

ELEMENT FOUR / EARLY CHILDHOOD GROUP

Members present: Nicole White, Stacy Loudermilk, Wendy Bleecker, Rick Philips, Susan Bresnahan, Linda Loomis, Patt Earley, Mary Schauer, Nikki Easterling, Ulrike Kaufman, Lily Baldwin

New: Gini Burns

SS/HS Grant Reporting Required Objectives:

Goal: Improve outreach and identification of children birth through age five and provide culturally responsive training to increase family access and engagement to high quality early childhood psychosocial and emotional development services

Objective 1: Increase access of children birth through age five to early childcare and education

Objective 2: Improve parents and caregivers understanding of positive parenting and family management that is culturally responsive

Objective 3: Provide outreach to county pre-schools, childcare providers, and early childhood programs

Agenda Item: Early Learning Happenings in Washington / Legislative Update

Related Grant Objective: #1

<i>Needs Related to the Grant Goals</i> <i>Issues that must be resolved so you can reach program objectives</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that element group members are aware of current events and issues relevant to the Early Childhood providers community • Provide opportunity for group members to offer input and feed back on projects, issues, and topics pertinent to the Early Childhood providers community 	

Activities <i>Actions, plans, meetings, discussions, etc., that this element or it's members have had that resulted that resulted in some sort of strategy or plan to address the need</i>	Accomplishments <i>What this element or it's members did as a result of the activity or what barriers that this element or it's members had to overcome to use this strategy</i>	Outcomes <i>What happened as a result of the accomplishment or what people do as a result of the accomplishment</i>
Nicole White shared relevant updates and information on "Early Learning" projects	Element group members actively engaged in discussion and provided input regarding legislative issues impacting	

<p>Nicole White provided the following handouts to all group members in attendance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. House Bill Report: HB 2456 2. Substitute House Bill 2456 – State of Washington, 59th Legislature, 2006 Regular Session 3. Program Benefits of Consultation 4. Key Facts: Consultation in Early Childcare 5. Growing Skills for Kids: Background Information October 2006 6. Growing Skills for Kids: Child Care Consultation 7. What Early Childhood Directors Should Know About Working with Mental Health Professionals 	<p>early childhood</p> <p>Element group members received handouts</p>	
<p><u>Discussion A:</u> House Bill HB 2456</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute handout on HB 2456 which focused on establishing a pilot project to provide mental health consultation services for child care programs <p><u>Discussion B:</u> Handouts/Materials on “Consultation in Early Child Care”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute fact sheet to element group members from the “Center on Infant Mental Health and Development” • Distribute handout on background information dated October 2006 on Growing Skill for Kids • Distribute handout “Growing Skills for Kids” on Child Care Consultation • Distribute article titled “What Early Child Care Directors Should Know About Working with Mental Health Professionals” <p><u>Discussion C:</u> Washington Learns Report Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All day kindergarten is voluntary at this time • Communities that have a child care – preschool connection established appear to have an advantage on the all day kindergarten model • Reports indicates that K-3 education needs to be changed • Governor Gregoire’s agenda seems to have an early learning focus 		
<p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to follow pertinent legislative items and bring them to the Early Childhood group 		

Agenda Item: DECA Training Update

Related Grant Objective: #2, #3

<i>Needs Related to the Grant Goals</i> <i>Issues that must be resolved so you can reach program objectives</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that element group members have current information as to the status of DECA project • Identify DECA project progress in regards to the various aspects of implementation • Continue to identify and address barriers or challenges to planning, training, and implementation • Continue to identify strategies to address DECA project sustainability to ensure services to early childhood community once SSHS grant concludes

Activities <i>Actions, plans, meetings, discussions, etc., that this element or it's members have had that resulted that resulted in some sort of strategy or plan to address the need</i>	Accomplishments <i>What this element or it's members did as a result of the activity or what barriers that this element or it's members had to overcome to use this strategy</i>	Outcomes <i>What happened as a result of the accomplishment or what people do as a result of the accomplishment</i>
<p>Nicole White provided an update on DECA project including responding to questions, concerns, and ideas from the element group members</p> <p>Nicole White shared the names of individuals identified as "LPM" candidates with element group members</p>	<p>Element group members actively engaged in discussion, including asking questions, providing ideas/input, and voicing potential concerns</p>	
<p><u>Discussion A:</u> Initial DECA Training series</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participant feedback surveys have been compiled • Overall the training received positive feedback, specifically positive feedback regarding DECA trainer "Rachel" <p><u>Discussion B:</u> Local Program Mentor (LPM) training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LPM training is scheduled for January 5th and 6th • LPM participants selected based on element group feedback and interest. • LPM group will represent geographically diverse regions of Spokane County • The individuals that have been identified for the upcoming LPM training are <p>1. Bev Conoly (Little Dickens – Spokane Valley)</p>		

