

**MNTRECC Planning Team Meeting Minutes
October 13 & 14, 2022 Hosted by Fond du Lac**

Present/in person: Eric H - DHS, Matt C- DHS, Barb F - IV, Gaylene S - DHS, Wendy W, Anne K, Jen P from NE District, Sandy Meyers- MDE, Ciara Meyers – DHS, Michele Kvikstad – Dept of Health, Tobias Leuthner – DHS, Rachel Blair-Paladina – DHS, MNTRECC Staff; Patti T, Diana S, Janel O, & Michele F. Planning Team Members; Wylma M FDL, Becky L, Pat B, & Lee t from LL, Ruby G & Shannon T from RL, Amy D from Shakopee, Sue H, Kim L from WE,

Present/Virtual: Melanie H, & Tawny S FDL, Molly M US, Tonya M -LL, Elizabeth D and Brianne Peterson, Deb S, Michelle L, Marsha M – DHS, Carl E and Allison Z from Office of Child Care. Ann McCully and Cal Merrick – CCAof MN, Shelby Peters (LS).

The meeting started of by a beautiful prayer, teaching and a song by Patty Baker Dupis and assistant. Food was provided by the FDL Social Services Department. The catering team was amazing and fed us well 😊

Thursday October 13, 2022

Eric: well into the Fiscal Year, been busy spending ARPA funds, working on Capacity Building plan and Empower to Educate and Wayfinder, Regional Grants have closed and are under review right now, CDS and DHS are doing a self-evaluation along with DEI to reduce barriers and racism in the department. Working on the internal budget and contract language

Ann McCully: DEI and really embracing this work, Advocacy of behalf of Child Care (get out the vote), ARPA funding, added 14 new staff, they now have 42 staff at CCA, will be getting a new associate director real soon.

Matt C: working on the Child Care initiative, Navigator, there are 35 navigators around the state. Helping new programs get started or increase capacity. They have a targeted number for outreach.

Barb Faber: FFN Resources available, a lot of networking, you can sign up to receive resources and training for FFN mini-grants. There is training modules available. For more information check out www.indigenouvisioning.com more information.

Gaylene S, DHS: FFN Specialist. Working with DHS and is building networks, has 18 grantees that she is working with, has an outreach campaign that just went live. Is working with an environmental scan to collect data. Rachel is working on the website, Tobias is overseeing the contract work.

Wendy W: Capacity Building, has one position open for workforce staff and PA Coach, The Together We Grow conference will be held at the Mille Lacs Casino this year. CCA and Pine Tech is working on a customized training project, this spring will be the 5th cohort that has gone through Pine Tech. They have some new Early Childhood courses and credits, you can get a teach scholarship to support you. Working on a micro assistant credential.

Anne K: Region Coordinator and Parent Aware Coach, 11 Building Quality, 11 Parent Aware, and 14 in Quality Improvement. Has one wayfinder staff.

Jen P: Region 3 Coordinator and Parent Aware Coach, 3 staff providing Parent Aware, 2 Wayfinder staff. Is working with 3 tribes (FDL, BF, and GP). They meet 3 times during the school year. They have a great partnership with the Northland Foundation.

Patti T: Have been focusing on the deliverable in our workplan. Currently has a survey open for providers and community members to identify the barriers and identified needs experienced by child care and early childhood programs in their service areas. Provided a survey in our meeting packets, please fill out give to me before the end of our meeting Friday. I will also send this in a n attachment if you didn't get a chance to complete in the meeting.

Staying up on requisitions, travels, trainings, reports. Will be advertising for a new Professional Development Advisor, Janel has submitted her resignation and will be taking another position, her last day will be 10/21/22. Have already started the planning for the next Planning Team meeting in January.

Michele F; have been working off a Dec 2021 list of Providers, MNTRECC currently has 110 providers verified, have updated the WE and RL providers, newsletter just went out for this quarter and is getting bigger, they spot-lighted FDL this time. Updating the MNTRECC brochure with MARCOMM, had a sub-committee marketing meeting, attended 2 licensors meetings, been busy working with the Wayfinder and trainings. Will be attending a training in Maple Grove in Nov. Will be doing some advertising in tribal newspapers, and sharing wayfinder promo items at booths. They have their Metro Work Group meeting next week and will provided a NAPP training session and work on goals for the group.

