

**We Care for Kids Council**  
Meeting Minutes  
11-02-2020  
Meeting held virtual via Zoom

**Members Present:** Ashley Kliewer, Penny Dora, Robin Atwood, Beth Brundage, Sue Kearney, Abbey Blondin, Cindy Hill, Stephanie Barone, Haley McLean, Jessica Higley, Esther Combs, Katie Olson.

**Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 12:00pm.

**Old Business**

**Approval of October Meeting Minutes:** The meeting minutes from October 2020 were reviewed. In the "Around the Table" section of the October 2020 Meeting Minutes, it indicated that Early On Family Service Staff is still working from home. CORRECTION: Early Head Start Family Service Staff is still working from home. A motion was made by Cindy Hill to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Katie Olson. The October 2020 Meeting Minutes were approved.

**Safe Sleep:**

October is Safe Sleep Awareness month. We need to report to CTF what we are doing for the month. In our grant, we reported we will provide 5 pack-n-plays, 100 brochures/information packets, and 25 onesies/sleep sacks. Sue cannot find in our grant where we have set aside funding for this, so only 3 pack-n-plays were purchased. Ashley has provided brochures/information packets to all Montcalm County DHHS employees. Robin has provided brochures/information packets in the lobby of her office. She will also take some onesies/sleep sacks to her office because they see 2-3 newborns a week. Katie will provide Welcome Baby with brochures/information packets. Early On needs sleep sacks. Cindy has distributed brochures/information packets to home visitors and classroom teacher. We have also sponsored a billboard with a Safe Sleep message.

**Financial Report:** The Financial Report for October 2020 was presented by Penny Dora. At the start of the month, our balance was about \$8550.00. Expenses included Sue's salary, Mary Ellen's final salary payment, the Outdoor Media Safe Sleep billboard, and website upkeep/maintenance by Damon. Deposits included our United Way grant and CTF payment. In November, we do have a payment that is due for our liability insurance, which will cost about \$1000.00. We will also work with Jim Lance to complete our taxes this year. A motion was made by Cindy Hill to accept the October Financial Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Cheryl Thelen. The October 2020 Financial report was approved.

**Executive Director Report:**

Sue was informed that last Monday she was possibly exposed to COVID while teaching Protect Yourself. She immediately cancelled the remaining Protect Yourself classes for the week. Sue's COVID test came back negative, however she is now experiencing symptoms. Protect Yourself is on pause for now. Lakeview also wants to wait until December to finish their classes. 41 classes of Protect Yourself were completed in October 2020.

Sue completed the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter CTF report and CTF year-end report.

Sue attended the CTF Annual Statewide Conference, which was virtual. This was an all-day conference and there were some very good sessions. The focus coming from the top is PREVENTION.

Sue will work on the year-end report for our United Way grant.

Sue found a second set of materials for teaching Protect Yourself, so we do not need to order anything new or update what we have like we had previously discussed.

**Stewards of Children:** We will hold a spring session during evening hours (maybe 6:00pm to 8:00pm) to capture a different audience. The spring session needs to be held before 04-01-2020 to comply with our grant from United Way, and after this session, our grant requirements will be fulfilled. Ashley will contact Lori, our training facilitator, to get a date on the calendar.

**Committee Reports:**

Executive Committee (Sue Kearney, Robin Atwood, Ashley Kliever, Penny Dora, Cheryl Thelen): No updates.

Membership (Sue Kearney, Ashley Kliever, Cindy Hill): We have obtained a copy of the current WCFK brochure, which is very out of date. Ashley will be designing it and Sue and Cindy will edit it. It will be shared with the group for additional suggestions before we publish.

Education (Sue Kearney, Penny Dora, Beth Brundage, Jessica Higley): No updates.

Legislative (Cheryl Thelen, Haley McLean): No updates.

**Around the Table – What is Happening?**

Early On is doing in home visits with families and they are taking referrals. They have playgroup scheduled with Early Head Start and Great Start. Wednesdays at 10:00am is by Zoom and Thursdays at 10:00am is in person at Calvary Lutheran Church in Greenville. The Great Start Parent Coalition is meeting 11-06-2020 and 11-20-2020 at 1:00pm by Zoom.

The RAVE Crisis phone line is not in operation. Please call Ionia Co. Central Dispatch instead. Abbey has been working from home and doing sessions virtually. She can still be reached by email at [abbeyb@raveim.org](mailto:abbeyb@raveim.org).

Family Service Staff and Early Head Start are working virtual. Later this month they will be hosting a virtual support group for grandparents who are raising their grandkids. Lakeview and Howard City classrooms have openings. Stanton and Greenville classrooms are full and have wait lists.

United Way will be running their “United for Warmth” event to accept NEW hats, mittens, gloves, and coats. You can donate money or NEW items. There is also a wish list available.

There will be free drive thru COVID testing at the Health Department 11-20-2020 from 11:00am to 4:00pm. A doctor’s authorization is not needed, and no appointment is required. Please bring an ID. Flu shots will also be available.

There will be a virtual train the trainer for Trauma Champions. The date is TBD. There is some funding available for families through McKinney Vinto to support their educational needs – devices, tablets, tutoring, etc.

Montcalm Care Networks is resuming face to face contact with families, however groups still remain virtual. The Greenville office will be reopening.

Meeting adjourned at 12:42pm.

**Next Meeting: 12-07-2020 (VIRTUAL)**

Meeting Minutes compiled by Ashley Kliever.