

Child Care Advisory Council Minutes

ODJFS/BCCD

March 16, 2011

Check In (Introductions/ Review/ Approve Minutes & Agenda)

- The January minutes were approved as written.
- The February minutes, with one change to the attendance sheet noted, were approved.

CCAC Membership

Chris Humphrey, Co-Chair

- There are two openings for Parents Representatives: Kate Watson from Franklin County and Marjorie Crouse from Hamilton County.
- A motion was made to approve the two new Parent Representatives. Welcome!

BCCD Updates – See Handout

Terrie Hare, Bureau Chief

- ECAC's seven workgroups are starting to meet: Early Care and Education, Family Support, Comprehensive Health, Special Needs/Early Intervention, Communications, Needs Assessment, Accountability/Data Systems. We have been asked to have closer communications between CCAC and the Early Care and Education workgroup. Look for this to be a standing agenda item in the future.
- Step Up To Quality numbers are holding steady. It would appear that for the number of new centers that we may be gaining, that we lose centers in the renewal process.
- Community of Learners, similar to the Teacher Leader model from ODE, the applications are now online. The OPDN registry may eventually take applications, but this is currently still in development. Please view the website below for the application process: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/trainingapprovalprocess.stm>
- The deployment of COLTS phase III is up and running – centers can renew their programs on line!
- Hopefully all programs who have summer camps have received their registration forms for the 2011 season.

Budget Updates- See Handout

Alicia Leatherman, Deputy Director

- Access to the blue books can be found on the OBM website: Executive Budget, Tax Expenditure, Budget Summary, and Savings Book. See site below: <http://obm.ohio.gov/>
- Regarding the Budget bill, there is no specific release date. There is hope it will be released within the next week or two. A discussion will take place next CCAC meeting regarding a fiscal impact once the budget bill is released.
- Two items that effect the budget: TANF and ARRA. Cash assistance case load increase – child care decrease. Also loss ARRA - \$68 million
- An abundance of work was done with OBM and the Governors office to find different ways to think about the budget. With revenue, there is an overall decrease for SFY 12 of a 12% cut and for SFY 13 a 11% cut across all funding streams. The dollars equate to both the Governor and Michael Colbert's vision that all children currently receiving

publicly funded child care will continue to receive services, in order to support parents' work, education and training efforts and to help them achieve self-sufficiency.

- However, to keep all children, there had to be cuts somewhere. There will be cuts in the quality budget. In addition, there will need to be a 7% provider rate decrease. At this time we still do not know how the provider rate will be handled. Analysis of market rate numbers and policies are being considered. Our recommendation is not to implement the 2010 survey and base the rate provisional cuts on the 2008 survey. CCAC is a great way to pull a subset of providers and counties that can engage in a practical conversation on the provider rate decrease.
 - Question posed: Are we cutting provider rates by 7%? We are currently analyzing the way we are paying providers since the implementation of the 2008 survey, what occurred and what we ended up paying up across provider categories and across clusters. It is important to dig into data before we assume a 7% cut across the board. It will be based on our market rate infrastructure. We feel it's the fairest way to look at the provider rate decrease without looking at an adjustment of provider hours.
- Quality budget is 27.7 million which means it's a 12 million increase from the agency submission, but still an overall decrease to the quality budget. The number one priority is to preserve supports and incentives for SUTQ.
 - Question posed: Will there become a limit regarding the number of centers able to participate in SUTQ? It was discussed, but we hoping to keep it as it has been. We budget a certain number but in reality we are only netting about 16 or 17 centers due to a constant churn.
- The next steps will be waiting for the budget language release and language on policy. We do not have exact subcommittee hearing dates yet and after House Finance and all the agencies go through next week, then the subcommittee hearing will be better defined. This should be a quick process and most are anticipating a budget by July 1st.
- Regarding the organization table on the budget, it appears as though there are seven lead agencies with others underneath each. We currently are not sure whether this is the consolidation plan or just a way the governor's office would like to organize.
 - Question posed: Out take for services is at 200%? Correct – out take is at 200%.

Union Updates- See Handout Steven Roberts, AFSCME

- First conference was held on March 5th for child care providers.

