

**4 R Kids Program and Service Committee Minutes**  
**Friday February 10, 2023**  
**9:00 A.M.**

**Attendance**

Meeting began at 9:00 A.M. Wendy Sawyer, Colleen Strohmaier, Brittany Shinn and Debra Schrader was in attendance. Colleen will be the reporter for the February 16, 2023 board meeting.

**FY24 Preschool Tuition Policy (action)**

There one change to the FY24 preschool tuition policy, raising the preschool tuition cap from \$200 to \$220 per month. No other changes are needed.

**FY24 Transportation Policy (information)**

There are no recommended changes to the current transportation policy for FY24.

**FY22 2nd Quarter Report (information)**

The committee reviewed the second quarter reports from contractors. Below are a few of the highlights.

- All contractors' quarterly reports were submitted timely, by January 15, 2023.
- 40.8% of school ready funds have been expended and 33.5% of the early childhood funds have been expended; on target is 50%. It is noted that 20% carryover is allowed for local ECI boards.
- There are no major concerns with the contracts at this time and most contractors are meeting or are close to meeting their benchmarks. However three contracts required follow-up. The Short Years Partnership, Parents as Teachers, contract needed further follow-up regarding enrollment criteria as they were not at the 75% requirement. The ECI director met with the agency on 2-1-23 and was assured they would meet the enrollment criteria by the end of the fiscal year. The Lutheran in Service in Iowa contract had fiscal issues. The ECI director has contacted the agency's early childhood director and discussed the issues and will be meeting with the agency on 3-1-23. MATURA, child care nurse consultant contract, did not cumulative data provide data and the ECI direction will be meeting with the agency 2-23-23 to discuss the issues.
- Notes of interest include the following:
  - Of the families served in the New Parent Program administered by Lutheran Services in Iowa and Parents as Teachers program administered by Southwestern Community College, 100% of families met state enrollment criteria; 75% is required; Short Years Partnership met 68%.
  - Short Years Partnership Parents as Teachers Program has a waiting list as of December 2022.
  - The infant and early childhood mental consultation and training project provided a compelling story a child care provider that has been doing care for over 40 years and felt that every provider no matter how long they have been in the field should take Circle of Security training.
  - Preschool tuition scholarships are down by 17 children compared to a year ago.
- A summary of the report will be provided to the February 16, 2023 board meeting.
- Copies of the 2nd Quarter progress reports are located at [www.4rkids-eci.org](http://www.4rkids-eci.org).

**PiP (information)**

Lutheran Services in Iowa, Southwestern Community College and Partners in Family Development are working towards meeting performance incentive benchmarks. When certain family support program benchmarks are met, the 4 R Kids ECI board provides \$1500 per benchmark for total of \$9,000 for the year. Lutheran Services in Iowa met all three benchmarks earned \$3,000, Southwestern Community College did not receive any performance incentives and Short Years Partnership earned \$3,000. This funding is not built into their program budgets.

**Criteria for Family Support Programs (action)**

The committee had discussion regarding the 75% state enrollment criteria for family support programs. Many ECI areas have a requirement of 90% or more and some family support programs have voluntarily chosen to use 100%. After much discussion, the committee is recommending effective July 1, 2023 to implement 80% enrollment criteria.

**FY23 Request for Renewal (information)**

Deb is working on the request for renewal to be released March 10, 2023 and will be due April 17, 2023. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of a three year funding process. This is not an open competition and is only available to current contractors.

**Other (Information)**

A few legislative bills were reviewed.

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 10:10

Next meeting is face to face on Friday May 5, 2023 from 9:00-12:00 and will be either virtual or at Madison County Extension.