

**MNTRECC Planning Team Meeting
Virtual January 13, 2022**

Introductions –

Amy Donaldson, Child Care Director @ Playworks in Prior Lake
Lucy Arias, Tribal Nations Lead, Preschool Development Grant
Becky Littlewolf, Program Manager, CCS @ Leech Lake
Christine Bloom, Bois Forte Early Childhood
Dana Patsie, Regional Coordinator
Eric Haugee, DHS – Child Development Services
Jackie Perez, Think Small
Janel O'Brien, MNTRECC PD Advisor
Jessica Jackson, White Earth Early Childhood
Julia Yang, Think Small
Lee Turney, Director – Leech Lake Early Childhood
Maria Steen, CAPLP District Coordinator
Melanie Hansen, Fond du Lac Child Care Licensor
Pat Broker, Leech Lake Early Childhood
Patti Turney, MNTRECC Program Manager
Ruby Gurneau, Child Care Manager, Red Lake
Shannon Clark-Thunder, Red Lake
Vondalee, Bois Forte Early Childhood
Karen Martin, Red Lake HS Director
Diane Smith, Language & Culture Coordinator
Michele Fredrickson, Grants & Outreach Coordinator

Eric H, DHS – a lot of projects going on at DHS, Capacity Building, contracts to aid those in startup process, expand their work, hope to have amendments done and money flowing by the end of the month. Coordinating Office leading the work on Capacity Building Manual, helping programs expand. MNTRECC part will be connecting to tribal communities, very similar to what we are doing now. In April we will dive into what work looks like (next Planning Team Mtg.) (Lee – Our work will start @ new contract time, July 1)

Eric – Initiative CCA/MNTRECC Workforce Development Grants, 3 million through CCA to help serve underserved communities, get the job training they need, similar to PD services now, Health & Safety, trainings, incentives such as sign on bonuses. First Children's Finance has \$22M for Facilities Grants. Lee asked if it was loans or grants and Eric said he thinks it's grants. DHS is hiring for several positions including new FFN Coordinator, Gaylene Spolarich, (she is onboard), Capacity Building Coordinator and Data Analyst positions to be filled.

Lucy Arias, MDE – has a PowerPoint and will send, are ½ way through the Pre-School Development Grant (PDG), how to sustain all work across the state, new project is Early Childhood Governance & Financing.

Online modules training and get credit for it, ex. – for FCC/CTR, Nature Learning & Early Childhood training on Jan. 25 @ 5 via zoom

Early Childhood Summit 2022 – save the date – May 3 & 5, 2022, 2nd annual

Emails went out last night for the Indigenous Early Learning Plan Survey – survey monkey

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Reach out to Lucy for assistance, MDE to support our work

Maria Steen, CAPLP – thanks Lucy for sharing, info from NW District includes recruiting providers for Parent Aware, WE/RL already doing this work, eight tribal programs working on the project. WEITC cohort working on re-rating, Regional Grants – one program was awarded through them. PD Janel advising, training catalog has a good # listed for the month, PIP/NAPP working needs to be changed, Patti said Janel is updating to complete the name changes.

Dana Patsie, – update on what they are doing to support tribal programs for Grants, PD, etc., w/Sue – Resource events on Region 2 to provide overview of Ojibwe Culture. #36 tribal and county providers participated, Indigebox subscription to providers, Muhabe doing weekly Ojibwe language table.

Jackie & Julie, Think Small – Language Access Line services are statewide, role is to provide (LA) to providers, work with providers in different language, interpreters, others who can help with communications. Had some requests from some needing systems stuff, support providers and parents looking to connect with CCA staff w/help funding provider requests from DHS, coach may get email in different language, forward to them and will see what they can do to help.

