

Oregon Commission for Child Care Minutes

3/19/04

present: Stephanie Swan, DeeDee Overholser, Vada Salinas, Martha Young, Kitty Piercy, Astrid Newell, Cheryl Reece, Debi Farr (for Rep. Pat Farr), Rosetta Wangerin (via conference call)

guests: Joann Contini, Tom Olsen, Mark Anderson, Elizabeth Jacobs

staff: Claudia Grimm

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Piercy called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. Commissioners introduced themselves to Stephanie Swan, the Commission's newest member. Stephanie is a Speaker appointment, representing Labor.

II. CCD UPDATE

The federal CCDF (Child Care Development Fund) budget is flat-funded. No new funding for child care is being anticipated at this point in time. CCDF is being reauthorized with TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families). The Senate has not completed its hearings; there is still a chance that there could be additional dollars for child care (**note:** Senate passed Snowe Amendment 3/30/04). All discretionary funds are being cut. Discretionary funds are used for most of Oregon's child care infrastructure. Tom said the Commission could take action and write our congressional delegates, encouraging them to not cut funding. DeeDee: support Snow amendment. TANF coupled with CCDF.

Language to support

Snow amendment should it go to floor and TANF funding should include funding for child care. Congressman Woo not given up on TANF waiver. Other Congressional delegates were favorable. Claudia will draft letters to send to Oregon Congressional delegates. Bob: doing something to draw attention to the cause: quality message is getting through. Head Start budget is an analogy. We underestimate our power to make a difference.

Completed first round of health and safety reviews of all providers in the state. Preparing for round 2. Confidential customer satisfaction survey. Rated 3.6/4. Talk to providers with projects (i.e. Health Consultation, Inclusive Child Care). So are more linked to local resources. Adds more value.

Adjust rules to allow mixed age groups in certified family homes. Can care for up to 12 children. Increase in numbers of certified family homes, will increase capacity of infant-toddler slots. Kitty: How do we communicate with provider groups? R&R's, CCD staff certifiers. Talk about taking the next step up to improve quality. Become certified and hire staff; more kids. Do we have some

way with communicating with providers? Hook into existing provider groups. Info through R&R's to family child care networks to communicate news regarding child care priorities. Send partner agencies information as well. Gets info out to counties; OCCF Early Childhood Teams.

III. COMMISSION BUSINESS

Martha motions. Astrid second. Commission membership update. Senator Shields needs to be briefed on issue of child care. Tom: early brain development. Chairs General Government Committee. Commission directs Claudia to meet with Senator Shields and brief him on child care.

Reimbursement policy: Approve policy in Employment Dept. May take a rule change. Agreement from everyone except the person who makes the monetary decisions. Soon through front door. This person is responsible for reimbursement policy for the department. Can fix it through statute, but hopefully can do it through Rule.

Child Care Contribution Tax Credit: 2001 Legislation CCD sell tax credits increase quality, lower parent cost and increase provider compensation. AG fix tax credit legislation. Passed through the Legislature. Marketer to sell tax credits. RFP out no takers. Competing tax credit through Housing and Community Development. Use their marketer to sell their tax credit, but sell theirs first. Emergency contract for one year to sell these tax credits. Pilot.

DeeDee CCR&R Advisory Committee.

OCCC Interim Report to Legislature. Table until DeeDee

Kith and Kin how do we reach these groups? Kitty positive and supportive way that raises quality. How can we use resources to help raise quality of informal care system. Kith and kin Providers talk to Commission. What are their biggest challenges? What do they think quality care is? Are they connect to R&R's? Are they aware of training opportunities? Linn_Benton had a program to reach out to listed providers. Special newsletter and program. HOW DO WE REACH THIS POPULATION? Martha: via R&R lending library, toys. Equipment. Parenting magazines. Family Child Care Network. Opportunities to talk about child care. Can meet other providers; 1:1 community organizing. Two different populations: grandma/relative and neighbors.

Lisa Kopetski: meeting in Pendleton need to also piggy-back on Commission business?? Plaque? Tree. Letter from Governor. What is accessible? Press release. Tie in with something from CCD. NACCRRRA brings people together for town hall type of meeting: certifiers, providers, DHS personnel. Community sponsored dinner with local press.

