



DRAFT
Quality Committee Meeting Minutes
December 12 2007, 4:00 p.m.
15506 County Line Road, Suite 104
Spring Hill, FL 34610

Coalition Members Present: Sister Roberta Bailey, Jim Cook, Steven Kanakis, Maria Crosby, Denise Gill, Toni Watkins

Coalition Members Excused: Lydia Pinkowski

Coalition Staff Present: Nicole Flechas, Anne McHugh, Maryrose Wersan, Angela Westmoreland, Noreen St. Jean, James J. Farrelly

Others Present: Luba Sevic, Sheila Chambers

Steven Kanakis called the meeting to order. All members and guests introduced themselves. The committee reviewed the draft minutes from the November 9, 2007 meeting. All members reached a consensus and the minutes were approved.

Quality Initiatives Spending Update

Noreen St. Jean referred the committee to her report. She reported that the Sequel Care contract had been secured. Noreen also reported on potential partnerships within the community as well as her goal for establishing a resource library. In addition, she also presented a project called "Cribs for Kids", a collaborative project with the Healthy Start Coalitions in both counties. She was granted permission to move forward with this project. Noreen stated that further details will follow. She reviewed the current budget plan and remaining dollars. Discussion ensued regarding various details of the spending update and secondary measures to spending these dollars.

Classroom Observation Tool Update and Review

Shelia Chambers reported that the current observation tool is out of date. She shared with the committee changes that have been made to make the tool more user friendly and more provider friendly. Discussion ensued regarding a section of the tool which states that 95% of shelves and items must be labeled. The committee agreed that the tool could be improved by changing the line of discussion to read that "the vast majority" of shelves and items must be labeled. The recommendation was also made to change "fire" drills to "safety" drills. Shelia agreed to present the suggested changes to CDS. The revised tool will be presented during the next Quality Committee meeting.

Curricula List Approval

Noreen St. Jean proposed a list of curriculum to the committee. Discussion ensued on the various types of curriculum presented and the pros and cons of each. All members reached a consensus and the list was approved.

VPK Outreach and Awareness Update

Maryrose Wersan reminded the committee of several avenues of VPK advertising which had been discussed at the previous Quality Committee meeting. She stated that several contacts had been made and detailed information including costs would be emailed to them as soon as it was available. She also added that the Coalition reports the spending progression of the VPK Outreach and Awareness grant to the State on a quarterly basis with the last update being sent two weeks ago.

Public Input

Toni Watkins reported that parents in the Dade City area are feeling that there is no hope for child care. Toni stated that she had received a letter from a local mother explaining a recent experience with CDS in Pasco County. The letter stated that the mother had gone to CDS and asked for an application for childcare and was told that she must first go to Career Central and get a job. Luba Sevic of CDS explained that once CDS has a referral from Career Central the process of placing the child in care moves at a faster pace because they are not placed on a waiting list but rather, the child is placed in care right away. Maryrose Wersan reminded the Committee that it had been agreed upon at the last Board Meeting that Carol Eurton and Sue McPhee would evaluate with the Fiscal Manager in regards to officially opening the wait list in Hernando County which would help in situations like this. Maryrose then stated that this process had not yet taken place due to the loss of the Fiscal Manager. Maryrose was then asked to present this issue of concern at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Future Meeting Schedule

The next Quality Committee meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. at the Coalition's office located on County Line Road.

Without any further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Angela Westmoreland
Administrative Assistant