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

**NHECC Council Meeting Minutes**

October 2016

Time: 3:00-5:00 pm

United Way of Greater New Haven

**Guest Speaker: Madelon Negron, Board of Education**

Jayne shared that Madelon was unable to make it to the meeting due to a conflicting meeting and that she has agreed to come to the November 2016 Council meeting.

**September Goals Meeting Update**

The goals from each of the committees that have met were summarized and provided for review. Randi noted that the goals are still under development as each of the committees meet to refine them more and develop action plans for the year. Randi noted that there were more updates to come for the parent engagement and advocacy areas. There isn’t a specific committee focused on either of those and much of this work will be driven by the Council overall.

**Director’s Report**

* + Champion’s Awards - Randi shared that the Early Childhood Alliance Council presented champions awards to Gary Winfield, Robyn Porter, Martin Looney, and Juan Candelario at two events. One event was held at the Hope Child Development Center in New Haven and the other was held at Harris and Tucker School in New Haven/Hamden. Both events were attended by several NHECC Council Members. Photos and videos will be uploaded to the NHECC website.
	+ Policy & Advocacy - Randi shared that she has been attending the Early Childhood Alliance Policy & Advocacy committee meetings. She shared that they are in the process of developing their advocacy priorities for the year and that there will be more updates to come. She noted that a known priority is the Care4Kids work which started this past summer. She also noted that the Alliance is looking at the Birth to Three budget changes as well to analyze if there is a advocacy item that needs to be on the legislative agenda for the year.

**School Readiness Report**

Denise shared the number of openings and the strategy she has been using to get the slots filled. She shared that the brochure has been updated and she has been creating a document on an ongoing basis to share with the community. Both the brochure and openings were distributed at the meeting. The NHECC website has also been updated on a periodic basis to make sure people know which sites have openings. The site with the greatest number of unfilled slots is the YMCA. They have a new director and Denise has been sharing with the director information that can assist in getting those slots filled.

**Committee updates**

* + Racial Equity Committee - Graustein has invited one member to attend the Facing Race conference in November. Gladys Deutsch has agreed to go. The committee is also waiting a response regarding the training grant from Graustein. Should have an update at the next Council Meeting.
	+ Quality Committee - Randi shared on the co-chairs behalf that the committee will be dedicating much of its focus to the 20/20 initiative for the year. Sue Logston provided a recent update that Southern CT State University will be starting a Bachelors in Early Childhood Education for the upcoming academic year. It was a recent development and she didn’t have in depth details but she will by the next committee meeting.

**Announcements**

* + NAYEC Accreditation – Harris and Tucker School - The Council congratulated Kim on her work in obtaining accreditation and she shared Harris’ experience going through the process. She said it was a great amount of work which took a lot of time, but the school is glad that they pursued it and was able to get it done. She also thanked the Council for all of their support.