

Partnerships 4 Families

October 17, 2024, 11:00 AM

Meeting location: New Opportunities, Inc. Carroll Room D and Via Zoom

Members present: Trevor Nunn, Tonya Weber, Margee Shaffer, Amy McGinn, Jewel Proctor, Keri Charles, Linda Muhlbauer and Area Director Cindy Duhrkopf

Excused: Josh Strehle, Schyler Bardole, Char Bintner, TJ Pauley

Guest: None

Quorum was met.

Chair Nunn called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

Approval of Consent Items:

Weber made a motion to approve the agenda, Shaffer seconded the motion, all were in favor motion passed. Weber made a motion to accept the Minutes of September 19th, 2024, Shaffer seconded the motion all were in favor motion passed. Shaffer made a motion to accept the financials, McGinn seconded the motion, all were in favor motion passed.

Board Member Recruitment and Terms:

- a. New Board Members Keri Charles and Linda Muhlbauer were welcomed to the board.

Discussion and Action Items:

- a. There were no action items.

Discussion and Updates in P4F Early Childhood Iowa Area

- a. Duhrkopf provided an overview of changes to Early Childhood Iowa since the move to Iowa HHS a year ago. She outlined the current bureau, and provided brief highlights on the Science of Hope and Thrive. She also showed the number of ECI areas that are combining and the new Behavioral Health Districts.
- b. Trisha Christensen, Child Care Advisor with the Child Care Project funded by P4F provided an update to the board on the state of child care centers in the area. Unfortunately staffing issues are not allowing many centers to serve the number of children they could if they had more staff and reliable staff who showed up to work each day. Currently there are 43 openings for staff. If all of those were in place the centers could care for 241 more children. She also reported that three long time center directors had resigned leaving gaps in the centers. Duhrkopf and Christensen shared how this project is very beneficial to our centers, center directors and the boards of the centers. The HHS Licensing Consultants even think so.
- c. The H.O.P.E.S. contractors meet and had a good discussion of the future direction of the services in our area. Duhrkopf will share the information and updates with the board at the November meeting.

Public Input none

Next Meetings:

- a. October ECTF: Focused on connections to families through social media
- b. November 21, 2024 11:00 AM New Opportunities & Zoom
- c. No December Meeting

Adjournment (Action) Shaffer made a motion to adjourn at 12:05 Proctor seconded the motion, meeting adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Cindy Duhrkopf and Joshua Strehle