

July 13, 2023 – MNTRECC Planning Team Meeting Minutes– White Earth Rediscovery Center

Gaylene S, Ruby G, Amy D, Shannon (online), Beth Dodds, Ashley TA-Region 5 & 8, Chris W TA-Region 5 & 8, Lee T., Sandy G., Diane, Pat B., Melanie H, Ann B, Cherida NW Dist., Kelly R NED Dist., Ally - Region 5 CC Office, Sue H., Whitney, childcare, Kim, Wayne, Trista, Melissa, Kasie.

Beth Dodds – finishing up second FFN Grant. Created on line module system better care givers, licensing information, 60 providers cities and Mora. August 6th FFN event in cities, applied for new funding indigenous FFN want to include the Dakota tribes.

Gaylene – FFN on going funding can continue this work. Caregiver survey working with a group looking at starting point, continue collecting data, visit the FFN site offer support and translated in 5 different languages, was able to visit all site visits across the state. New RFP funding will start October 1 – wanted to add 5 more grantees than will have 22 sites. Received 25 proposals, will make selections of those submitted late this month.

Question on data bases, grantee compiling their own list, each grantee has their own navigators.

Cherida – Training event coming up Super Saturday in Bemidji in August. NAPP Tradition parenting in person on a Saturday, cover social emotional to licensing required. Three Tribal programs going through renewal. July 1 will be referring tribal programs to MNTRECC, offering supports and resources

Kelly - Grants – coming up November 1st, workshops will be available and application will be on line, MNTRECC providers will get additional points, encouraging providers to attend a workshop. Start up grants available through out the year up to \$2000. Emergency grants are available up to 5000.00. Grant webinars are online, would like to return to in person workshops, hopefully next year. Questions on dollar amounts for grants. Work with White Earth, to be able to provide grants to WE,

Wayne – Parent aware helping with coaching until the new person is hired. 2 programs are spending out, liaison work learn more about the tribal programs offered, looking at getting into Red Lake & Leech Lake, connect with our program but other resources available to them, medicine garden working with WE extension. ½ language classes to education program staff that work with tribal people they work with. Harvest sweet grass soon. Cultural Cohort is going great.

Patti – Provided updates on the resources that were inserted in the folders. We had our DHS site visit May 31. July 1, 2023 started the new contract cycle, working on doing our final closeout for the year. Completed the staff evals. Update for Michele – Metro Workgroup met April 21st. July meeting is virtual 7/20. We currently have 27 Family Child Care, 18 Child Care Centers and 88 MNTRECC eligible. Reminding the Tribal Program members to send Michele the updated form on your programs so we can update the MNTRECC website with current information. There is one new provider in Fond du lac. The Newsletter was sent for this past quarter. Working on the next strategic Plan for the MNTRECC Navigator role. The Billboards are up and will remain up for 1 year.

Sandy - E2E work and seems to fall in line with the PD work, two people signed up to E2E, outlines the process and eligible. Resources were in the folder. I don't think there is a shortage of clients, want to ensure I'm including all tribal community. 12 CDA students working with, all qualify for BQ \$\$, encourage individual and helping them sign up for teach dollars to continue to further their education. Can start a CDA in high school. Trainer Support in Mille Lac, continue to recruit and support tribal

trainings. Encouraging the Cultural Trainers to create their own Bio's to help promote themselves as trainers. Encourage individuals to write their own curriculum. Looking at writing a Wild Rice course.

Do we want to do a course writer training in person? Options include Bemidji and at this site. How many people do you need for a class. Minimum would be 5 people. Sandy can be the course write for MNTRECC, as she completed the courses.

Nou update: E2E added to coordinating office, work will continue, way finder will include to specific communities, different credit for anytime learning. August 7 & 8 gathering all the coordinators for meeting.

Child Care assistance program – Elizabeth: 2024 legislations session: struggle with child care assistance program, complex program requirements and high caseloads. Reduce the burden on programs and family's access. Eliminate county match, increasing the amount of paying programs administrating dollars. Looking at increasing 7-8 or 9% may impact tribal programs that administration the CC Programs. Seeking input from tribal programs. Asked about the deadline date of this increase, looking at 2025 as earliest when it could happen. White Earth & Red Lake are the only tribes that administrate the CAPP \$\$, not sure if any other tribes have applied to administration CAPP dollars.

Here is the link for those that were interested to get signed up for the OCC Announcement list serve;
https://www.occ-cmc.org/occ_announcements/signup.aspx

Tribal Program updates, start with those on line first;

Red Lake – Ruby & Shannon: renewed our rating, we are looking into where to do the shopping, year around playground is in, looking for soft flooring.

Pat Broker – LLHS: busy summer, 2-week summer learning, alternative learning ensure we learn on the history of LL, people coming from Minneapolis, 2 weeks of pre-service in August, Special August 31st hosting indigenous games, Dan Needham with other from out of state involved. Opening Language focus classroom, short staff, uptick of applying for hiring, opening two EHS classrooms, working on and goals and missions. Two interns this summer, one will be applying for a job, submitted grant while collaborated with LLTC. Working on an indigenous learning certificate. Updated on NISHDA Johnson & Johnson leadership project. Have a year to work on the plan of highlight of impact LLHS history.

