



**Early Childhood Iowa Area Board  
Minutes  
Thursday May 18, 2022  
Union State Bank  
611 Iowa Hwy 92  
Winterset, Iowa 50273**

**Board Meeting (Information)**

Board Chairperson Martens convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**Attendance (Information)**

(x means attendance at the meeting)

Board Members Present							
Adair County		Dallas County		Madison County		Warren County	
Open		Colleen Strohmaier <i>Required Business Representative</i>		Jacob Al-Mazora <i>Required Human Service Representative</i>	x	Open	
Brittany Shinn <i>Required Parent Representative</i>		Christine Lundy	x	Wendy Sawyer <i>Required Faith Representative</i>	x	Nancy Hopkins	
Jessica Petter <i>Required Health Representative</i>	x	Open		Rita Martens	x	Nichole Gunn <i>Required Education Representative</i>	x

Board members Petter, Lundy, Al-Mazora and Sawyer were present by electronic means.

**4 R Kids Staff Present (Information)**

Debra Schrader, Executive Director.

**Others present (Information)**

Michelle Greenough representing Child Care Resource and Referral, Sheena Sullivan and Rachel Bardwell representing Short Years Partnership, Dawn Walton and guest representing Lutheran Services in Iowa, Alia Rhodes representing Amerigroup and Ann Torbert representing Dallas County ISU Extension.

**Distinction of Quorum (Information)**

Board membership consists of no less than 8 members and no more than 12 members, with 9 positions filled at the beginning of the meeting; 8 board members were present at the meeting representing quorum.

**Open Forum (Information)**

None

**Introductions (Information)**

Introductions were made by Board members and the audience.

**Board Professional Development (Information)**

Representatives from Short Years Partnership providing Parents as Teachers and Lutheran Services in Iowa providing the New Parent Program provided presentations. A moving testimonial was provided by a New Parent Program participant. The Board also reviewed Tool CC – Preschool Support, it was noted the tool will be updated by the state office in the next few weeks.

**Agenda (Action)**

Board member Sawyer moved to approve the May 18, 2023 agenda. Board member Petter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes (Action)**

Board member Petter moved to approve the April 20, 2023 minutes. Board member Al-Mazora seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Board Membership Recruitment and Retention (Information)**

Board members continue with recruitment efforts and strive for gender balance. The board has a range of board members from eight to twelve. There are three positions open on the board for Adair, Dallas and Warren County. Board member retention will remain a focus.

**Vice- Chairperson (Action)**

Board member Al-Mazora moved to elect Board member Sawyer as Vice Chairperson. Board member Gunn seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Future Advocacy Events (Information)**

Board member Al-Mazora provided information regarding future advocacy and marketing events. The purpose of the events is to educate policy makers in a small and intimate environment. The Board will arrange an event during FY24 in the fall.

**Conflict of Interest (Information)**

Board members read the conflict of interest statements as well as verbally stated their conflict of interest. All board members verbally stated they had no conflict of interest.

**Code of Ethics (Information)**

Board members read and signed the annual code of ethics.

**Finance Committee (Action)**

The Finance Committee members reviewed budgets, payment vouchers, bank statements, and fund balance reconciliations prior to the board meeting. Board member Gunn moved to approve the April 2023 expenditures in the amount of \$87,365.74. Board member Hopkins seconded. Motion carried unanimously. It was noted the rate of spending for FY23 was 68.2% of school ready funding and 75.9% of early childhood funding.

**Program and Service Committee (Information)**

The Committee met May 5, 2023 from 9:00 to 10:30 at the Madison County ISU Extension office in Winterset Iowa. Board member Petter reported for the committee. Minutes and supporting documentation from the Program and Service Committee were provided.

**3rd Quarter Report Review (Information)**

The committee met and reviewed the contractor's 3rd quarter progress reports and financial statements. A summary report along with the 3rd quarter progress report results were provided.

**FY23 Funding Awards and Plan (Action)**

The committee reviewed the 4 R Kids strategic plan and continues to utilize it as a framework to build the FY24 funding plan. It is anticipated that the board will receive \$959,110 in school ready funding, and \$247,706 in early childhood funding. Both funds had an increase from the previous year. There is an estimated carryover of \$75,000 from FY23 that was figured into the funding plan. This was a grant renewal process and is the last year of a three year contract cycle. A full request for proposal will be offered in FY25.

Board member Hopkins moved to approve the committee recommendations for the FY24 funding plan pending Early Childhood Iowa approval and the Department of Health and Human Services approval. Board member Strohmaier seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The FY24 funding plan was approved as follows:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Award</b>
Lutheran Services of Iowa	New Parent Program HFA – long term home visitation	\$176,031.00
Short Years Partnership	Parents as Teachers – long term home visitation	\$272,000.00
Southwestern Community College	Parents as Teachers – long term home visitation	\$111,716.62
Warren County Health Services	Child Care Nurse Consultant	\$43,617.00
Every Step (Formally VNS)	Child Care Nurse Consultant	\$32,250.84
MATURA	Child Care Nurse Consultant	\$11,661.56
Dallas County ISU Extension	Child Care Quality Improvement Project (Training, Mini Grants, IECMHC)	\$165,461.00
Orchard Place/CCRR	Child Care Provider Incentives (QRS, ChildNet, BIP)	\$22,575.00
Orchard Place/CCRR	Child Care Provider Consultation and Technical Assistance	\$23,029.00
Dallas County ISU Extension	Preschool Enrichment/Coordinated Intake Project	\$84,574.00
Dallas County ISU Extension	Preschool Scholarship Tuition	\$153,700.00
Dallas County ISU Extension	Preschool Transportation	\$2,120.00
Dallas County ISU Extension	Preschool Dental Screening	\$9,010.00
Dallas County ISU Extension	Preschool Professional Development	\$3,285.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,111,031.02</b>

**Board Process Committee**

The committee did not meet. The next meeting is August 27, 2023 at 9:00 A.M. by Zoom.

**Administrative Update** *(Information)*

Director Schrader disseminated an administrative update and items included:

- FY24 work plan;
- HF707 Child care assistance bill;
- Marketing events update;
- Federal poverty levels;
- Medicaid and Hawk-I income requirements;
- Rural prenatal care crisis;
- Molina Health Care MCO;
- ICAP grant of \$1,000 awarded;
- Association conference dates;
- Success story;
- Early Childhood committee updates;
- Professional development activities;
- Marketing and public awareness activities.

**Miscellaneous Board Updates** *(Information)*

None.

**Next meeting** *(Information)*

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next meeting is September 7, 2023 at Union State Bank in Winterset.