

MNTRECC Planning Team Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2023

Welcome and Introductions with stating something in 2023 your planning or hopeful for.

Present/Virtual: Patti Turney, MNTRECC Program Manager, Amy Donaldson - Shakopee, Kim Lake – White Earth CC, Maria Steen CAPLP, NW, Gaylene Spolarich – FFN Manager, DHS, Matt Carlson CCA CO Capacity Building, Nou Thao, CCA CO, Associate Director, Eric Haugee, Program Manager, DHS, Dana Patsie – Mahube-Ottawa, Shannon Thunder and Ruby Gurneau – Red Lake CC, Diane Smith – Culture Coordinator MNTRECC, Becky Littlewolf – Leech Lake CC Service, Michele Fredrickson – Outreach/Navigator for Wayfinder, MNTRECC, Allison Zindle, Dina Evans, Carl Eggleston and Riccardo Suarez-Alcala -ACF, OCC, Kelly Minke – Lakeshore Representative, Lee Turney, Leech Lake ECD, Karen Martin – Red Lake, HS Director, Tamie Finn – Executive Director for Indigenous Visioning.

Eric Haugee - Legislative Session started last week, right now they are focusing on a lot of new legislatures, next fiscal year preparations for site visits and new grant cycle. There is a huge surplus, Governor will release his budget and will see what this does for Child Care. Also working on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Child Care and externally to address racism, including equity in Parent Aware.

Gaylene Spolrich – FFN now has a website that will go live next week, working on implementing a lot of resources. Will be doing surveys, will have 10 navigators across the state. Have a Broad Marketing Campaign, Bi-Lingual trainers for CPR/1st Aid and working on a contractor to sustain FFN Work.

Allison Zindle, ACF, OCC – Pre-Print Plans are due January 31st, online. TCBC Office hours to help with the application. Gena Miller will be on a 4-month detail covering the country. Please provide feedback on how you have used your funds, this was due Dec 31st but is still asking for these. 2 webinars, tomorrow on the new toolkit on guideline for subsidy CCDF standards the other webinar is for Administrators on Emergency Preparedness. They are re-grant funding for 2019 for those that did not spend all of the funds, need an official request from the Tribal Council, an email also went out to the Tribal Council (Leadership). The ACF staff had to leave for another meeting.

Nou Thau – Working with Dendros to address the DEI and planning, will be supervising for Parent Aware, Financial, Wayfinder and Workforce content areas.

Matt Carlson – Wayfinder, Capacity Building, July 1, 2022 started. Working on expanding or opening new child cares. Currently have 32 Navigators across the state. Michele is the Navigator for MNTRECC, she is currently working with a potential program in Red Lake, other Navigators working with tribal providers that are not in tribal communities (2 in Hennepin, 1 in Beltrami, and 1 in Cass County). They are working on ways to collect and organize data and get better data on access for the tribes around the state.

Tamie Finn - Shared how they connect with FFN, working on 3 areas; Training, Grants Program, and resources/Early Learning Kits. In the grants program they have awarded 4 providers and are working with 4-5 FFN providers in process to review. There are 7 modules of training that the FFNs must complete before they are awarded a grant, these are \$1,200. And have guidelines in place. They will be starting a new round in the spring, dates not set yet. Will send a link to Planning Team members to help

distribute. Working on obtaining Early Learning Kits, purchasing material, web-shop and have some fun FFN events in the planning which will be a statewide activity.

Dana Patsie - Does Ojibwe language table, approved by OOGWA in Fond Du Lac. (Patti) PDA for MNTRECC is still in the process of hiring, hoping to have her on board by end of January. Working on FFN Grant also, they have 7 Spanish Speaking FFN providers. 33 total providers. They have a Grandparent as Parents event, supporting CDA and 1st Aid and CPR. They have had 52 connections in Wayfinder and have given \$17,000 in Vouchers. 3 tribal providers completed the Parent Aware in the last cohort, 2 in White Earth and 1 in Red Lake. Will send updated list of staff to Patti to share with meeting minutes.

Maria Steen - high participation of Parent Aware, doing PD advising in tribal communities. Held 42 training and NAPP program in Ogema, Bemidji and White Earth – Sue doing one last fall and the one coming up. Brittney E2E - # programs interested in continue their education pathway. They do get a stipend at the beginning and in the middle of the process. Grants; They had 37 Regional Grants awarded, 3 were tribal.

Kelly Minke - Lakeshore 2023 New Materials: Latest and greatest – Outdoor Pretend & Play Market. Outdoor Discovery Table with adjustable legs, metal. Increased outdoor rest & Relaxation area (Cabana). New sensory materials including a sensory hideaway, separation themselves from everyone. Flex-Space Jr Ergo Stacking Chairs in difference sizes with true lifetime warranting. They stack and sturdy. Science stuff include Magnetic Tiles. Complete set of Animal Kingdom Blocks. Social emotional learning, all about feeling Magic Board. Contact information is included in the meeting invites, reach out if you have any questions.

