NH Child Care Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2023

1:00 – 3:00pm

**In Person Attendance** - Debra Nelson, Karen Herbert, Melissa Clement, Dianna Menard, Jackie Cowell, Katie Brissette, Kitty LaRochelle, Jjillian Dubois, Anne Grassie, Core Hoppe, Jackie Firmin, Jen Legere, Dee Dee Thurber, Amy Upton

Shannon welcomes all on zoom and in person at the meeting

Goes over logistics of meeting rules

Discusses the agenda is jam packed and will wait until end of presentation for questions

**Debra Nelson – Bureau of Child Development and Head Start Collaboration**

Take a moment to thank all for their support

**CCDF Quarterly Financial Report – Rebecca Lorden –**

Scholarship Children Serviced as of 3/31/23 holding steady and hoping there will be an increase

Service level for first 3 quarters

Clients by age

Payments by age just from the CCDF funds not include panademic payments

ER Disability Payments to date – have increased some but not enough

Protective and Preventive – missing SFY 20, 21, 22, 23 – get full report with all updates

when Mike returns

Jen Legere – is there a way to organize information to show changes by family size – big bump at 3years

DES P&P – not CCDF dollars just way labeled in system

Have spent CCDFBG money but have some grant and discretionary money

Fiscal targets have been met for prior years still in 2023 so still have money – need to clarify end dates with Mike

Jackie C. asks if there are any monies left unspent. Discretionary funds spent by 9/2024. On tracked spend all funds. There appears to be a spent total of only 6 million spent but we have a $28 million budget. Rebecca points out it is a federal fiscal year. Only two additional quarters. Dianne says numbers will kick up with children in summer camps. All grant items on federal fiscal year as opposed to state.

**Dianne Chase – Assistant Bureau Chief – Child Development and Head Start Collaboration**

**ARPA -D**

Stabilization complete, thanks all for getting their reports in, final statistical wrap up in early Nov.

Another 2 pots of money not sure about the $15 million. $3.6 million operating debt reduation. Waiting for thumbs up and logisitic on this

ARPA – D GS for Q all slated to take place over next year

Workforce for recruit/retain, training programs, outreach program, pilot study, down and dirty survey of field. Able to answer who are the child care providers in state. Enter into NHICS so ongoing survey. Best practices.

Business improvement projects – Programs complete business health assessment and mandatory water testing – free business consulting help. Business strategic plan. Able to help fund what your business needs, pilots to look at support child care needs

Child care business to employer survey – what they do to help find child care and link with care givers. Able to determine needs of employers and how many people in state need child care.

Revamping NHiCS – updated for ease of use, place for families to register to connect with parents

Jen asks if there will be a forward-facing education pathway/careers -Dianne there will be a link to a page with career, education opportunities

Front page careers, background checks and child care

Will any monies that Bureau has being reduced – not affecting current funds

**Debra Nelson – Director and Bureau Chief - Bureau of Child Development and Head Start Collaboration**

Doing rules revisions and adding credentialling to the rules – unaware they need to address

HEC 6910– July 6th public hearing at Brown Building

Annie Foster – lead for QRIS

Absent due to Covid end need last invoice by 6/16/23 – program ending

**Jackie** asks about Market Rate survey – when will rates go up – Letter out soon revamping survey and using narrow rate survey, going to pay by enrollment system, significant change when pay by enrollment. Continue to utilize current rates until notice. Survey not completed until the fall and then decisions have to be made.

Market Rate survey through NHICS website with outside partner.

Payment at 75% and eligibilgty would be at 85% state median income, what rule changes, awaiting finalization of state budget. Karen lot of other work to do at this time.

**Granite Steps for Quality – Karen Herbert**

Thanks for having her and the partnership with CCAC

New Governance Structure – questions arouse from providers with challenges and problems brought to governor’s office. Everyone needs a voice in process. Why 107 but others are not. Lots of questions about why there are challenges, launched during covid and lack of workforce??? Funding questions – make families have positive outcomes and providers provide quality programs. Over a year since release. Looking at equitablilty and why not successful for all. Looking at transparency of system and that the committee is fully engaged. What should group look like. Take time to get there. GSQ will continue but also going to continue with licensed plus ( will end at some point) until able to fully evaluate and create an effective system. GSQ continue to grow so can continue to apply. Can not be in licensed plus and GSQ. Greatly appreciates working with the Advisory Council. Special legislative committee is empassioned and so keeping eye to ensure flow of information and DHHS allowed to explore

Jackie legislation isn’t always the answer. Cora – there needs to be a pathway from where they are currently

licensed plus to GSQ. Can use either 22 or March 23 guide. Karen needs to flush out the questions. Didn’t address how to move. People can stay where they are for now until clarification/decisions made. Questions welcome and take advisory commission to where they need to be.