Janel: for the Parent Aware Cohort she has 10 providers. 9 are going for a 3-4-star rating and one is going for a 2-star rating, all have submitted their application. Working with the "together We Grow" planning committee and setting up a NAPP training. Adult Module 1 & 2 training will be held by Vicki H on Dec 1&2, 2022 at Black Bear.

Diane S: Will be providing a TOT for the Language Kits, Dakota Lang Kit consolidation, trainer recruiter and follow up with 6 trainers. Brought the language Kits to check out.

Allison Z: The Tribal Plans are due Jan 31st, they will be online submission. There will be in-person training in Chicago Nov 29th thru Dec 1st. Other counter parts will be joining also for the training. Tribal enrolment initiative letters will be going out soon. They have added additional staff Carl; GP, ML & RL. Allison; WE and LL, Dina: Shakopee and BF, Riccardo – US, LS, FDL. You will here more tomorrow from Allison and Carl tomorrow during the Q and A and update.

Sandy Meyers, MDE: RFP MDE Scholarships, reviewed a power point of eligibility, lay out of programs that received scholarships and who is eligible. 3-4 star has been extended and will probably be extended again. Administration, more outreach, sole source opportunity. You can participate fully or to a smaller scale. Sandy will share the power point with Patti and she will forward this out. Was other discussion and time for questions as well.

Ciara M, Brianne Peterson and Elizabeth Dagle CCAP: Shared a Power Point on CCAP They have 265 families on the waiting list, LNL every five years vs every two years for Background studies, they must register with CCAP in order to be approved, and authorization with CCAP would work with DHS. Andy questions please contact Ciara.j.meyer@state.mn.us
Patti will forward the power point when she receives this.

Sue H & Kim L: White Earth currently has 9 providers in Parent Aware for a 3-4-star rating, one dropped due to medical, and one is going for a 2-star rating. They are working on a new building, it will have 3 classrooms, caring for kids store, all of the offices, a kitchen, all culturally relevant and a trail for walking in the woods. Hope to be breaking ground soon. They close the 2nd Wednesday of every month for team building and training trying to retain staff. The cares grant has awarded extra bonuses. CCDF eligible they put up new playgrounds in 8 communities, Kim is keeping every one licensed. Sue is a new Director and working on not missing any deadlines, is in the same boat as everyone else, short staffed. Utilizing grants, had a Public Hearing October 1st, the next one is in January.

Pat B, LL: Slowly re-opening more classrooms, more stable, Professional Development for the teachers has been beneficial, couple staff attended the National Conference, some new staff and some dropped. Will be advertising to fill these positions. Has a partnership with the LL Tribal College for the AA Early Childhood Program. CDA work high quality, they have an outside initiative – spending time outside and how beneficial it is to children. Had a Megwayak trail event and will be having more. Working on the Community survey, this will help guide our work. Will be having a Federal monitoring this year. Really working on deepening our culture knowledge, had a summer learning academy this past summer, gained information from experts and elders, Battle of Sugar Point and Star Island. Staff wellness had training from “young athletes” for our staff.

Becky L, LL: they have 2 classrooms open, families and staff are stable, focusing on staff wellness, provided staff wellness for their families also. They have one staff approved as a PITC Trainer, planning some NAPP trainings. Have had some community outreach events, car seat event, drive thru with resources such as energy assistance, DRM bough picking, pumpkins and carving tools, etc. during MEA they are planning a soccer event for the school age kids 1st through 4th grade. Increasing applications, partnering with HS and EHS to support events. With their ARPA dollars they are building a school age care building soon.

Lee: Good solid group of management, energy field has been different and pretty progressive. Building capacity- summer academy and megwayak has been a group effort and brought this to reality. It takes team work, next will be bringing these out to the outer communities. They have a meeting next week to get the SAC Building project moving again. Will make a big improvement to our community and will be money well spent. We should all be inclusive and build the best community for our nations. Attended NIEA meeting AIHAC and NIHSDA was all there, discussions on adding an EC thread to their organization. Talked about how do we build our communities, workforce development, categoric eligibility, important that we have an understanding, early learning and education is changing, in the middle of our community assessment, redesign to reflect this. Pay equity, and tribal consultations with LEA's was also spoke of. Patti will share information that Lee sent on a Field Hearing, send comments and questions, this is a great opportunity to voice your comment. Lee also spoke about creating a certification on language and culture.

