

PACT 4 Early Childhood Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 11

Members Present: Lynette Braun – PET; Diane Winter – Meeker County Public Health; Mary Kay Sinner – Renville County Public Health; Cathy Nelson-Messer – Heartland Headstart; Rick Loseth – PACT 4; Wendy Waltz – Litchfield Early Childhood; Chery Johnson – Kandiyohi Public Health; Irene Schwartz – Dassel-Cokato Early Childhood; Debb Sheehan – PACT 4; Cindy Louwagie – Countryside Public Health.

1. Motion by Wendy Waltz to approve Jan. 14 meeting minutes, seconded by Cindy Louwagie. Motioned carried.
2. Recorder: Cindy Louwagie Reporter: Wendy Waltz
3. Rick Loseth spoke on the mental health grant birth to five from the State of Minnesota, due March 11. Also there is a statewide regional meeting to promote collaborative early childhood strategies.
4. Week of the Young Child activities: Wendy –Community Turn off the TV; Irene- Dassel-Cokato Children's Carnival March 25, 10-1pm.
5. Brain Conference discussion: It will be in November 2009. Will need ideas for keynote speaker, breakout session presenters with early childhood interests or attentions. May be looking into local presenters due to budget. Will need volunteers interested in being on the planning committee for the Brain Conference, please contact Rick Loseth. Will need names of presenters, topic suggestions on brain development, mental health, etc.
6. Discussed May 13 presentation to the Full Collaborative Meeting. Suggestions included information on the ASQ:SE. Cathy Nelson-Messer has a 22 minute VHS on ASQ training /teaching video that could be used. She will send it with Donna to the March meeting for the committee to review.
7. Incredible Years classes are being taught in the following counties: Yellow Medicine County: March 31-May 5 in Granite Falls. A Spanish session will be held in Hanley Falls May-June. There is also an Incredible Years Babies and Toddler session being held April-May for the Upper Sioux Community. Renville County has a class currently running from the end of Feb. thru May in Olivia. Kandiyohi County currently being taught in Willmar at the Evangelical Free Church. They also will be starting an infant class for teens.
8. We are still looking for funding for books. Rick mentioned that the Happy Baby books from PACT 4 are still available.
9. Coalition update: Litchfieldkids.com for listings. Wendy states this is the last year for funding.
10. Debb Sheehan spoke with the committee on ideas for May Mental Health Month. Discussed ways to get out the word on mental health.