

Boost4Families Advisory Council Meeting

November 23, 2009 – 2:30 p.m.

Red Oak, IA

Roll call

Present were: John Baker, Sonja Cambridge, Nancy Gibson, Sherry Ford, and Sheri Bowen.

Others present: Duane McFadden, Michelle Franks (coordinator)

Absent were: Tamra Ruff, Kim Spillers and Ray Buell

John Baker called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm

A welcome was extended to Duane McFadden, representing Cass County as a prospective new member of the Advisory Council. The Boost4Families Board will officially vote on his appointment at the December 3rd meeting.

Approval of Agenda

John Baker presented the agenda for the meeting. Nancy Gibson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Duane McFadden seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the October Advisory Council Meeting were made available on the Boost4Families website. Sherry Ford made a motion to approve the minutes. Sheri Bowen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Payment vouchers

Vouchers for October were presented for signature and approval. Sheri Bowen made the motion to approve Boost4Families vouchers. Nancy Gibson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Vouchers Submitted for Approval and Payment

Program	Amount	Account	
Southwest Iowa Planning Council	\$4,000.00	SR	
Red Oak Community Schools	\$1,650.00	SR	(Oct)
Anita Community Schools	\$300.00	SR	(Oct)
Atlantic Community Schools	\$1,395.00	SR	(Oct)
C&M Community Schools	\$1,837.50	SR	(Oct)
Northeast Early Childhood Center	\$3,130.00	SR	(Oct)
WCCA (Qual Child Care)	\$5,032.39	EC	
Montgomery Co. Pub Health (PAT)	\$8,022.00	SR	
Stanton Child Resource Ctr	\$765.00	SR/QI	(Sept)
Stanton Child Resource Ctr	\$1,139.13	SR/QI	(Oct)
Mills Co Pub Health (Circles for Success)	\$1,405.00	SR	
Mills Co Pub Health (PAT)	\$9,774.00	SR	
HCCMS (Oral Health)	\$76.66	SR	
HCCMS (CCNC)	\$627.96	SR	
Little Lambs Preschool	\$1,813.93	SR	(Sept & Oct 2009)
Malvern Community Schools	\$900.00	SR	(Sept & Oct 2009)
Villisca Community Schools	\$750.00	SR	(Sept & Oct 2009)
TOTAL	\$42,618.57		
	\$ 5,032.39	EC Funds	
	\$37,586.18	SR Funds	

Empowerment Budget Reduction Update

Franks presented the Empowerment contract amendment for signature from Chair John Baker, showing an amended FY10 amount of \$488,032.00 for School Ready funds and \$86,831.00 for Early Childhood funds. Franks reported that all

programs affected by this reduction in funds have been notified and upon signature of this amendment, will in turn receive contract amendments from Boost4Families. The Boost4Families Board will vote on passing along the 10% reduction to Early Childhood funded programs at the December 3rd meeting.

Anecdotally, programs have reported to Franks that they have implemented measures to spend funds more frugally, and with the exception of the Montgomery County Parents As Teachers program, staff positions for all programs have stayed in place.

Local Planning Group Reporting Concerns

Franks reported that WCCA has raised the issue of attendance at quarterly programming meetings for each county in the service area. Costs associated with time away from the office and mileage reimbursement are perceived as a challenge and WCCA staff has suggested doing away with the need to attend. Franks noted that in an email response to WCCA that Boost4Families uses the Local Planning Groups as both a report to the funder venue as well as a community organizing tool. Advisory Council members unanimously agreed that the Local Planning Group structure should stand and suggested that attendance at these meetings be coordinated with services within each county.

Update on Inactive Board Members

Franks presented a current board member list, identifying attendance records for each participant and unfilled spaces from Area School Board representatives. Cambridge suggested posting open Board seats with each county's Board of Elections to solicit applications for new members beginning in January. Franks will contact each county and/or post Board openings in local newspapers.

Items for Discussion at Board Meeting

Review Board Membership list and discuss prospective members to invite, with an eye to gender balance

In light of further potential budget cuts, ask Board members to discuss:

- How does 4 year old preschool funding impact our programs?
- Should we employ a "weighted" system in determining which services or individuals receive funding?
- Is there merit to restricting funding to a re-focused area of need or pare down funding to all areas?

To facilitate this discussion, Franks was asked to generate a report showing attendance figures, with a break-down by age for preschool programs, any cross-over in individual services with PAT programs, and maximum class size for preschools receiving funding.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Next Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for December 22, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. at the Boost4Families office.

Respectfully Submitted
Michelle Wodtke Franks
Boost4Families Coordinator