IV. NACCRRRA CONFERENCE-Commissioner DeeDee Overholser
Federal budget overview. Contact with every single legislator; talk to them about their child care needs. Give them information that they can share with their constituents. Business conferences. Operation child care: NACCRRRA free child care for members of the National Guard on their 2 week leave. Providers assist with patriotism. Good PR. R&R Advisory Committee- ask how OCCC can assist with implementation of Operation Child Care. Start with most personal level about why people should care about child care.

Requests OCCC send follow up letter to NACCRRRA Executive Director in appreciation for conference, ask to Letters to Congressional delegates: Snowe amendment. Watch candidates. Coffee and June to invite policy makers to attend.

V. PARENT VOICES

Trish Phetteplace part of Parent Voices for five years. Video five years ago: child care issues from a parent's perspective. Missing voice is parent voice at the policy table. Meets with Coordinating Council. What keep parents engaged and bridge communication between parents who sit at policy table and the hundreds of parents in the Oregon community. All parents need a tie to some other community organization (Head Start, housing, food, child care, etc.). Also commitment from organization that parent is a leader.

Some of barriers we had to help parents overcome so that they can participate: mileage/per diem, child care, stipend. Vision that every parent in Oregon be connected to parent voice project. Get budget information to Martha Young.

VI. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CHILD CARE EVENT

Brainstorm list of invitees to Portland City Club, Friday lunch and OCCC sponsored no-host working dinner on June 10. Engage bottom line, intellect and heart during breakfast. Letter to Governor from OCCC and Children First for Oregon and City Club Research Group. Will help get Governor there.

Need mobilization call to action at the end of the City Club presentation. Recognition of people who are doing positive things with child care. Recognize expertise of people in room, business people. How can WE work with YOU. Follow up letter. List of organizations in state.

VII. FINANCE TASK FORCE

Template for plan approved. Supply benchmark think through what we want from local Commissions ahead of time. OCCV suggesting information that is more appropriate. Local Commissions need data that is reflective of what is going on at

the local level. Jointly OCCC and OCCF staff put together a work group and work on putting together a workplan. OCCF (including locals) and Research Partnership move forward.

Lisa Trussell AOI family leave issue: sit down with businesses and look at disability. DeeDee will get paper to Claudia regarding family leave. Engage business in discussing this issue. Sometimes it's not legislation that accomplishes change. Coming up with an idea to have an idea is not as good as keeping our focus on the direction we're headed, which is financing. Naturally, what we are working on does not need legislative remedy. DeeDee just raising awareness helps the industry. Putting our investment in raising awareness. Key committees informational session. Get child care on the agenda so legislators understand the system. Who needs to hear the message, How do we deliver it? DeeDee: educate and advocate. Tomn says they're not aware. Rosetta: use this time for child care to become more organized. Stronger push during Session. Strategic Planning for the 2007 Session. April 9th One Voice Advocacy.

Interim Report: Awareness Work, Financing Report, Structural Indicators, CCR&R Standardization, Economic Impact. Use language and words that are meaningful and easy to understand. Less about mechanics and what we are trying to achieve/accomplish. Why we do what we do. Who is using tax credits. Make it look interesting. One page with bullets. Creative: Great news in Child Care!! Make it attention getting and accessible. New research conducted in.....
Child care stories. Jacqueline Zimmer wrote stories. Filtering process.

Kitty: our need is for them to know we exist and why. You're Commission at work. Set OCCC apart from Commission on Children and Families. We're your Commission for looking at child care in the state. July, 2004 target date for completion. Review document in June.

VIII. PARTNER REPORTS

- A.) Mark Anderson, DHS: pilot project. Blind study control group with new clients for DHS subsidy. Control group with rates same now. Experimental group lower rates for exempt care and higher rates for providers who are enhanced/licensed. How do rates influence parental choice? What affect does this have on stability? Requires a systems change. Larger issue is workload in the field. DHS caseload has gone up and staff has gone down. Another possibility either statewide or pilot area do the same thing. How many providers would move from exempt to licensed? Must give exempt providers the opportunity to move/switch status. 60% of DHS subsidy children are in exempt care. Relationship with Kith and Kin Group.
- B.) Joann Contini; Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education

Professional Development Registry, Mentoring, Training, Development of Curriculums. Have taken the last 1.5 years restructuring these systems. Read from testimony of providers who are advancing themselves. Future brain development presentation.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:50 pm.