*All New Haven children, birth through 8 are healthy, safe, thriving in nurturing families*

*And prepared to be successful lifelong learners.*

Grants Committee

September 10, 2015

Attending: Denise Duclos, Sarah Fabish, Kia Levey, Janet Alfano, Yoo Jin Chang

* NHECC SR Non-Residency Policy – We want to emphasize that the policy is to keep consistency for the 1% of children (approximately 11 spaces) who were previously attending the program for at minimum of 3 months, to stay in those programs until the end of their preschool experience.

Sarah reported on her phone call with Martha Okafor re the policy. There was discussion for the desire to have the Mayor on board with the policy. There was concern on Martha’s part that a policy would open doors to non-resident children. May need to clarify and re-emphasize the reason for the policy—as stated above.

Questions were raised on what was the priority level for the establishment of this policy. The issue of filling SR spaces and the struggle of SR programs to enroll and retain children while the magnet schools enrollment process (esp accepting children in September and October from their waitlist was discussed.

The State of Connecticut is requiring a Non-resident Policy. This policy was agreed to be meant for a case by case situation. Unanimously, there was a decision to push for having the council vote on this policy.

Next Steps:

* Denise will revise the cover page, the background /description of the history of this policy, and minutes leading up prepared for the council.
* Sarah will present the policy to the Council in October.
* Discussion for outreach and Pre-K enrollment processes – We came to a realization that School Readiness may be a last resort for families avoiding fees. The goal is to have less spaces/openings.  
  Ideas on increased visibility and recruitment for SR are below:
  + Availability of extended hours with staff at alternative community locations
  + Web-based databases
  + Alternative community locations: Trucks/Mobile, different housing developments, different health centers
  + Starting right after the school period ends or from August 1st to September 21st
  + Great for MOMS PARTNERSHIP as an ongoing process at the last Friday of every month
    - “*Never too early to get a HeadStart!”*
  + Long-term Stretch: hire an advocate
  + Long-term Stretch: establish a web-based database with a common/standardized application
  + Need more ramp-up: Ask local radio stations to do a PSA – New Community Radio
  + Request parking lots and lawns near Stop ‘N Shop to have signs
  + Request to have Stop ‘N Shop cashiers hand out flyers with purchases
  + Hand out reworded flyers (“for ages 3 or 4 years of age”) to providers and service centers
  + Stick brochures in diaper packs
* Budget considerations – To Print:

$225 for 1500 brochures that were part of a printing process

Price was unknown as a standalone.

Denise will research further.

This is a high priority in order to fill spaces.

* The State checks in: November/December period.

Next meeting – November 12th at the Community Foundation at 9:30 am

* + Draft agenda