Here is the contact information for the Language Access Line from Jacqueline and Julie:

Julie Yang – Language Access Line Supervisor: 651-366-6792

Jacqueline Perez – Outreach and Engagement Program Manager: 651-641-6606

I am also including the link to our website, containing contact information for all three LAL Staff:

https://www.thinksmall.org/home/multicultural_services

Patti Turney - FFN Kits – 200 kits are filled and ready to go, we do have 150 Hatch Tablets and 100 Hotspots, there are language bags with both Ojibwe and Dakota material to support Language Revitalization, also included are tool kits received from CICC. Please get your number of requests in so we can get these out to you and out of the garage. We can arrange delivery and/or pickup.

Strategic Plan work – The stakeholder letter was completed and shared with the MNTRECC Planning Team members. I have been working on the MNTRECC Orientation packet, this will include; Strategic plan, brochure, list of planning team members. At the next f2f meeting, I will get a picture of the whole group so we can include this as well ☺

RFP- with the RFP coming up, we are busy preparing for that work. There will be some changes in job duties and adding another position to help support the child Care capacity building with marketing and resources. Looking forward to this work. Childcares are desperately needed right now.

One time Supplemental Stabilization Grants & child Care stabilization financial hardship grants. Three grant opportunities to exist for January, emails have been sent to all providers throughout the state. Applications will be open starting January 18. FCC \$1,200, Child Care Centers (under 75 children) can receive \$5,500, and (over 75 children) can receive up to \$8,500. LNL are not eligible.

DHS contracted a consultant to do some work around barriers around Parent Aware. There were two opportunities for the planning team to participate and the tribal providers were contacted to participate in an interview to share the barriers as they moved through the Parent Aware process.

CCA Board Membership – Two Planning Team members names with sent to Ann McCully that wanted to be on the Child Care Aware Board; Nicole Collins from Leech Lake, and Brittany Clausell from Mille Lacs. Congrats Ladies. The MNTRECC staff participated in the Wellness Gathering with the LLEC Program. We did some yoga, and learned about breathing and self-meditating exercises, had an awesome lunch and played some fun games in the afternoon. Please remember to take care of you! Be patient with others, we are all in this together.

Michele Fredrickson - Monthly & as needed online grants meetings

Grant status currently

5 closed out

2 ready, waiting on Develop

2 waiting on providers to submit receipts

1 unsure if she will finish process or not

Worked on updating the Tribal Licensed Provider list from a spreadsheet sent to me from Lyn. We have met online to see what our process should look like, what to make it easier for all around. We decided we are doing well and will continue to do what we have been doing to keep TLP's updated. I sent my updates to Lyn. Also had a few Centers and one Family Child Care "new provider" packs sent out. I am waiting on a FCC update so I can send the new FCC packet out.

One startup application sent out, expansion

No Emergency applications out there as of now

CCA brochures and fliers ordered

Metro Work Group next online meeting on Friday, January 21.

Still no booths, very few events happening in person

Facebook – we are up and posting

Newsletter – is going out quarterly, Next in March

FFN grant – have totes ready and waiting to get out there

Website – is up and now I need some training to use it, downloaded a tutorial and joined some

Facebook "support groups" for the software and how to use it, terminology is completely foreign to me

Program Summaries needs to be updated. What would work for us is to have the programs "update"

their pages and sent to me for updates, no names, maybe phone numbers and a little program info.

Staff changes so fast sometimes, each summary is very, very outdated.

Janel O'Brien – Recently submitted the revised NAPP TOT in develop and waiting to hear back from Achieve for approval. Once that is approved, I will go in and update each lesson. Working with our trainers, helping one get her trainer membership renewed. Advising 11 programs in this January cohort. Still doing CDA observation visits, about two per month, mostly in LL and 1 in Detroit Lakes last month. Diane and I are working on getting two applicants approved as cultural trainer in Achieve. Also getting the word out about the FFN Kits.

Diane Smith – Completed the final draft of the Trainer's Manual, Annex & Practitioners Guidebook and sent that to Patti & Janel. There were no major changes to the curricula, mainly updated the context and added more resources for the trainers to use and changing the title of the training per recommendation from the PD sub-committee request.

We are planning to have a TOT with current trainers on NAPPS when the update with Achieve is complete. We also have second TOT for new trainers. My goal is to have new trainers through the Pathway approval process, which means these individuals will go before the Statewide TTAC for recommendation prior to attending the TOT.

