

**Program and Service Committee
Minutes
Friday October 27, 2024
9:00**

Attendance

Nancy Hopkins, Colleen Strohmaier, Jess Petter, and Wendy Sawyer and Debra Schrader were in attendance by Zoom. Wendy will be the reporter for the board meeting.

Thrive Iowa

A one-page project model for the two new Thrive Iowa projects that will start November 1, 2024 was reviewed. Navigation services, housing support and essential needs are the new services in the CRISP and Warren County Public Health contracts for a total of \$321,400 to be expended in 8 months. The funds are federal ARPA funds and are a draw down only. The committee will be reviewing 6 more reports each quarter.

1st Quarter Report *(information)*

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

- All contractors' quarterly reports were submitted timely, by October 15, 2024.
- There were 14 quarterly reports reviewed by the committee that represented multiple ECI service types.
- There is no follow-up needed with contracts. However, one program continues to have challenges with replacing home visitor staff and the ECI director has followed up.
- The majority of the programs appear to be on track or close to on track for benchmark targets.
- 19.6% of school ready funds have been expended; 16.6% of the early childhood funds have been expended; on target is 25%. There is no concern with rate of spending.
- Notes of interest include the following:
 - Preschool tuition scholarship requests are less than last year.
 - 100% of family support programs enrolled new families that meet the 80% criteria set by the 4 R Kids board and all three family support programs meet the 75% state enrollment criteria.
 - One family support program has a waiting list due to language barriers.
 - Infant and early childhood mental health consultation is exceeding benchmarks and there may be more demand than money. The ECI Director has been in conversation with the Heart of Iowa mental health region about providing financial support to get through the fiscal year.
- A summary of the report will be provided at the November 21, 2024 board meeting.
- A copy of the 1st Quarter progress report is located at www.4rkids-eci.org.

Other Information

Deb will be presenting today at the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Summit today on how the 4 R Kids ECI supports and administers consultation.

Next meeting *(information)*

The next meeting is January 31, 2025 at 9:00 to be held virtually. Agenda items include 2nd quarter reports, tuition policy, transportation policy, and request for proposal process.

Adjourn *(information)*

Meeting adjourned at 9:50.