

Early Care Work Group Minutes from February 2, 2010 meeting

Objective #1: Support child care providers who are at risk of expelling a child/children between the ages of 0-5 years.

Strategies

--Survey child care providers to find out more about their needs in regards to expulsion prevention.

Action Steps

1. Early Care Workgroup meets to put the survey together.
2. Create incentives for providers to return it.
3. Early Care Workgroup compiles and reviews survey data.
4. Early Care Workgroup makes recommendations to address provider's needs (possibly needing some funding to support what is determined as needs).

--Give information to providers about expulsion and the effects on children.

Action Steps

1. Gather information about the effects of expulsion on children.
2. Testimonies from parents whose child has been expelled?
3. Work collaboratively with the Social-Emotional Health Workgroup to coordinate information shared with families and child care providers.

--Let providers know about resources available in the community and the Child Care Enhancement Program (CCEP) services available region-wide (for 0-3).

Action Steps

1. Brainstorm a list of resources in Lenawee that are specific to expulsion issues.
2. Distribute information on the newly transformed CCEP in our region.
[Brooke will give information to LCCA \(Lenawee Child Care Association\) and a group of Lenawee County Child Care Directors who meet regularly.](#)
3. Support the Social-Emotional Health Work Group and Regional Resource Center's efforts in providing professional development opportunities for early childhood professionals.

--Develop a list of steps a provider can take to prevent expulsion.

Action Steps

1. Review local resources available for expulsion issues.
2. Compile a resource that is easy to access when a situation arises. (maybe a magnet or a small flier).

--Develop a list of child development "red flags".

Action Steps

1. Research products that can be purchased that identify child development "red flags".
2. Purchase samples of any of the above products.
3. Early Care Group meets to review the products.

Objective #2: Champion the importance of high-quality early care.

Strategies

--Gather information on the components of high-quality early care.

Action Steps

1. Look at information Child Care Network has.
[The value of play \(Dan Hodgins newsletter\)](#)
2. Explore what is recommended by the ECIC.
[Look at the Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Infant/Toddler and Pre-K](#)
3. Talk with the Parent Coalition Liaisons and/or members to get their thoughts on what high-quality care is.
[Conduct a "focus group" with Parent Coalition members at one \(or more\) of their meetings](#)
4. Talk with the LCCA and the Directors Group to get their thoughts on what high-quality care is.
[Conduct a "focus group" with each of them](#)
[Each group would ultimately endorse the components the Early Care Workgroup publicizes](#)

--Connect with the Great Start Parent Coalition to get information about high-quality early care into the hands of parents.

Action Steps

1. Talk with Lisa and Heather about speaking at one of their parent coalition meetings.
[The value of play \(Dan Hodgins newsletter\)?](#)
[April is Month of the Young Child! How can we use that....?](#)
2. Provide information about high-quality early care for the Parent Coalition to distribute at community events.
3. Talk with Lisa and Heather about other opportunities to get the information out.

--Gather testimonies from parents using high-quality early care.

Action Steps

1. Each committee member attempts to find a parent who will share a testimony.
[Find a parent using Home Child Care, to highlight the quality of Licensed Home Care \(Kelly W\)](#)
[Find a parent who can testify on the value of play?](#)
[Committee members find a parent by the March Workgroup meeting \(Becky G has a parent testimony\)](#)
2. Early Care Group meets to review testimonies.
3. Publicize testimonies.
[Record testimonies for WLEN](#)
[LGSC website](#)
[Share with Parent Coalition](#)

The Daily Telegram (and other newspapers)
April is Month of the Young Child! How can we use that....?