

**HNDECA Family Support meeting minutes**

**December 15, 2011**

**1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**

**Red River room**

**Present:** Cheryle Masset Martz

**By phone:** Donene Feist

**Discussion:**

The current Early Childhood Comprehensive System (ECCS) grant which funds the work of the HNDECA will end on May 31, 2012. At this time Cheryle has not received any information from the Feds regarding the future or funding of the ECCS program. Cheryle believes that between the Home Visiting grant and the Race to the Top grant is how the Feds plan on moving ECCS forward. Cheryle wanted to utilize ECCS funds to help fund the Home Visiting grant that PCand will be writing for but is not allowed by the NDDOH. It was decided at the recent HNDECA Leadership Team meeting that PCAND will be the convener of HNDECA meetings (for all Stakeholder, Leadership and Subcommittees) in the event that the ECCS grant is no longer supported by the federal government. The HNDECA will not be changing its name in this transition.

Cheryle and Linda Rorman met with Lt. Governor Wrigley and Kayla Effertz in November 2011 regarding the Governor's North Dakota Early Childhood Education Council (NDECEC). Cheryle provided Lt Governor Wrigley with an overview of the ECCS grant and the HNDECA (membership) and the HNDECA work plans. She also provided him copies of all of the letters and photos submitted by Head Start families for the 2011 Legislative Messaging project. Linda Rorman shared information regarding Head Start and voiced the concerns/issues of Head Start in ND. They also talked about the plans for an Early Childhood Summit and HNDECA had scheduled for August 2011 but was postponed due to the flood in August 2011. They spoke of the importance of educating the NDECEC regarding early childhood care and education and reminding NDECEC members about the written goals of the council (outlined in HB1400 which established the NDECEC in 2009 legislative session). Cheryle provided a copy of the "Building Ready States" document and reflected on the correlation between the action steps of the document and the goals of the NDECEC. Cheryle offered to provide travel funds for the NDECEC through the end of May and then State Head Start Collaboration Office grant will take over starting June 1, 2012. A meeting of the NDECEC will be scheduled in the new future as soon as new committee members are assigned to replace those with expired term limits.

**Goal 4.1 - To Utilize Existing Family Advisory Boards to Receive Family Feedback**

Discussed having Eileen Florenza (a national motivational speaker/leader/performer specific to working with families) to help with this goal. Reviewed the HNDECA workplan list of Partners and Roles and identified who is missing from the list. The ECCS program has received a proposal from Eileen Florenza to conduct a one & a half day training with agency representation/professionals wanting parent involvement in their programs as well as parents themselves. Due to the cost of the contract and the intense follow up to make this activity a success it was decided that a meeting with the partners should be held to get a commitment for follow up. Cheryle will convene a meeting with representation from each of the partners

	<p>identified on this project and hold discussion on the training concept, commitment, and next steps.</p> <p>Activity #4-1-b: By 2012, identify and recruit parents to assist with inputs for special projects was removed from the work plan as this would be a direct result of having Eileen Florenza conduct a training. If the partners decide not to go forward and enter into a contract, this activity is not applicable.</p> <p>Activity #4-1-c: By 2012, HNDECA will continue to support the FVND Family Leadership Institute. This activity was removed because the ECCS program would instead utilize funding to support the contract with Eileen Florenza to conduct training with multiple HNDECA partners and families.</p> <p><b><u>Goal 4-2: To enhance communication between providers and families</u></b></p> <p>Based on the activities to attain this goal it was determined that these relate to the outcome and partners next steps as a result and commit of the training by Eileen Florenza. Therefore, the goal has been removed.</p> <p>Eileen Florenza shared information that the MCH Title V program in Wyoming has a Parent Leadership Training Institute. Wyoming is now working with the state of Connecticut. Cheryle will contact both of these states to gain an understanding of how they got started , how they chose that route, if it is working and what they intend for next steps/utilization.</p>
<b>Other:</b>	
<b>Next meeting:</b>	TBD