Lee - We are staffing for the kids, understanding we are in a season of change with Child Care and Head start, what can we do to strengthen our community, what can we do for your children and family. School-age project worked at a year and a half to get the land for this building. Open up slots on the reservation with collaborations with programs in the area, challenges will be reassessing all our grants, we haven't built our capacity in Leech Lake. Capacity, building bridges, and transitioning. Hope to connect this Planning Team with the southern tribes. We need to figure out that connection, that buy in from those southern tribes to join us again.

Allison - sign up for OCC updates, program updates include, July 3rd we put our program instruction for construction more in-depth instruction to apply on line. Deadline has passed for construction. State CCDF grantee is available for review, open for comment and discussion on how they plan to operate their program. State is working on the next cycle of grants, you may start to hear to start to work on

your CCDF plan, approved current plans in January 2023. July 26 webinar on how to submit an amendment. Everything will be submitted on-line instead of the previous PDF process. Notice went out for fiscal waivers, not sure what the application will look like, extension for 2022-2023 waivers for extension. Doing site visits, received increase in travels to do these visits, next conference call in October. Seeking creative ideas for spending ideas. Call this month was cancelled, OCC is offering a tribal consultation, July 20th – 2-hour call – invitation went out in the mail. Discussion of relative definition and certificate of marriage vs tribal communities' definition of relations. Webinars include, tomorrow at noon, rule change of OCC regulation, going over changes that will impact tribal communities. Co-payment, payment rates, access to grants and other topics popular during the pandemic. Recommend attending going over the long legal document. Consultation will be from 12:00 to 1pm tomorrow. Option to do a regional call if you're not able to attend the call tomorrow. Share out the resources as we keep them. How to submit a ACF report call, provide technical assistance. Listed several other calls and webinars were listed. See the link below to register for the list serve for these.

Ashleigh update: a lot of Administrations are coming in for a refresher. will share information with Patti to get out. CCDF coordinators will not get any incentive, offer subject matter TA for Q&A session, can review the plan for feedback prior to submitting plan. Changes across the 10 regions.

Melanie – New Child Care center is being built, Marilou will be retiring this year and both job descriptions are identical, now need two directors. CC Director position has been reposted after a year. Hire process is very slow, takes a few months for hires to be approved. Working with a agency that wants to be licensed but won't be charging nor do they need funding. A lot of change in leadership, from my position through tribal council has been at least 5 changes. Continue to increase number of providers, tripled the case load of families using program, building relationships with providers, getting families to apply for CCAP, reluctant to apply. Concerned about summer care, Head Start was providing summer care this year they didn't have the staff to offer this year, reached out to all the CC providers and programs to open doors for families, the CC providers opens more child care slots for school-age care for the summer. First children fiancé, first nations Melanie will send a link so other tribal program can look at their plan.

Sue: ground breaking for new building, hope to be in there by next fall, trying to make it culturally relevant. Used 2022 funds and also using our 2023 funds with additional tribal dollars. Completing CDA's, we close on Mondays for training. It's also a good team building time, create goals. Bringing the Brain Conference in the fall of 2024, having planning meeting next week, Providers are relationship based, center staff bring in the families and child activities and feed them. Doing a lot of community events putting \$\$ back into the community. Looking for events that are for children 0-12-year old. Helps out with pow-wows and Ogama days. Youth program we have interns that assist with the day to day care, they are required to complete all the training, we give them incentives and we feed them. ACES training, continue with parent aware and working on re rating. Collaborating with Red Lake to ensure training is available. Have a library, head start brings the kids in by the bus loads and she has themes where she is dressed up. Looking at hiring someone specific for language and something else, working on updating the policies & procedures. We have people interested in opening a CC but they would like the space and building to provide care. Talking at our co-payment, thinking of having a ceiling amount for the co-pays. State has recommendation of 7% of income should be paid toward the co-pay. Seeing more tribes are moving to flat rate co-payments scale. Have a excellent team that work really well together. Promote relationships within our staff, using retain \$\$ to provide incentives.

Licensing update: Providers are going strong, some variance due to school-age care. One Returning provider, and one new provider and a few are interested and they get to that line and pull back. Pre-teen and teens are great interns and being great role models for the younger children. Learning through play. Minimum wage is \$12.00 per hour for youth interns.

Chris Woodring – Took us through an activity of making a medicine bag with explaining the steps and linking these steps to how we work with our children, families and community. Thank you Chris for this experience 😊

Lee- Tribal Head Start Director meeting. No one other than Lee was in person, however when we were leaving, Kay Sunram showed up, Lee said he will send out a virtual invite and the Directors will have some time to share updates and any open discussions they want.

Friday July 14, 2023

After our Meet and Greet, we had Leah Cochran, Life and Wellness Coach (Finding your Balance). Leah walked us through using tools to help us learn how to be in the moment. Take time for yourself and gave us some tools and activities to help us. This was a very good training and I highly recommend Leah if anyone is looking for a wellness coach for staff or parent groups. Leah also recommended to watch “Geography of Bliss” a documentary.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30.

Thank you, Sue and Kim and your amazing staff, for providing us the beautiful setting/Meeting space, the décor and the delicious food and snacks etc. we all appreciate all that you do and your commitment to the MNTRECC Planning Team members. 😊

Please mark your calendar for the next MNTRECC Planning Team Meeting. October 12 & 13, 2023. Locations is yet to be determined. If anyone is willing to host the next meeting, please connect with Patti.

Thank you and enjoy the remainder of the summer.

Patti