

We Care for Kids Council
12-02-2019 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Ashley Kliewer, Robin Atwood, Haley McLean, Karen Marsman, Mary Ellen Clery, Claire Hopkins, Katie Olson, Jessica Higley, Naomi Miller, Cindy Hill, Penny Dora, Cheryl Thelen, Stephanie Barone.

Welcome and Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 12:15pm.

Approval of November Meeting Minutes: Meeting Minutes from November 2019 were reviewed. A motion was made by Cindy Hill to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Cheryl Thelen. The November Meeting Minutes were approved.

Approval of November Financial Report: A copy of the financial report was provided. Our current fiscal year started on October 1, 2019. The First Congregational Church line item (\$500.00) is a facility usage fee. The Great American Insurance Company line item (\$917.00) is an annual fee and will cover us for 12 months. The two Damon Davis line items (\$150.00 and \$60.00) were to fix Mary Ellen's computer. Replacing a hard drive is something that Naomi's husband can do at no cost for the council.

Website: Ashley has been working with Damon on updating the website. She will continue to send suggestions and let the council know when the website is complete.

List of Board Members: Ashley will work with Penny to get our list up to date. CTF mandates certain community agencies be represented at our council. We want to make sure we follow their requirements.

Stewards of Children: The Stewards of Children session/training is a two hour time commitment. To meet our requirements for the grant we received for this, we need to hold two sessions between now and 09-30-2020. Possible options for this include a Great Start Parenting Coalition Meeting (this would be in August or September 2020), a break out session for the Early Childhood Conference (this would be in September 2020), and the CAC may be hosting another training that we could partner on. Ashley will contact the CAC to see if this is a possibility. Could we also coordinate with a local church? We will discuss this more at the January 2020 meeting.

Parenting Awareness Michigan Conference: Claire attended this event in East Lansing. She went to a LGBTQ and a sexual assault break out session.

Protect Yourself Classes: All classes through May 2020 have been scheduled. Sand Lake and Lakeview were completed in November, which resulted in 2 CPS referrals. There were a total of 42 classes in November. Up next are Montabella and Carson City schools.

CTF Update: The final report for Fiscal Year 2019 was completed, submitted and accepted.

Safe Sleep: Safe Sleep resources are still available. We have sleep sacks, onesies, Period of Purple Crying DVDs, and Happiest Baby DVDs on hand. To request any of the items, please contact:

Ashley Kliewer kliewera@michigan.gov 616-902-8086

Naomi Miller millern12@michigan.gov 616-522-7217

Committee Reports

Legislative: No updates.

Membership: Will we get another member from Great Start to sit on our board in place of Cassie Davis? Are there businesses in our community that can be of a benefit to our council?

Education: No updates.

Executive: No updates.

Roundtable:

The ISD is hosting the Wedgwood's Manasseh Project in January 2020. This is a human trafficking training. Penny will send out the flyer.

Playgroups are going on this month.

If anyone has a child with developmental delay concerns, please refer them for an Early On evaluation.

On 12-04-2019 from 5-7pm at the Montcalm Area Career Center, RAVE will be facilitating a free and confidential LGBTQ group for Montcalm County high schoolers.

RAVE hired a full time sexual assault therapist and a full time volunteer and outreach coordinator.

Alpha Family Services has four women completing birthing class tomorrow. They will receive their completing packages, which includes WCFK pack-n-plays.

Starting next week, Alpha Family Services will have their Christmas Store open. This is their 3rd year hosting this event where clients can shop for toys and clothes with Alpha Bucks.

8Cap has openings in Edmore.

CASA plans to have two trauma trainings next year. They also will start a new volunteer training in April 2020.

DHHS has Operation Good Cheer scheduled for Saturday. Gifts for foster children are flown in by private pilots and will be received at the Ionia Airport. Thank you to United Way for letting us use their space for a while for these gifts!

The Governor's Task Force hosting a training in Grand Rapids that Naomi attended. It was on the opioid crisis and was an excellent training.

Shiloh Community Church hosted a Q-P-R (Question – Persuade – Refer) training on how to help others who are experiencing a mental health crisis, and how to properly refer them to the correct agency for help.

The Mid Michigan Health Department is still looking for community partners for their "Wear One" campaign. This campaign offers free condoms at public and highly populated areas to promote the use of condoms for safe sex.

United Way is doing Facebook Live tours today and tomorrow to showcase their community partners.

United Way is hosting a Housing Conference on December 12th from 8:00am to 12:00pm. Affordable housing will be discussed, and it takes place at Belding HS auditorium. Please RSVP to United Way to attend.

Meeting adjourned 1:22pm.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Stewards of Children
- United Way Grant – Middle School Curriculum
- List of Board Members & Board Officers
- Mary Ellen's Annual Evaluation

Next Meeting: 01-06-2020

Meeting Minutes compiled by Ashley Kliewer and Naomi Miller.