

**Healthy North Dakota  
Early Childhood Alliance (HNDECA)  
Early Care and Education (ECE) Subcommittee Meeting  
Tuesday, November 10, 2009**

**Draft Meeting Summary**

**Proposed Meeting Goals:**

- To review agreements reached by the HNDECA Steering and Stakeholder Committees;
- To review and prioritize work plan goals;
- To identify specific activities, responsible parties, performance measures, timelines, barriers and resources needed; and
- To identify next steps in planning and implementation.

**Meeting Participants:** Roberta Lein, Bobbe Shreve, Helen Danielson, Jennifer Barry, Cheryle Masset-Martz, Linda Reinicke, Linda Ehreth, Lyn Hendrickson, Vanessa Hoines and Linda Lembke.

**Facilitated by:** The Consensus Council, Inc.

**Welcome, Introductions, Process and Agenda Review:** Participants were welcomed to the meeting and provided self-introductions. The use of consensus-based decision-making and the long-standing ground rules were affirmed. Participants reviewed the agenda and recommended no changes. Cheryle provided an overview of the Stakeholder Meeting (October 20) and reviewed the strategic planning documents, including the Integrated Activities Worksheet.

**Review, Prioritization and Development of ECE Subcommittee Goals and Activities:** Participants reviewed the three (3) priority goals developed in May 2009 and made the following edits, additions and changes:

**Goal #2-1:** To teach and influence the leadership and membership of the North Dakota Early Learning Council (ELC) about early care and education.

**Activity 2-1-a.** To build relationships with key ELC members and inform them of the valuable resources of HNDECA.

**Activity 2-1-b.** To persuade the Lt. Governor to request training and ongoing assistance from HNDECA members as resources.

**Action Steps:**

- Develop presentation outline for a meeting with the Lt. Governor right away
- Develop one-page descriptions of each subcommittee as well as an overview of HNDECA by November 20

- Schedule lunch meeting with ELC members Wilfred Volesky and RaeAnn Kelsch to discuss information and to seek support for making the introduction of the information/ideas to the Lt. Governor
- Call for appointment to meet with Lt. Governor

**Volunteer Committee:** Cheryle Masset-Martz, Roberta Lein, Linda Reinicke and Vanessa Hoines (Vanessa will arrange the Volesky/Kelsch lunch)

**Goal #2-2.** To promote the principles of appropriate (good) early learning by sharing a common message.

**Activity 2-2-a.** To develop a common message that has multiple uses in multiple, diverse venues including newsletters, pod casts, websites and audio/video; assure that ELC members have links to the information.

**Activity 2-2-b.** To identify core resources, including developmentally appropriate practice (DAP), for messaging, framing and directing the work of HNDECA.

**Volunteer Committee:** Cheryle Masset-Martz, Linda Ehreth, Helen Danielson and Vanessa Hoines

**Activity 2.2.c.** To develop simple, memorable media messages (ala “the more you know” campaign) through the ND Department of Health media production capability.

**Volunteer Committee:** Cheryle Masset-Martz, Vanessa Hoines, Lyn Hendrickson and ND Department of Health media production staff

**Resources:** May need to use excess Frameworks funding for these initiatives.

**Update and Report on Nurse Health Care Consultant Services:** Prior to development of the next goal, participants were updated on the following information from Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) staff:

- CCR&R has received ARRA (stimulus) funding to increase their cadre of health care consultant nurses from four to six
- The nurses will be located in Bismarck, Minot, Grand Forks and Fargo
- The funding covers only a period of eighteen months
- CCR&R will also be hiring two mental health consultants (not necessarily nurses) that will be located in Fargo and Bismarck
- CCR&R is interested in using the HNDECA network to connect these new staff members to community efforts and peers

Following this report and discussion, it was agreed that the Subcommittee goal and activities related to this issue would be altered to address the immediate need.

**Goal #2-3:** To assure that childcare nurse consultants are part of the early childhood infrastructure.

**Activity 2-3-a.** To work with the Mental Health/Social Emotional Development Subcommittee regarding defining the components of a sound consultant position.

**Activity 2-3-b.** To promote (electronically) the value and quality of the Child Care Health Consultants.

**Activity 2-3-c.** To inform HNDECA, and other systems partners, about the Child Care Health Consultant program growth, identify the new and existing staff, their locations and contact information.

**Activity 2-3-d.** To ask HNDECA members to connect the Child Care Health Consultants to community peers, events and resources

**Activity 2-3-e.** To advocate for sustained funding through state appropriations to embed the Child Care Health Consultant into the infrastructure.

**Activity 2-3-f.** To build capacity through a system for ongoing training for other health professionals, specific to child care issues.

**Activity 2-3-g.** To encourage the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) to push the ND Department of Health to fund the Child Care Health Consultant program.

**Summary Comments:** There was discussion about bringing a national expert on Pre-K services to North Dakota however, no final agreement was reached. It was agreed that some of the expert's materials might be used to persuade the Lt. Governor and/or ELC members to request (and potentially fund) such a presentation.

There was discussion regarding the NDSU Extension convening community meetings to assess community needs regarding Pre-K services. Vanessa agreed to follow-up on this idea. There may be a need for a standardized template for such an effort to be sure that data is collected in a consistent way.

Dr. Bruce Perry will return to North Dakota for a follow-up training on March 24 or 25, 2010 (dates are tentative) and will be conducting a session in Bismarck and one in Minot.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus of the group.