



PDAC FINANCIAL SUPPORTS COMMITTEE

Tuesday July 18, 2017

Telnet Minutes

1:00am – 2:30 pm

In attendance: Alethia Travis, Cindy Mahr, Gail Nelson, Robert Hitchen, Laurie Rhodes, Marcy Mendenhall, Rebecca Livengood

Welcome and Introductions

Gail Nelson is joining the committee and representing the Stearns Family Foundation.

Celebration that the State passed a budget

Review and Approve Minutes from June meeting

Motion to accept June 6, 2017 minutes by Robert Hitchen, Cindy Mahr seconded and the minutes passed unanimously.

Great START Discussion

Policy Change – Toni Porter

We are finding individuals eligible if they earn \$15.00 per hour or less and \$31,200.00 per year or less (with other eligibility factors). This aligns with the JCAR rule, and we will be following the rule closely.

Increase in minimum wage and impact on Great START program

Provides great leverage to push the eligibility threshold up and update JCAR, as well as the possibility to revise the Great START scale in general.

Great START Review and Discussion – specific to chart prepared by Cindy Mahr

Question back to committee from Toni how would the scale be used?

Can be used as a great tool to show staff if you're moving to another job, what you risk to lose.

If they get at or over \$600 the Great START wage supplement is reported as part of their taxes.

It is viewed more as a bonus, not a wage increase.

People are leaving the field not for a slightly higher wage but because they want out of the field and to move on.

It also depends on the owner/agency director to be educated on what Great START does for the teachers working in their program.

INCCRRA would encourage not adding information to the eligibility letter.

There is no wait list for Great START currently. We are accepting applications. Funds are forthcoming for June checks, so we may see a lag in payment. But there is no wait list for new applications.

Attrition rate for FY 17 was 9%, of approximately 4000 or more plus individuals.

Follow-up surveys were used, but got very little results. They could see better results now that technology is more widely used, but it does require staff time.

Things for INCCRRA to consider:

Possible send an email blast or a postcard, and provide the breakdown so they realize what they are making.

Look at using a graphic in a Registry newsletter, on social media or in website ads. Develop one graphic to benefit the individual and one graphic to show benefits for the program/director.

The chart that was put together will be a basis for graphics that we can use electronically.

Can we work Great START into the Director's Portal, from a two prong approach. Note the employees that are already receiving Great START and those that may be eligible.

Wage Increase across Illinois – Action Steps

If the minimum wage increases to \$15.00 what does that do to many of the financial supports that use the \$15.00 as ceiling

What does this do to CCAP reimbursement rates and would they be increased.

Challenge that minimum wage is different around the state.

Do we have perspective from Chicago centers, and how they are working through the minimum wage? Alethia is struggling to find families eligible for CCAP because of the increase in minimum wage. So she used to be 80% CCAP families and now they are probably 50%. Enrollment has been impacted. Of the families that lost their CCAP they typically did not stay enrolled in the program.

Potential to have increase to 185% of poverty level, instead of the current 165%

Financial Support resources for child care providers

Highly important is to retain the supports that are in place (Scholarship, Great START, etc...)

Need to spend time on community resources and businesses

Aligning state and national standards with compensation parity and qualifications

Power to the Profession – 2 year imitative Updates on NAEYC website

Completed Cycle 1 including who is in the profession. Starting Cycle 2 – talking about competencies. Cycle 6 is focused on Compensation Recommendations. More information can be found here <http://www.naeyc.org/profession/decision-cycles>

Next Committee Dates: We need to set FY 18 meeting dates

Preference is to meet every other month on the first Tuesday of the month from 1-2:30 pm, but we will skip December and January months.

Next meeting September 5, 2017

November 7, 2017

February 6, 2018

April 3, 2018

June 5, 2018

Meeting Adjourned at 2:33pm