Amy D, Shakopee: One classroom closed, trying to hire, CDA “get on board” closed for one week and did conscious discipline academy, good group working together, looking for another building, noticing changes in families and children, this is the second year for the therapeutic classroom for children. Have seen huge results, helped with transition to school for the children. Tribal members that attended the academy was really involved. Seems there are less people and more to do.

Melanie, FDL: First Children's First Nation, Office of Child Care application was submitted, increasing number of families thru CCAP. Increasing visibility in the community events. Going through licensing ordinances.

Ruby G and Shannon, Red Lake: Attended the NICCA Conference, they have 100 children on a waiting list, CCAP has different people that cover this area. Ruby covers CCDF. The Child Care manager is doing a great job. They have a newsletter started and covers a lot. Shannon is the Center Manager and manages the teachers. Pole barn is a t a stand still due to water and sewer work. They have 10 licensed providers. 3 new staff start next week.

Friday October 14, 2022

Allison and Carl, Office of Child Care: Pre-print training review, and Q & A for CCDF. Allocations will not change (S, M, LG) potential 2025 may be a change in allocation. Plan is written every 3 years, addresses the community. 2022-2023 be complete in compliance. The link to the Pre-print was emailed, in PDF for will be submitted online, not word (paper format) and is not widely distributed. Jan 31st 2023 is the due date. July 1st 2022 was the deadline for the TELI Plan. May 1, 2023 – Sept 30, 2025 child definitions, child count letters will be coming out. Nov 29 – Dec 1 in person training in Chicago, further details will be coming out soon. The Public hearing at least 20 day's notice, not earlier than Jan 1st. connect with the state, share what their plan is (CCDF) consists of; Head Start, Homelessness, etc. collaboration, DHS's plan is online and up to date the link is: https://mn.gov/dhs/assets/22-24_Plan_approved_version_tcm1053-515527.pdf

Not everyone's plan is due at the same time, some are on a different schedule (104277)

Child Care automated reporting system (CARS) for help CARS@gdit.com or 877-249-9117 TCBC website Tribal Child Care Capacity building Center <https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/fy-2023-2025-tribal-ccdf-plan-preprint-resources> There is a webinar on 10/26/22 Building a Pipeline of qualified Education thru innovations 1:30 – 3:00 an email was sent with this information.

Michele Kvikstad, Dept of Health "Follow Along Program": Provide access and support form a health perspective, follows along the child's progress, Developmental Screening tool for families. Discussion on how to get this program information out about the "Follow Along Program" what connections Michelle can make, Tribal WIC programs, Tribal Health Departments, where else can we share this too. Is a good program and can give families a place to start if they have concerns with child's development.

Eric, Rachel, Deb S-K, Marsha M, Michelle L, Tobias L DHS Legislative Proposal: Getting feedback from the group. Some comments that I captured from the group: **Add Tribal Language in the DRAFT!!**

ECE Teachers were seen as professionals, pay them their worth.

Campaign on the work they do

Voluntary preschool, increase pay, as same pay scale and contract.

Fed and State funded

Higher wages

Family Policy – State Policy

FCC, CCC, HS & EHS are all on different level, need a standardized process

Benefit packages – Health Ins, 401 K, etc.

June 2023 – Stabilization Grants, modest benefits of the programs, seeing a low rate of closures

Base grants – 70% on increasing compensation

Wayfinder and E2E, Facility revitalization Grants are in high demand.

Tribal Discussion – hire staff, pay the workforce a livable wage, how do we do that?

How do we access funding to give a bonus for everyone for meet xyz. ARPA fund provide a bonus and so does retain.

Parent Aware System – pay scale increase, could increase wages

Long Gevity – train in the field, how do we keep them?

Recruitment – High School, recruit at that level, career pathway. E2E component of this.

Next Steps – will be shared once Governor Budget is approved. Invite CCAP and Legislative Update back in April.

MDE can be invited as well on their proposal.

This concludes that meeting minutes to the best of my ability 😊 I hope I captured the majority of the conversations.

Thank you for the tour of the community garden and kitchen. This was so cool to see and the ladies were very knowledgeable with all that they do 😊

I wish you all good health and happiness and we will see you in January in White Earth.

Patti