Patti Turney - In the process of hiring a new PD – there won't be a lot of training for the new hire, Sandy has been gone 2 years will be more of a refresher. Set out pathway I application, due Feb 17, single source to each of the 11 tribes and not competitive. Contact Sandy Meyers (MDE) with questions.

Mention new communication specialist for the People of Color, Indigenous Caucus Thuba Nguyen, I invited her to possibly give an update in April on laws and other work that is going on in the legislative session – try to bring her to the April planning team meeting – April 13 & 14th in White Earth

In the April meeting we already started our agenda, we will be asking DHS to present on their legislative Proposal and MDE, Language Access update. Friday 4/14 we will be working on goals from the Identified Needs and Barriers Report this fall 2022 and adding this as we update the Strategic Plan.

Michele Fredrickson – working with Diane Benjamin, Marketing and with Lamar signs with specs for the billboards, need to determine what we are going to put on the billboard, LL, WE, RL and ML, reaching out to tribal partners. Newsletter is getting more and more people wanting to get on that list, sent out 3 wayfinder packets.

Tribal Licensed Providers- 21 FCC, 17 Centers = 38, Programs that are MNTRECC eligible is at 100 providers. Now has the RBPD endorsement for being a navigator. More training will be coming soon. The next Metro Work Group is 1/20/23. Together We Grow Conference is the following week, we will have a booth there. Attended the North East Northland Foundation meeting from Duluth and the NW Licensor meeting, also sit on the IV Grants Review Committee.

(Lee) Discussion on Counting Native American Children – how can we get a better understanding or a clear picture of where the children are getting services in the state. Discussion was in a previous meeting, assumed that Michele was to look into this. Where are our Native Children off the reservation, where are those pockets. Matt said they (CCA & DHS) are having conversations around this, some of the places where they may find data is from; 2020 census, licensing data system (spring), wayfinder, providers from attendance records, and other navigators through out the state, also through Provider Business Updates.

Diane Smith - Curriculum Development & Language Revitalization; Finished the consolidation of the Dakota Language Kit, very similar to the Ojibwe kits with approximately 67 - 72 pieces, including books, flashcards, memory card games & worksheets. Working with our publisher on the packaging and estimated cost of the consolidation. Started a rough draft of updating the Dakota Curriculum guidebook with the Early Childhood Indicators of Progress focusing on the age group of 3 – 5 years

Completed a plan for the Audio portion of the Ojibwe kits, we selected two books and some flashcard, The Ojibwe Language instructor from LLTC recommended a few individuals who would be interested in this project. Our original plan was to record this project, now considering a steaming service for the audio portion.

Marketing: I will be adding both the Ojibwe and Dakota language in the newsletter and seeking a recommendation to download

Challenges: Very little interest in purchasing the kits at this time, it could be because there is a lot of resources and material available on line.

Native American Parenting Program; Accomplishments: There is a lot of interest in NAPP, within the state and other tribal nations cross the US & Canada, asking for either a copy of the trainer manual or attending a TOT. I have been providing a background of NAPP and referred those individuals out of the state or county to NICWA and the Positive Indian Parenting.

Provided TA support to six individuals through the application process for the NA Cultural Trainers approval process, of those six – four individuals completed the screening with Tribal Training Advisory Committee in December and those four are recommended as a NA Cultural Trainer for the NAPP Curriculum and sending those recommendation to Achieve.

We have 9 individuals interested in becoming a Trainer for NAPP & starting the application process with those individual. We are hosting another Train Support event the end of February. Vicky Hawley will be providing an in-person training on the Adult Learning Modules 1 & 2.

The registration process for the trainer support event is individuals have to complete the NA Cultural Trainer application, submit a letter of support and resume. My hope is we are able to schedule another TTAC Screening in February prior to the Adult Modules training, so we have individuals well on the way of being an approved trainer.

Together We Grow Conference – assisting with the planning of the conference. MNTRECC is hosting a 2-hour training on NAPP on Mother Nature.

Lee Turney / LLHS update: Pat will continue to do this meeting, today she was not able to attend – working on a way to increase or attract more staff, connecting with more children and families. Just finished with our community assessment. This will be the driving force to better serve families. Will be looking at a possible redesign with funding and slots for younger children. Enrollment – not at our funded enrollment, working on a strategy to address the shortage.

Lee filled in for Becky – Working on the 2019 re-grant, needs to be closed by the end of September, they have been doing a lot of training at their center with the teachers, they have 2 rooms in operation, working on a School Age Child Care Building, working through the land resolution.

Karen Martin – Filling in as Director, Education Coordinator, when short staffed, filling in in the classrooms.

Ruby/Shannon – Breaking ground for the Ponemah Center, using CCDF funds for this. They now have a new logo designed by Patrick Desjarlait, Not at full capacity, staff shortage. They have 115 children on a waiting list = 84 families. 4 staff working on their CDA

Kim Lage – Working on writing their Pre-Print application, they have blueprints for their new Child Care Building, just been really busy lately, have some new providers coming on

Amy Donaldson- Had to step away, no update this time.

Meeting adjourned early at noon.

See everyone April 13th and 14th in White Earth 😊

Patti Turney,
MNTRECC Program Manager