

Registered Ministry Advisory Group

August 13, 2014

Agenda

Bureau of Child Care Report

CCDF Changes

- Rates
- Ratio
- Maximum Group Size

IACCRR Update – Traci Marshall

Special Topic: Food Service in Preschool

- CACFP Renewal – All paperwork is due by September 2, 2014
- What unique meals do you serve that your children really enjoy
- Keeping it fresh – do you incorporate fresh items into your menu? How often do you change your menu?

Brainstorm: Future topics

Next Meeting: October 22nd at 1:00pm

Welcome, Attendance, and Introductions

Traci Marshall

Christy Colezal

Nikki Ennis

Robin Chrisman

Erin Kissling

Heather Stinson

Judy Ford

Melanie Brizzi

Special Guest: Heather Stinson from the Child and Adult Care Food Program

Special Topic: Food Service in Preschool

Heather Stinson discussed CACFP contract renewal which is due in September and asked for questions, She informed the Advisory Board that a new meal pattern will be coming out shortly which will match the criteria for the Gold Award for CACFP. She informed the board that currently 27 facilities have earned the award, and 1/3 of the recipients are ministries. She stated that the Gold Award was offered in order to help prepare facilities for the new Meal Pattern. She is unsure how facilities who earned the Gold Award will continue to be recognized and how the earning of the award will be affected by the new Meal Pattern.

There was discussion concerning creating a monthly “food focus” to highlight different foods in order to expose children to foods they may not normally eat or be exposed to. Kale and beans were given as examples of meal items that can be featured. We were encouraged to offer these foods to give the children’s plates a “splash of color”. Heather suggested teaching through food projects and googling a curriculum, “Harvest of the Month”.

IACCRR Update – Traci Marshall

IACCRR has, as one of its focuses, to help ministries through the Voluntary Certification and Paths to Quality and in providing trainings and conferences.

Traci informed the board that IACCRR will be hosting another “Caring in Faith” conference on December 5th & 6th 2014 in Southern Indiana and again on March 6 & 7th 2014 in Northern Indiana. The goal is to duplicate the conference with the same presenters and topics.

Bureau of Child Care Report

CCDF Changes

- Rates
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Melanie Brizzi discussed CCDF changes, including increased reimbursement rates for providers that are based on Paths to Quality Levels. She shared that some of the results of increased reimbursement rates are happening as planned including greatly reducing overage amounts and reports that staff are receiving increases in wages.

CCDF changes that were signed by the Governor effective July 2016 include:

1. Requirement for staff-child ratios aligned with licensing. Providing care for fifteen or fewer must follow home child-staff ratios and over fifteen children must follow center ratios.
2. Ongoing training requirement for CCDF providers of at least 12 hours per year in training relative to the position the staff member is employed. The staff training requirement will be prorated according to the ministries license renewal date.
3. Although we are currently mandate reporters for child abuse there is additional material online and mailed to each site.

Melanie stated that there will be plenty of communication from the Bureau of Early Learning to prepare and mentor providers to these changes including setting up a list for peer to peer mentoring.

Melanie stated that with the new ratio requirements there will be an increased cost for providers so the state is looking at raising CCDF reimbursement rates for non VCP and PTQ providers.

- Melanie stated that they are looking at school age PTQ standards and encouraged us to investigate additional helps for our school-age programs including the “Indiana Afterschool Network”, “Youth Pro”, and the Indiana Youth Institute.
- **CHIRP**, the online resource for immunization records and webinars, is now available for Child Care Ministries. Providers can go to their website at www.chirp.com and create a login and password. After signing up on the website it may take 2-3 days in order to access information regarding all children and staff immunization records.

Barb Newton was recognized as being the person who worked hard for Registered Ministries to be included in their ability to access CHIRP which has been a benefit of Licensed Child Care providers.

Brainstorm: Future topics

- Labor Law
- Military child care options and benefits

The next meeting of the Registered Ministry Advisory Board is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern time.