There will be information coming out. Licensed plus application available Monday June 19. Will be shared via email and NHICS

Jackie – learn and think about it together.

Guide currently lays out all the needs mission, vision, process.

Jen Ensign . – could a document be mailed out to all programs. Would need to find the funding – Debra – sees a communication plan from the commission – formal plan

Anne Grassie – Asks how many rolled - 9 NAEYC and 37 licensed plus – 67 applied – 10 in process currently

Debra – NH getting lots of interest in our QRIS especially for Pyramid Model

Jen Legere – Timetable for funds release and are they completed -. In guide, DHHS submit, them wait for finance to cut checks but appreciate need for funds,

Flyer with the benefits to hand out – communication plan at

Communication agreement – with Children’s Trust will be looking at how best to do

**Jen Legere and Kitty LaRochelle – GSQ Update**

What brought us to work with DHHS? Lots of questions. Came together as a team to organize questions and work collectively

Cost of quality letter, roundtable , advocate groups, collected data, and two meetings with governor’s office to listen and partner in process. So different than before now collaborative. Initiatives remain field driven, equitable, honor diversity and welcoming

Jackie thanks Jen for her persistence. What’s the best way to get heard. Took different yet formal approach.

**Melissa Clement – Child Care Licensing Unit**

Number of Licensed program and

March 13, 2020 656 center 53 family 78 Family group

Current 605 centers, 52 family and 73 family group.

If you go to local police department – there are forms that need to be mailed in

Creating problems within the system. Get 20, 30,days missing paperwork notice. Staff continue to get reminder. State police delete fingerprints from system after 30 days

Record release, live form and payment

Someone not received eligibility card – use cclunit email and they will check delay

Reminder - out of state forms – systems changing throughout the country so not always easy to stay on top of

Jen Legere– discusses NH Connections set up for original licensing not relicensing – could it auto-populate H&P

CCL Community meetings June 15 in afternoon – regular schedule like before

Have a plan for regional meetings to be out and in person

Renewal notifications being sent out once application submitted. Trying to fix issues

**BUDGET PASSED – On way to Governor’s Desk for signature!!!! 2:22pm**

**Diana Menard – Community College System**

Community College system looking at $3million for child care educator education. Providing stipends for practicum students, cover gap in books etc., cover gap for those that don’t qualify for TEACH chancellor big supporter

Idea to work with community partners to create career planning

Credit for prior learning – Christina D’Allesandro – look at VT plan

Home care providers can take classes – working to provide accommodating opportunities

List of students not getting into CTE programs

Tessa McDonnell always tauts Early Start in Early Education

Anne Grassie - not uncommon for kids to get encouraged not to do CTE program. Help high school students

Routinely fund higher education with prep grants – federal government

Amy Upton – Wheelock Collge – every other weekend for two years is how she accomplished her Masters

**DeeDee Thurber – CCA**

Recent newsletter - NHICS – bringing trainings on site to programs. Summer offering out

CPR/FA in Concord for free, Water Safety Training -Scott Noyes

Can people sign up for trainings at centers? – yes – email DeeDee – will do Saturdays -1 ½ hours. – can choose topics

September conference being held at MCC in person –

Winter conference virtual

Spring conference in person Shannon welcomes all on zoom and in person at the meeting

Goes over logistics of meeting rules

Lots of information in newsletter

**Jackie Firmin – NAEYC**

Nashville – November 15-18th- Annual Conference

Portland - November 27 & 28 – Leadership Conference

Stowe VT- Vermont AEYC - Nov. 6/7

**Jackie Cowell – Legislative Update**

Jen Legere - SB 170 – Supported by house and senate and passed intended to increase capacity not just home but also small retail spaces. Revisions to child care family and family group. Fire codes issues

Leanna Lorden WB– make sure that mindset and need to get on the social/emotional categories, mental health systems

Budget has historic changes – most $8 million but the retention workforce $15 million

Family of 3 past – earn $55,700 for cut off NOW - $80,000 for cut off

Thursday June 15th – Celebration at White Park – New Futures

**Watch video - Hope**

**Shannon ends meeting and thanks all for joining**