

Region 7W IEIC
Meeting minutes
September 14th, 2023 1:00-3:00 PM (in person)

Milestones formerly Child Care Choices
314 10th Ave South, Suite 180 - Waite Park, MN 56387
Phone: 320-251-5081 or 800-288-8549 Fax: 320-654-8650

www.milestonesmn.org

1. Welcome and Introductions (quorum 13 members)- Janell Ortiz; Makayla Wijeratne; Lindsay Zirbes; Christine Landherr; Brittany Phannenstein; McKenzie Pearson; Chastity Jacobsen; Angie Arceneau; Jodie Dhooge; Kimberly Andres; Jennifer Vandevord; Leah Dobs; Lisa Maschino; Jeannie Holland; Christina B; Blake Schaaf; Theresa Evans, Angel Meyer; Kristina Bruggeman-Maag
2. Approvals
 - a. Minutes: April 13th, 2023- No questions or changes; **Janell Ortiz motioned to approve the minutes from April 13th...Jennifer Vandevord 2nd...Motion Approved**
 - b. Agenda (any additions)- Three requests for funding were turned in
3. Financial/Budget
 - a. Expenditures- Was sent out and as of today there have been no expenditures. Total budget for this year is \$74,657.00 with \$6,000.00 is carryover.
 - b. **Request for Funding (review any submissions received)- Milestones requesting \$1,000.00 to help supplement cost of trainers at early learning event for licensed centers, staff, and owners....Lindsey Zirbes motioned to approve...Kimberley Andres 2nd...Motion Approved to come out of conference and training sponsorship**
 - Kimball requesting \$72.00 for postage to send out packets to families with new babies in the district...Jeannie Holland motioned to approve; Jenniver Vandevord 2nd...Motion Approved to come out of outreach
 - Benton Stearns Education requesting \$60.00 for room rental for event for early childhood special education staff and early intervention team for educational information and teambuilding....Kimberly Andres Motioned to Approve...Jeannie Holland 2nd...Motion approved to come out of conference and training sponsorship
 - \$20,000.00 for Risdall
 - up to \$1,000.00 Region 11
 - up to \$1,000.00 for biting has meaning wheels
 - Blake Schaaf motioned to approve the expenses for Risdall, Region 11, and Biting has Meaning wheels; Christine Landherr 2nd...Motion Approved
4. New Business
 - a. Updates from Public Awareness Coordinator-Makayla.
Fairs and Expos
 - Went to three ECFE in Park events in Big Lake (one per month). Good turnout each time with quite a bit of materials handed out.
 - Attending the Building Equity in Health event September 14th in evening.
 - Materials will be distributed at the Hispanic health fair on September 15th.

- Table will be available at Milestones conference on September 30th with materials for distribution. Anyone available to attend and man?

Billboards

- Campaign with Franklin outdoor ended at end of January

Epromos

- Nothing purchased since last meeting

Social Indoor Advertising

- 3 month campaign has ended

Region 11

- A few items are left at the Milestones office. Could use a restock of a few things (brochures & biting has meaning wheels)

First Books

- Lots of books in stock at Milestones office. Stop by and grab what is needed.

Risdall

- No current campaign going on. Would we like to renew? Anything different than in past?

Xidigtv.com

- August campaign occurred for back to school. Same ad as previous.
- b. Implicit bias work- Makayla- Several months ago was spent developing cultural self-awareness and looking into one's own past to see where some of their implicit biases may have come from. The last two months have been digging deep into microaggressions along with the difference between intention vs. impact. Talked about different ways to combat microaggressions and how to be an ally. Given the homework of creating a lesson plan to teach it.
- c. Outreach events attended by IEIC members? Elk River and Big Lake Farmer's Markets twice a month. Family celebration just occurred end of August in Becker. Wright county attended their county fair. No Benton or Stearns county fair attendance. St. Michael/Albertville is hosting a small family resource fair that will be attending in October sometime.
- d. Indigenous and/or tribal representation on IEIC (updates?)- ongoing
- e. State Updates
 - i. State IEIC Monthly Calls: 3rd Monday of the month from 9-10 AM. (if you want to join, email Lindsay and she will forward your request to Cat)-Nothing specific has been happening...been more general with open question forums
 - ii. General State Updates-Children Youth and Family department is in the process of being created...next year they start with having a commissioner and then 2026 will be fully implemented. Not much communication has been shared. Part C will fall under new department and Part B will be in Department of Ed.
- f. Data Sharing from School Districts-Referrals [23-24 Region 7W IEIC Referral Numbers](#) -Link was shared and opened...each district spoke about their numbers..several mentioned that doctor referrals seem to be going up
- g. Referrals/Collaboration with CentraCare- Continue to use HMG outreach materials...Rockville and Cold Spring and Community Outpost had resources given to families...IBH providers have been utilizing the materials in the clinic....Brittany is going to learn more about how referrals are made from the hospital and clinics..Suggestions for how to make referral and what to include was given. Have

received UW grant to create free postcards to promote healthy mind and bodies resource page. Spanish and English available. Britany will send along the URL.

