

Mid-America Head Start Policy Council Meeting
Monday, September 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting Called to Order / Establish Quorum McKenzie Neds
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 5:35pm; no quorum was established
2. Welcome and Introductions Lynette Fowler
3. Information/ Training
 - Guest Presentation Pam Harris
 - Pam Harris presented information about KC Degrees and the workforce development cohort that was created in partnership with Head Start. These cohorts come together for a 6 week program that meets every Wednesday night to discuss way to grow careers, enter into new careers, or acquire tools to take the next step. Any Head Start parent that is interested should let their family advocate know and they will work with Lynette Fowler.
 - Enrollment, Attendance, and Disability Betty Choi
 - Betty Choi presented the Enrollment, Attendance, & Disability reports. August 2022 enrollment numbers are at 100% for EHS Exp, EHS Federal, EHS State, and Head Start. Attendance numbers for the month of August 2022 were at a program total of 91.51% for Head Start & Early Head Start, EHS State, and EHS Expansion. Disability numbers for the month of August 2022 are a combined total of 5.70%.
 - Budget Report MARC Head Start Dashboard Brad Gaeddert
 - The MARC Budget Dashboard was presented for a status as of July 31st. The following are updates regarding the open grants under the MARC Head Start umbrella: 42200 HS/EHS Core has a remaining balance (to be spent by 10/31/2022) of \$11,500,366.00. 42205 COVID-19 (CRRSAA + ARP) has a remaining balance (to be spent by 03/31/2023) of \$1,795,461.00. 42135 EHS Expansion has a remaining balance (to be spent by 8/31/2022) of \$436,684.00. 48530 Missouri EHS Program has a remaining balance (to be spent by 6/30/2023) of \$1,493,500.00. 41700 Local Community Support has a remaining balance of \$1,836 with no timeline to be used. 41750 HRSA MCHB (P4 Challenge) has a remaining balance of \$33,877.00 with no timeline to be used.
 - The following are updates regarding the open grants under the MARC Head Start umbrella: 48520 Missouri EHS Program had a remaining balance of \$0 and was completely spent down.

- CACFP Report Lupe Valdovino
 - Lupe presented on USDA/CACFP reports from May-July of 2022. The total number of meals served across all Tiered programs were as follows: May; 30,296 (total of \$67,394.71 reimbursement), June; 17,483 (total of \$35,048.67 reimbursement), and July; 7,129 (total of \$16,625.32 reimbursement). We have several providers that are closed during the summer months and do not provide meals which accounts for the lower numbers in June and July.
- Credit Card Expenditures Lupe Valdovino
 - Lupe Valdovino presented the credit card reports for herself (\$25,856.41) and McKenzie Neds (\$25,912.82). Charges include Verizon contractual services for on-site MARC staff, food expenses for meetings, ERSEA mass application supplies, several upcoming conference training expenses, professional memberships, and classroom supplies for the DSPs.
- Annual Report Head Start Director
 - Steven Lewis briefly discussed the annual report and what it is comprised of. All the reports Policy Council has seen over the course of this program year make up the annual report. The annual report serves as a polished version of these reports and is housed on the MARC Head Start website.
- Head Start Open House Planning Lynette Fowler
 - We are hoping to facilitate questions like: What is head start? What is Policy Council? How do I become a rep? What does each content area do?
 - Science Fair style for all the parents. How do we recruit more parents?
 - Have parents tell their stories and experiences with Head Start; word of mouth still works!!
- Head Start Directors Report Head Start Director
 - CORE grant application was submitted on time, before August 1
 - MARC and Swope Health Services are partnering to construct a brand new, in-house facility for medical and dental services in Excelsior Springs. Prior to the construction, families could only receive these services from the core of KC and Liberty. We are hoping that parents will see their children getting care and it will push them to get care themselves; creating more healthy families!
 - 5th year of the current grant – MARC will be creating our new goals for the 5 year grant cycle. October 12th is the goal setting session that will brainstorm with our partners, staff and parents. This will be our road map for the next 5 years for the KS region and the Head Start program.

Information will be shared during the discussion of each Action Item to ensure understanding prior to Policy Council approval of any item

1) Action Items to be approved and submitted to the Governing Body:

- Approval of Monthly Items:

- i. June 2022 Minutes McKenzie Neds
 - These minutes were not voted on because a quorum was not reached.

- 2) New Business McKenzie Neds
 - a) Childcare providers hours are 9a-3p, which do not match up with the working hours of our Head Start parents. How do our parents justify living in a bad situation just because they can't find the "right" job?
 - i) DESI and the Children's Division will be jointly sharing the subsidy program so that both providers and parents to be served. The program will need time to work out the kinks but the merger hopes to bring about positive change in the light of the pandemic.
 - ii) Parents can always become a part of the Head Start Team, MARC will sponsor them to receive the credentialing they may need to be in the classroom!

- 3) Early Learning Update Jovanna Rohs
 - a) Looking more broadly at the State level, we are looking for ways to encourage providers to offer subsidy; there has been a steady decline over the years. There is advocacy trying to take the type of programs enrolled in the subsidy program to be on a contract basis instead of an attendance based programs – KidsWin Missouri is heavily advocating with the state.
 - i) Thought provoking question: if we have been partnering with providers with Head Start, why can't we do this with Subsidy program?
 - b) If there a way to have everything be under Early Learning instead of Head Start vs Early learning
 - c) Office of Childhood is looking for a better way to share access to certain family services. Soon the Early Learning Department will be sending out a survey trying to discover: how do you get word about services, and what do families need? Our head start parents are very fortunate to have family advocates that can help disseminate the information, but community children do not always have that privilege.

- 4) Important Takeaways Lynette Fowler
 - a) Your voice matters! Keep sharing your stories with your community.

- 5) Adjournment McKenzie Neds

Policy Council Open House; October 17, 2022 in-person *only*
New Member Training; October 24, 2022 in-person *only*



Important Takeaways

Lined area for writing takeaways

