



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

June 3, 2020

Time: 3:00 - 4:30

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Conference

Video and Voice: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86445640291?pwd=bHZpanZXZmpBaUIMV1hBRnpMWEREZz09>

Voice Only: 1 929 205 6099 Webinar ID: 864 4564 0291 Password: 898857

Closed Caption: <https://www.captionedtext.com/client/event.aspx?EventID=4468776&CustomerID=2991>

Welcome and Introductions

Meeting called to order by Jennifer Heath at 3:05 PM.

Minutes from May 6, 2020 Council meeting (vote)

Council Minutes approved by unanimous vote.

School Readiness Project Director's Report

St. Aedan's school is combining with another school. The St. Aedan pre-k will need a license to stay operational under the church. Denise will keep the Council updated on the status of the license application.

Rebuilding and Recovering: Early Care, Education, and Family Support Post COVID-19 (Discussion)

Council members engaged in a discussion to understand the needs of providers and families during and post COVID.

Council members and guests feel that we need to pay particular attention to the following;

Budget and fiscal management for Centers	Staff being trauma informed practitioners
Equity	Access to PPE (affordability and accessibility)
Staffing	The possibility of having to close again in the Fall
Awareness of active programming from the NFPL, Birth to Three	Food insecurity
Mental Health	Family dynamics
Centers that have closed	Children with diverse needs
Warm line for teachers	Finding out what resources are available in one

	central location
Construction of spaces to prepare for reopening	Cleaning supplies/professional services for disinfecting spaces
A way to share weekly updates	

Finance/Budget Report

Sarah presented the budget and shared that we are on track to expend all grant dollars that are required to be spent down by June 30 and August 30, 2020. We are waiting to hear about future funding options for the ECE collaborative grant. The Council will be submitting our final drawdown request to the City of New Haven at the end of the month. Denise inquired as to whether we are on the budget for the upcoming year. Sarah shared that the Council has been included in the budget. Next steps are to solidify the Council goal for the year and develop the new contract for FY21.

Project Updates (information)

Randi shared the community project yielded a great response from participants. She is working with community partners to explore distributing the books/resource bags in a safe manner for families with young children. Additional outreach will be made with families for the marketing project.

Committees Updates (information)

- Family Partnership - Randi’s report covered the work of the Family Partnerships committee during her report.
- Quality - Mary wasn’t present to share. Dr. Simmons that the next meeting was scheduled for June 4, 2020.
- Access - Marketing workgroup will be facilitated by Dr. Stewart and Dr. Simmons with programs who have challenges reaching enrollment capacity. The Council has secured the services of the Mosaic marketing firm to develop a strategy for reaching families in our target neighborhoods. The committee also reviewed goals for planning for the upcoming year.

Announcements

Elisabeth Teller shared that Birth to 3 has seen a decline in referrals since the pandemic. She asked that the Council share with their networks that they are still available and providing services. Additionally, much of the criteria for eligibility has been relaxed. Elisabeth will send a flyer to be shared with the Council. Randi will distribute via email.

Dr. Stewart has stepped out of the role as Council co-chair. She will remain involved in the initiatives around the workgroup, marketing strategy, and connecting with families. She highlighted some key successes for the year and will continue to support the Council in any capacity she is available to -- throughout August.

**Next Council Meeting –July 1, 2020
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
United Way of Greater New Haven
370 James Street, New Haven, CT, Suite 403
If social distancing continues, the meeting will be held virtually via Zoom**