2. Julie Luzzo(YMCA – Downtown)
3. Suzanne Kolbe(MLK family Support)
4. Freda Gandy (Martin Luther King Center)
5. Nelda (Ewu/YMCA – Cheney)
6. Carlee (Sunshine Daycare – Riverside)
7. Donna Brecken
8. Deitra ((St. Anne’s)
9. Linda
10. Nicole White

- DECA LPM plan will include monthly meetings with trained LPM’s to discuss implementation and program support topics
- Element group will continue to discuss plan for utilizing LPM’s including looking into sustainability such as possible stipends for outreach work

Discussion C: Next DECA “Basic” Training Session

- Will be offering two different sessions – either February 9th or 10th for day #1 and March 16th or 17th for day #2
- Two different sessions are being offered to accommodate school and childcare provider staff schedules
- Recruitment for the next DECA training will focus on school staff and Family Home Providers
- Nicole White will work with FRC to identify and recruit Family Home Providers for the upcoming DECA training

Discussion D: DECA –IT (Infant/Toddler) version

- DECA will be offering training in the DECA-IT starting March 2007
- DECA-IT will be available in the new 2007 catalogue

Action Item:

- Nicole White will work with FRC to identify and recruit Family Home Providers for the upcoming DECA training
- Nicole White will provide update and share information on the DECA-IT with the Infant Toddler Network

Agenda Item: Safe Schools Healthy Students Grant Budget Update

Related Grant Objective:

<i>Needs Related to the Grant Goals</i>
<i>Issues that must be resolved so you can reach program objectives</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that element group members have current information as to the status of the Safe Schools, Healthy Student

Activities	Accomplishments	Outcomes
<i>Actions, plans, meetings, discussions, etc., that this</i>	<i>What this element or it’s members did as a result of the</i>	<i>What happened as a result of the accomplishment or what</i>

<i>element or it's members have had that resulted that resulted in some sort of strategy or plan to address the need</i>	<i>activity or what barriers that this element or it's members had to overcome to use this strategy</i>	<i>people do as a result of the accomplishment</i>
<p>Wendy Bleecker provided an overview and current status of the SSHS budget</p> <p>Wendy Bleecker and Nicole White provided element group members with information on a “supplemental budget” proposal for the Early Childhood element group</p>	<p>Element group members received information regarding the current status of the SSHS grant and the supplemental budget proposal</p>	
<p><u>Discussion A:</u> Overall SSHS Grant Budget Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There may be discretionary funding available next year toward the end of the grant • Wendy Bleecker will be applying for a “no-cost extension” for the 2007-2008 year <p><u>Discussion B:</u> Proposal for additional funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicole White, on behalf of the Early Childhood element group, submitted proposal for additional funding of \$51,000 to support the following expenditures <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The purchasing of additional DECA kits 2. Provide DECA-IT training for relevant county providers 3. Increase Nicole Whites hours to support element group activities, goals, and objectives – including coordinating the DECA LPM’s 4. Provide cross-training opportunities with other SSHS element groups 		
<p>Action Item:</p> <p>Continue to provide element group members with updates as needed</p>		



Announcements/Updates:

1. Massachusetts’s Advocates Trauma and Learning Initiative (Stacy Loudermilk)
 - See more information and full report at website
http://www.massadvocates.org/trauma_and_learning_policy_initiative
 - Emphasis on how trauma affects learning in children birth to age 18
 - Wendy Bleecker and Stacy Loudermilk have been discussing with Spokane Public Schools on how to integrate concepts into practice
 - Working with Roy Harrington and Safe Start
 - Roy Harrington will be offering a training for providers, school staff, and mental health
2. Pilot Project “Early Childhood Special Education Outcomes Project” (Susan Bresnahan)

- Project is through the “Echo Center”
- Spokane Public Schools has agreed to participate in the pilot project
- The project will be looking at outcomes for Special Education/Early Childhood Education programs
- Susan Bresnahan provided a nine page handout with overview of the projects as well as the tools used screening/assessment



Hand Outs Distributed:

- Meeting Agenda
- House Bill Report: HB 2456
- Substitute House Bill 2456 – State of Washington, 59th Legislature, 2006 Regular Session
- Program Benefits of Consultation
- Key Facts: Consultation in Early Childcare
- Growing Skills for Kids: Background Information October 2006
- Growing Skills for Kids: Child Care Consultation
- What Early Childhood Directors Should Know About Working with Mental Health Professionals
- Early Childhood Special Education Outcomes Projects

NEXT MEETING:

TUESDAY JANUARY 16TH, 2007 12:NOON LINDAMAN NONPROFIT BLDG