as a pre-requisite for applying for the STARS Over Escambia Program.

VI. New Business

a. Membership and Chairmanship

The change in Provider Representatives to the Board the Committee Chair position became vacant. Mr. Watson extended the invitation to Ms. Winstead, Ms. Steward, the two new Provider Representatives, and Ms. Kirk to consider being the Chair of the Committee. Ms. Winstead agreed to be the new Chair of the Committee. Additionally, Ms. Hicks and Ms. Curtis accepted positions as Committee members who are not Board members.

VII. Community Partner Updates



a. ARC Gateway

No representative was present to report.

b. Early Steps

Ms. Jane Guess announced that Ms. Debbie Goldberg has resigned from Early Steps. Ms. Guess will share with her people at Early Steps that they should consider appointing a full time representative to the Committee to replace Ms. Goldberg.

c. School District Academies

No representative was present to report.

d. DCF Licensing

Mr. Thompson shared that there are SR providers who are license exempt who have still not had a health and safety inspection. Approximately 75%-80% of the inspections are completed. Also, all the background screenings required by the new screening process are not yet completed

e. DCF Outreach

No representative was present to report.

f. Gulf Coast Kids House

No representative was present to report.

g. VPK School District

No representative was present to report.

h. Pensacola State College

Ms. Kirk has been working with Ms. Pugh and Ms. Aisha Adkison to do a training for the Child Care Career Academy program. She has been getting a lot of phone calls for the Child Development Associate (CDA) course, but the callers are turned off by the cost of the course. Ms. Kirk will email the flyer for the CDA course to Ms. Pugh and her staff. Ms. Kirk shared a few ideas for items that Ms. Pugh can put in the brain bags. One of those items is the Period of Purple Crying video clip.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Next Meeting: November 21, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.