



*All New Haven children, birth to age 8 are healthy, safe, thriving in nurturing families and prepared to be successful lifelong learners.*

## **Council Meeting Notes February 6, 2019**

**Council January 16 Meeting Minutes:** Approved.

### **Announcements:**

Beth Bye will be at the ECAlliance meeting this month.

All Our Kin's Alison Wunder Stahl will be leaving her position as New Haven AOK Director and AOK is looking for another director. After her maternity leave, she will rejoin AOK as the

### **SR Director Report**

Utilization for January 2019 was shared. Of the current 1,018 spaces, 969 or 95% are filled. OEC looks at the March utilization to determine the funded amount for each community. Unless the 49 unfilled spaces are filled by March, they will be returned to OEC and reallocated to other communities for FY20.

We need to do a survey in January so we are ready for March

Georgia Goldburn—there have been discussions that OEC will use SR funds for infants/toddlers. This may limit the amount we can ask for in FY20. It doesn't hurt to ask—especially if we get new programs applying that have a good recruitment plan.

### **SR FY20 Request for Proposals**

#### **SR Funding priorities:**

#3 is now :priority will be given to new SR programs that are serving families in needed neighborhoods. Also to be considered are programs that submit a detailed plan to recruit families.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> tier will be the current #3.

**DECISION:** Vote carried with the changes outlined above. The changes are noted on the attached doc.

#### **SR FY20 Review Process**

The SR Director recommendations were discussed. The following additions were made:

One review meeting will be held in the evening and/or on the weekend for the convenience of families who will be reviewing the grants.

Parents will receive a stipend for their participation.

**DECISION:** Vote carried with the changes outlined above. The changes are noted on the attached doc.

**NEXT STEPS:** Current council members will recruit new members and send contact info to Denise.

The list of grant reviewers will be reviewed at the March Council meeting

#### **Discussion regarding questions to be posed by SR FY20 grant review teams during site visits.**

What targeted recruitment are programs doing?

What current resources are programs using to help families with multiple needs?

Can we see equity in the classroom?

**DECISION:** Vote carried to accept the four focus areas for discussions at the site visits: Access, Quality, Family Engagement and Equity. Reviewers will have latitude to choose the focus areas and select the questions that will help clarify information in the written grant application.

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

Council members will bring potential questions and answers to the March Council meeting.

Questions addressed in the written application will be deleted

Questions will be simplified, ie, quality enhancement and Quality Staff Member will be eliminated.

Denise will develop a rubric for scoring the written application. Site visits will not be scored.

## **QE FY20 RFP**

Council members discussed the QE process and what they would like changed.

Would like to prioritize funding for mental health consultation and support for challenging behaviors.

Mary Derwin explained how the observation tool CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) is used in Head Start. Certified raters look at 7 focus areas.

Lynn Weiner noted OEC wants all programs to use the Pyramid Model. This could be an area in our RFP How will we prioritize need and score the QE RFP's? Anyone who applies must show how their work will be assessed.

### **NEXT STEPS:**

- A workgroup will meet before the next Council meeting and bring back recommendations for the priorities for the QE RFP. The following volunteered to be on the workgroup: Sadie Witherspoon, Tirzah Kemp, Randi McCray, Michele Baker, Lynn Weiner, Sherri Killins Stewart.
- Denise will schedule a meeting of the workgroup.

## **Co-Chairs Update:**

### **NHPS Choice EXPO: Feb 9 and 13**

There will be a preschool section with 5 tables for NHPS Head Start and School Readiness, Dr Mayo School and community SR providers. Randi will bring posters of the prek pages in the Choice Booklet. We will have giveaways, including 100 books donated by the Children's Museum and a play area for children with toys donated by Lakeshore. Most SR providers signed up for a Saturday shift.

The New Haven Health Department will have a table at the Expo with a tool showing stages of child development.

## **Family Engagement**

Tirzah Kemp discussed a survey and process for community listening forums developed by her parent group. The point is to get the voices of parents/families into our discussions about New Haven early childhood policies and programs—even if the families are not at the table.

The first listening session will be facilitated by Randi and will test out the questions and surveys. Parents will give feedback and the documents will be revised.

There are already listening forums set up with IRIS and New Reach. Council members suggested foster care communities and Birth to Three families.

**NEXT STEPS:** Anyone interested in having the committee meet with their families, contact Tirzah.

## **Council Membership and Committees**

The Mayor has approved the list of Council members.

The Council committees-Access, Quality and Community Engagement are ready to start!

### **NEXT STEPS:**

Council members should contact Randi regarding the committee they would like to join.

Randi will send out the list

## **Other Business**

Question regarding the Council budget: CO-Chair Sherri Killins Stewart said a Council budget will be shared at the next Council meeting.