



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

**NHECC November Meeting Minutes  
Virtual Meeting**

<http://bit.ly/nheccMonthlyMeeting>

November 4, 2020

Time: 3:00-4:30 pm

**Meeting Minutes**

September Meeting minutes approved

**School Readiness Updates**

- Timing of reports from programs and Council meetings aren't fully aligned. Reporting on utilization will be one month off. Denise will collect numbers and report on other data when it becomes available.
- Lulac (Faye Miller) closed last month. St. Frances and Friends (Grand) closed for two-weeks due to COVID. Lulac changed their hours to adjust for safety measures.

**Recommendations:** Draft letter to go out to programs and Denise can share information with programs. Host a webinar with programs led by the health department and City of New Haven. Omena will follow up.

**Announcements**

Elisabeth Teller is now at the Office of Early Childhood.

**Budget review and Financial Update**

Jennifer shared an update on the City of New Haven Contract. The contract has to be modified to reflect an adjustment (\$50,000 vs \$53,000). Jennifer modified the budget and sent the update to the City of New Haven. Sarah wants to be sure all expenditures are acknowledged in this budget.

**Discussion: School Readiness Resource Allocation**

The Council has \$214k to serve school readiness aged children. Funds must be expended by June 30. Guidance on how the funds may be utilized was provided by OEC. Recommendations were solicited from Council members and guests. An ad hoc committee met and reviewed the recommendations. A summary from the committee includes the following recommendations.

- Access: Increase equitable access to programs through early education infrastructure.  
Common App Enrollment and Family Navigator  
Technology: \$6,000  
Staffing: \$30,000

- **Quality:** Currently surveying EC programs to identify needs to support quality. Establish a consolidated system of quality for programs.
- **Family Supports:** Provide immediate support to families impacted by CoVID
  - 30 days of no parent fees
  - Purchase manipulatives for distance learning support
  - Explore opportunities to support the EC workforce and enroll families in programs
  - Collect qualitative data from families in low opportunity neighborhoods

### **Council Staffing**

The Council will hire a part-time administrative person and retain a consultant for projects. A job description was shared. Randi will send the description via email to be shared with networks. Interviews will take place in November/December with the hopes of securing a hire by January. Randi will conduct phone screen interviews. Members of the Executive committee will conduct virtual interviews. Others interested in participating should reach out to Randi or Jennifer.

### **Committee Update**

#### **Access/Quality Joint Meeting**

Reviewed data from September. Deliberated the large number of openings. Need to understand issues and obstacles to enrollment. Next steps; survey to programs with additional questions to better understand parents' experiences and needs and connect families to open spaces through Randi and Denise. Ensure workforce alliance families know about openings. A virtual session with providers who have openings was held with Elm City Communities. Lynn offered to ensure the hospital network knows the spaces available at Community programs. Randi made contacts with DSS, DCF and Community Action Agency.

### **NHECC Project Updates**

#### **Family Outreach**

Brochures delivered to community partners (DSS, DCF, Community Action, Food Distribution)

#### **PPE Delivered to programs.**

Randi will reach out on a monthly basis.

Quality committee will review criteria for small grant requests for CoVID programs.