

Champaign County Birth to 6 Council Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2011

Noon – 1:00pm

**United Way of Champaign County
404 W. Church Street, Champaign, IL 61820**

Attendance

Sorry - the attendance sign-in sheet did not make it back to me. If you have found it in your paperwork, please bring it to the next meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Copies of the July minutes were distributed. Beverley Baker motioned to approve and Mark Driscoll seconded. All were in favor of accepting the minutes as written. There were no August minutes.

Announcements

Felicia Gooler announced the Latino Partnership will be hosting Conexion from 1-4 on Saturday at Judah Christian Church. Mary Anne Wilson shared extra resource materials from Community Elements and Bev Baker announced that there are still Getting Ready for Kindergarden Calendars for anyone needing them.

Committee Reports:

Committee reports were tabled.

CFC Report and Updates

These reports are distributed via email now along with the minutes and agenda. Referrals are steady. There are 8 on the speech wait list. Speechnetree out of Joliet just hired a new therapist. Kimberly Hile motioned to purchase a \$100.00 gas gift card for Alejandra Conoles to attend 4 training/testing sessions in Alsip to become an E.I. credentialed Spanish translator. This would be less than ½ her costs for this training. The council approved paying for testing (\$120.00) last year, but the person backed out. When we started this project, the training was available online with a one day follow-up, but it is now 3 separate one day training sessions. Champaign County has been without a translator for 2 years. Motion was discussed and tabled until all proposals from committees are in.

LIC Report

Budget - \$1000.00.

Child Find/Transition - \$100.00 - transition nights with area school districts.

Public Awareness - \$20.00 - Lollipop tree and lollipops for events, ?? Bookmarks,

handouts, etc.

Provider Recruitment - \$300.00 - for provider trainings.

Equipment Loan - none.

Website- none.

Literacy and School Readiness- \$150.00 for Douglass Branch to hold a Getting Ready for K event.

Budget discussions were tabled. Committees are to finalize their requests and bring to the October working committee meeting.

Old Business

A draft letter to area providers was shared. The letter will be sent with our new brochures when enlisting a provider's help in distributing them. The summary of the Statewide Interagency Meeting was tabled.

New Business

A sign-up sheet for volunteers was sent around the table for two upcoming events. The Down Syndrome Network's 7th Annual Buddy Walk will be from 9:30-2:00 on Saturday, October 8th at the Champaign County Fairgrounds and the 5th Annual Reaching Out for Answers Disability Expo will be from 9:00 -2:00 on Saturday, October 22nd at Lincoln Square Mall.

Presentation: Voices for Illinois Children "Great at Eight"

Jessica Roberts and Madelyn James presented on Voices' Great at Eight initiative. Voices' have been advocating for families birth to 5. The Great at Eight project is to focus on reframing to include families up to age 8. Third grade test scores has long been an indicator of whether a student will graduate, go on to post-secondary school, career, or end up in prison. Research shows that providing a critical foundation for children through age 8 will promote positive lifetime outcomes. The 3 goals for "Great at Eight" in the first year are to: Develop new partnerships, identify and develop a policy agenda for the birth to third grade continuum, and develop public awareness messaging for "Great at Eight". In order to get input, "Great at Eight" will be holding community dialogues across the state and is asking for 25-30 community stakeholders in each area to envision educators aligning systems from birth to age 8 to make these services seamless. The goal is to improve, link and align all programs, policies and services.

The council decided to dedicate our November meeting to hosting the Voices' "Great at Eight" community dialogue. It will be a two hour meeting and refreshments will be served. Details to be worked out with Jessica Roberts.

Next meeting will be Monday, October 17, 2011 from noon to 1:30 pm at United Way.