Child Care IT Systems Update Michelle Albast, Project Manager

- Regarding the Social Security Number error per ACS, ACS offered to all providers affected a free one year subscription for identity protection. Internally, before we implement the swipe cards, we will have created system generated provider ID's. For counties to convert the data, internally we will have the ability to see two fields containing the old and new Provider ID or you can look them up via name, address, provider type. Externally, anything distributed will be the new system generated Provider ID.
- There were also several concerns with the equipment agreement and providing banking information. ACS has made changes regarding the banking information and it now

reads if a provider does not complete and submit the information, they will agree to pay all invoices within 30 days for equipment that is not returned. Article 3.4 revised to read if you do not return your account is debited or invoiced.

- There was also a concern regarding the equipment not being able to be moved from the address without approval from the state. ACS has now made changes that the equipment cannot be removed from possession and control of the provider.
- A concern with insurance coverage arose and ACS has stated if an individual has business insurance for content, home, or renter's then it is contained within that contents of the facility or home.
- A new version of the ACS Equipment Agreement will be emailed to providers asking them to complete and mail the new version back to ACS, this will supersede the existing one submitted.
- JFS is considering a date change to the Ohio ECC schedule for implementation. We anticipate a decision within the next two weeks. If a change to schedule occurs all CCAC members will be notified.
- Question posed regarding entering parents work schedule vs. hours of care they actually use. It was explained that a caseworker will enter a caretaker's actual activity/work schedule into the eligibility screen of the JFS eligibility system. This data travels to the authorization screens of the JFS eligibility system, a calculation occurs to review the data/hours of activity and to assign a Category of Authorization (hourly/PT/FT). The Category of Authorization is what is sent to ACS for their system to determine and calculate what care can be approved via Ohio ECC (swipe card/POS device).
- Nontraditional hours will be incorporated into the system. Counties will no longer need to authorize a child to non-traditional care, if a child is in care for any non-traditional time during the week, the calculation made for that week's payment will include the 5% non-traditional rate addition. If a child's care is nontraditional for only one week, it will flip again the following week. If a child's care is nontraditional for any part of the week, reimbursement will include the 5% nontraditional rate addition. If children aren't present for those times marked as nontraditional then they will not get the 5% rate addition.
- SUTQ, accreditations, and special needs data is all pulled from the EA system and becomes part of the system calculation.
 - Question posed: If a schedule says Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and the child attends/swipes on Monday will this be allowed? Yes this is allowed as long as the total hours falls within the authorized hours for that child. Parents will not have to call their county to change a day within the week, but they will still need to check with the provider to make sure the provider can accommodate the schedule change as well.
 - Question posed: Regarding the hours one is eligible and the possibility of them reaching their cap hours before they end their week? (ex: 24 hours total over 5 days but by Wednesday all hours have been used) In this scenario, the caretaker would need to contact their caseworker with the request for a change to their authorization category. Documentation will still be required because the caseworker will need to determine if an increase in work hours equates to more income that might make the family ineligible.
 - Question posed: Are there any policies in place for what documentation is needed and how quickly a county needs to respond? There is state policy to

- define time lines, counties may have local policies as well, which allows some flexibility.
- Question posed: Are calculations the same with change in age groups? There are different reimbursement rates for different age groups (see 5101:2-16-41), if a child has a birth date in the middle of a week, the reimbursement will be the higher rate/lower age category for the entire week. The following week the new rate will go into effect. All this is programmed within the system as part of the payment calculation.
 - Question posed: How many cards will caretakers receive? Each caretaker named on the case will get one card in their name and can designate other individuals to use card as long as it is not their provider or an individual acting on behalf of the provider.
 - Question posed: When is a new card issued with a case number change? When a case is terminated, if the family is later determined eligible a new case number, therefore a new card is issued. If the card is lost but the case remains open, the family will be issued a new card with the same number.

Check Out (Assignments/Next Meeting/Travel Expense Reports)

- Agenda change, Chris Humphrey did not present on Success By 6 but will do so next month.
- Next meeting will be held on April 20, 2011.
- Meeting Adjourned.