The statewide Tribal Training Advisory (TTAC) Committee met on 11/23 to review and interview two candidates as a cultural trainer. The committee meet via zoom, and each candidate was asked a series of questions and each presented a 15-minute mock "on-line" training for the TTAC. Both candidates were recommended as Cultural Trainers. The paperwork is in process and Janel will submit those recommendations to Achieve and enter them into develop upon approval.

I have two more trainer applications almost complete, that will be scheduled for interviews with the statewide TTAC committee members from the Planning Team members.

Working on updating the Cultural Trainer Guidebook, adding in the Covid-19 MNTRECC safety Plan, the on-line interview process and boarding process.

With NAPP there has been a spike of interest in training recruitment & support. Been emailing the application out to anyone that is interested in the Cultural Trainer process. Also working with our current trainer to update their status in develop.

Sent our order forms without any response for the purchase of Language curriculum kits. We have 15-revised Ojibwe curriculum kits available and 1 Dakota kit available. Started working on the consolidating the Dakota Language kit into one kit, the process will be similar to what we did with the Ojibwe Language consolidation.

Leech Lake Tribal College produced 115 pieces of the Ojibwe & Dakota Language kits that was include in the latest round of the FFN kits, along with several indigenous board books for infants and toddler's ad some paperback books for the preschool children. Three cookbooks and measuring cups and measuring spoons.

Amy Donaldson, Playworks – Covid is crazy & impacting families, teachers, working with Tribal Health, wearing lots of hats, staying positive, doing things with staff to help with anxiety, the therapeutic classroom which was opened last September proves to be challenging, hoping to keep mental health @ the forefront.

Becky Littlewolf, Leech Lake – very busy, a lot of reporting for CCDF, needs to get testing and vaccine mandate from LL Tribal Council. Becoming a Parent Aware center, has signed participation agreement, also working on Stabilization grants, had a hiring event and had one person apply, snowshoe outdoor event planned, PITC using curriculum training, orientation, trainer institute, scholarships for Together We Grow, Trauma Response for staff and EHS, dealing with covid & stress, 42 on subsidy program, plus three FFN's in the past few months.

Christine/Vondalee, Bois Forte – covid hit hard, 6 staff and 3 kids out at this time, new Ed. & Dis. Mgr., previous left in November. Construction funds they build a new large motor room, room will be ready in the next few weeks, Tribal Council has allowed parents to work from home and is operating day to day.

Jessica, White Earth – Infant room shut down today, not much is new. White Earth is starting to shut down again. Circle of Life Grant gave Boys and Girls Club a stabilization grant equal to 6 months of wages and purchased winter gear for kids, promoting outside play, program in survival mode at this time.

Melanie, Fond du Lac – gave Indigiboxes to child cares in the area, Language & Cultural materials were requested, seeing a 25% increase in Child Care payments over the last year.

Pat Broker, Sr. Education Mgr. Leech Lake – moving forward @ snails pace, vaccine & mask mandate by LLTC, shifting to do what needs to be done, hoping to stay open & operate, opening another Head Start class, will be a wraparound open 8 – 4:30. New Ojibwe mentor is doing remarkable things, she is on site, young, smart and full of energy, she has been working with Waase, Snowshoe event coming up working hard to strengthen commitment to familiar. Hoping to have a Spring powwow, playgrounds being worked on. Staff Wellness in December gathering was based around Stress Mgmt., selfcare, ribbon skirt making, building cultural events/gatherings, have a New Practice Based Coach and benefits with her being onboard, Teachers Teaching Teachers program has been interesting.

Ruby, Red Lake Nation – 4-5 staff are currently positive, 3 are out, closed toddler room due to covid, had 74 hours of use it/lose it and was out through January 3 with RSV, when everyone is healthy, at work they should have 20 staff, 9.5 teachers, 2 managers at Red Lake Child Care and #55 in care.

Hope to see you all April 21 & 22 at Leech Lake for the next meeting. Take Care.