

Registered Ministry Advisory Group
Minutes
October 26, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm in Conference Room 2 at the Indiana Government Building.

In attendance were: Erin Kissling, Torrie Journey, Jamya Fisher, Jean Casmir Hill, Sherry Smith, Sondra Gentry, Barb Newton, Ken Hudson, and Melanie Brizzi
By phone were: Tracy Marshall, Judy Ford, Kim McVay, Sue Reagans, Robin Chrisman, Stephanie Brown, Christi Dolezal, Amber and Melissa Petterson

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Barbara Newton, Chair.

The Committee on Childcare met the previous day and discussion followed on Preliminary Draft 3187. Essentially PD3187 asks that Registered Ministries be recognized by the state of Indiana. We have been bringing this item forward for the past 3 years but hopefully this will go forward this year. It is unattached to anything else. The Committee on Childcare discussed their visits to a variety of ministries of different quality. They were shocked at the differences.

Jean Casmir Hill reported on the previous meetings of the Committee on Childcare that she had been to and shared the feelings of the committee. It was suggested to go to www.in.gov and click on the bar on the right on Interim Committees. From there you can find the Committee on Childcare and click on that to read through the minutes or watch the podcast. Melanie assured us that this is only a proposal that must still go through the legislative process. She also stated that the legislature may add their own language to the bill. It will be about mid-December and Melanie believes that we can anticipate a proposed bill of childcare legislation. Melanie felt that the Committee on Childcare was very productive. She suggested that we invite our local state representatives into our facilities. Let them see first hand the good work that we are doing. One thing Melanie hopes to see is that Indiana gets an Early Learning Advisory Council. Most other states have them and we do not. The Interim Study for Education (a subcommittee of the Education Roundtable) is suggesting this need.

Newly released is the Workforce Study Report. You can access this report through the IAAYC website and look under the Indiana Child Care Workforce Study. Early childcare rank 23rd in the state in employment of workers in Indiana. Some good news from the report shows that we have a reduction in turnover of workers in childcare, the benefits are increasing, and the levels of education have been increasing. One thing that remains consistent is that the wages still remain very low. This report will provide you will valuable information.

We discussed the effects of public/community preschools on Registered Ministries. All ministries are encouraged to work with their communities and local school corporations to see what the plan is for their area. We need to publicize the care that quality care that

we give. We can work with our local CCRR's and develop a business plan and marketing.

Further report from the Bureau of Childcare was presented by Melanie Brizzi. She discussed the Business Management classes that are available to directors of registered ministries through IACRRA. We are also able to access monthly trainings from our ChildCare Resource and Referrals for our staff. The fiscal year ended September 30th for the BCC. We have received additional funding for 1500 children on the voucher program.

We are beginning year three of the Paths to QUALITY program. The registered ministry participation has increased from 5% to 10%. 86% of the licensed centers are enrolled and 10% of the registered ministries. To date over \$1 million in awards and incentives have been given. 2128 childcare facilities are enrolled. United Way will look at ways to continue to support ministries of PTQ.

The ARRA funds have all been spent. We had been given \$42.7 million and we spent all but 6 cents. 184 RM received ARRA funds in some way and 18,000 professional development hours were provided.

Ken Hudson reported that there are 742 active childcare ministries in the state. There are 500 ministries receiving CCDF funds. A new ministry map is available with 6 ministry consultants. We are trying to move away from the pass/fail system and are trying to look at recommendations and what you need to do to improve and repair the existing problems. Non-compliances will point out the most critical. If you receive a non-compliance, if you ask your consultant for a form you can make a statement to clarify the non-compliance. For instance, if you had one outlet cover missing in your entire facility and you had 99 outlet covers in place, you can state that in 70 characters or less and it will appear on the web. Ken also reminded us that everything on the list is a law!!

Ken also reminded us that Red Cross has changed and the way that certificates are printed has also changed.

Ken answered questions on immunizations and reminded us of the three ways you can be exempt from having a shot record:

1. Religious reasons signed by the parent
2. Physician reason- medical reasons
3. Physician or nurse practitioner can write that the shots are in progress if a child had been ill.\

CHIRP currently can only be accessed by licensed daycare programs so we are unable to access the shot records on line through this system. We will talk to the Committee on Childcare to see if this is something that could be amended in the legislature so that registered ministries could have access to this information as well. IN code 16-38-5-3 says that only licensed centers have access. It will require legislative action. Representative Wesco will be emailed with this request.

Discussion followed on the best way to be in contact with all ministries. About 1/3 of the emails that Ken has do not work for the ministries so snail mail may be necessary. Torrie and Jean are willing to work on a questionnaire to send to ministries as to their interests in being part of the group. It is important to keep the membership involved in the changes that are occurring.

Melanie wanted to remind us that if you have a POS machine for CCDF vouchers, you must keep it plugged in overnight to receive an update. About 200 machines have not yet been updated.

Dates were set for the 2012 year for the Registered Ministry Meetings.

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Wednesday, April 18th, 2012

Wednesday, July 18th, 2012

Wednesday, October 17th, 2012

All meetings will be from 1:00- 3:00 p.m. in the Indiana Government Building South in Conference room 1.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Newton