- h. Training for IEIC's discussion- We have a budget \$7,000.00 for training for the IEC. Need to do a topic of building capacity and how it will improve our work and how we work with families. Microaggression topics would be good. Makayla will do more digging on topics and getting approval from Cat.
- i. Review Operating Procedures and Bylaws this year (discussion)
-September 2018 was last time these were updated. These will be sent out. Please review, update, and be prepared to report back at our December meeting. Still looking for a parent member of our IEIC. Keep that in mind and ask any families you are working with.

Agency Updates/ Training Opportunities

We are excited to launch Rusty's Cooking Club! This is a free, online cooking club for preschoolers and their parents, grandparents, or others who spend time with them. The materials are designed for children 3-5 but can be adapted for older and younger children.

The goals of Rusty's Cooking Club are to:

1. Provide adult "members" with early childhood nutrition information in a fun and creative way.
2. Connect adult "members" with the Real Life, Good Food website and other Extension resources.
3. Encourage preschool "members" to try the new foods they cook with adults.

Here is an email for you to copy, paste, and share with parents, grandparents, and caregivers.

You are invited to Rusty's Cooking Club, where fun food adventures begin for parents, caregivers, and their little preschooler. As a club member, you and your preschooler will create special memories in the kitchen as you learn hands-on recipes and talk about food and cooking.

Every month, you'll receive a free Cooking Club packet featuring a "Look and Cook" recipe and a shopping list complete with pictures – perfect for kids who can't read quite yet. But it's not just about cooking; the packet also has exciting facts and conversation starters to engage your child while you cook together. And as a bonus, you'll find tips on feeding young children healthy foods. So, why wait? Join Rusty's Cooking Club today and start making memories with your preschooler!

[Click here to become a member of Rusty's Cooking Club](#)

Rusty's Cooking Club is a project of the University of Minnesota Extension, Department of Family, Health and Wellbeing.

Please contact Mary Schroeder, hedin007@umn.edu, or Kelly Kunkel, kunke003@umn.edu, for more information.

Milestones- Changes have occurred with early learning scholarships so higher amounts are available to families and program requirements have been expanded. Please keep referring families. All information is on Milestones website www.milestonesmn.org They have also been very busy with car seat requests and are currently hiring for a Somali speaking individual to help run this program. Please let anyone you think may be interested know.

Janell Ortiz- Huge changeover with staffing. Having a hard time finding SPED licensed staff. Lots of districts are using the Grow Your Own program to help with staffing issues. Speech clinicians are also very hard to come by.

Wright County- Addition of staff. Board approved quite a bit of hiring. Caseloads are growing like crazy. Blake is moving forward will only be working with adults. Mackenzie will be taking Blake's children. Mackenzie will be the new IEIC representative for Wright County.

Leah- Struggling to fill positions as usual

Benton Stearns Ed- Lisa is strictly early childhood this year and has taken on calling on all referrals that come in

Stearns County- Lots of hiring and very high caseloads. Still working on getting a Stearns County Public Health representative to come to the IEIC meetings.

Sherburne County- Fully staffed and chugging along. Have found that some referrals were getting stuck and if you have not heard from Christine after a referral has been made please reach out to her.

STMA- Only short one position

Head Start- needed to officially close one location due to staffing issues. All other classrooms are opening and using subs for full time.

WCED- very busy and like everywhere else, short staffed

Elk River- Trying out a few new systems and everyone is case managing, not just teachers...lots of referrals...Classrooms are filling up quickly

Benton County- A lot of referrals for littles

Next Meetings held at Milestones or virtually: **Upcoming IEIC meetings**

December 7th (virtual) 1-3 pm

February 8th (virtual) 1-3 pm

April 11th (in person) 1-3 pm

5. Adjourn...**Jeannie Holland motioned to adjourn...Lisa Maschino 2nd....Motion Approved**