



## **LINKING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES**

Executive Committee

**June 16, 2011 at 10:00 am, Linking Families and Communities  
Conference Room**

Present included: Paul Beneke, Jim Dick, and Elizabeth Stanek.

Absent included: Tammy Varland and Kelly Vonnahme

The Executive Committee met at 10:00 am in the conference room of Linking Families and Communities Fort Dodge.

Ms. Stanek reviewed the tentative budget amounts for both School Ready and Early Childhood funds. Ms. Stanek stated that the legislature is still in session and has not passed a budget. The ECI State Board and office as directed local areas to proceed with the budget outlined in the Governor's Proposal and Budget. Ms. Stanek stated that the Early Childhood Allocation is \$136,157.00 and the School Ready Allocation is \$406,338.00 for the Calhoun, Pocahontas and Webster County area. The Early Childhood funding is approximately \$1,800.00 more than FY11 and the School Ready funding is approximately \$143,000.00 (-26%) less than the previous year. Stanek noted that the preschool funding, which is included in the School Ready Allocation is a reduction of roughly 50% of the previous year.

Ms. Stanek reviewed the office expenses with the committee as well as the formulas that are used to split out expenses. Stanek stated that previously the agency did not charge Mid-Sioux, Upper Des Moines Opportunity or Family Resource Center their portions of the rent and operating expenses. Ms. Stanek stated that Mid-Sioux was looking for free space and if it could not be secured then CCR&R consultants would be provided supplies and stipends for phone and etc. to operate a home office. The committee discussed the options and felt that it was important to have CCR&R and other early childhood consultants together if possible for greater collaboration and connectivity. The Committee recommends that costs be split among positions and billed out to the respective agency. For CCR&R consultants, the committee recommends that the consultant be housed in the Linking Families and Communities office and the Mid-Sioux be asked to reimburse Linking Families for the costs incurred in the office up to the amount that they would expend for a consultant to be in her/his home.

Ms. Stanek asked the committee to review the personnel needs and salaries for FY12. Ms. Stanek stated that she would like to continue the work that Ms. Lentsch had begun this year with the Positive Solutions for Families Classes and as well as Preschool Coordination. Ms. Stanek stated that due to the likelihood that preschool funds will be cut in half, she wanted to ensure that there was adequate funding for preschool scholarships. She also stated that Ms. Lentsch has a lot of valuable training that is much needed by child care providers and preschools, which include Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) - trainer and coach; Creative Curriculum and Creative Curriculum Gold. The committee members agreed that those trainings and coaching is much needed in the area and would like to see Ms. Lentsch continue. Ms. Stanek stated that she was concerned about the allocation of her time. Ms. Stanek stated that she has not

seen a reduction in the amount of time spent supervising as previously anticipated. She also noted that she had been keeping track of her hours and has consistently put in more than 30 hours/week and many close or over 40. Ms. Stanek stated that she felt that more hours were needed to keep up the current work load. The committee agreed. Ms. Stanek noted that while she has often worked 40 plus hours while being paid for 30, she did it because it needed to be done and that she is not interested in the position if it requires her to be in the office every day from 8-4:30 as her first priority is her children and family. The committee members stated their understanding and felt that the position could remain flexible as it had in the past as long as the work was complete. They asked that Ms. Stanek adjust the salary and benefits from 30 hrs. to 40 hrs. Ms. Stanek also reviewed the benefits, in which the health insurance premium saw no increase and there was a slight increase in dental insurance. The committee will recommend a 3% increase for staff and to increase the Executive Director to full-time split out 60% ECI Coordination and 40% Supervision.

The committee returned to their work on proposals from the previous meeting. Ms. Stanek distributed a handout of current FY11 budget spending and estimated the carry-forward amount of Early Childhood funds to be approximately \$28,000 and School Ready to be \$65,000.00 for total funding of \$164,137 and \$471,338 respectively for FY12. The committee then reviewed the scores and comments from their previous meeting and worked on aligning the proposals that scored the highest with the Strategic Plan and the current budget figures. The committee recommends the following programs for funding to the Board:

- CCR&R Child Care Consultant – Mid Sioux Opportunity – \$78,200.00
- Color Me Healthy – Webster County ISU Extension – \$5,080.50
- Child Care Nurse Consultant – Webster County Health Department - \$15,400.00
- Maternal & Child Home Visitation – Calhoun Co. Public Health - \$227,563.00
- Healthy Families and Children – Children and Families of Iowa - \$24,132.00
- Dental Screen/Fluoride Varnish – Webster County Health Department - \$2500.00
- Positive Solutions for Families – Linking Families and Communities - \$29,400.00
- Coordination – Linking Families and Communities – \$75,442.16
- Preschool Coordination - \$22,500.00
- PBIS – \$27,000.00

The committee asked Elizabeth to complete the required budget forms for submission to the state to be reviewed by the Board at their next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Next meeting: TBA