

ECIC Executive Committee Meeting
MINUTES
May 19, 2011

Executive Committee Members

Lisa Brewer-Walraven
Betsy Boggs
Ken Gutman
Doug Luciani
David Hollister
Juan Olivarez
Janet Olszewski
Susan Broman
Anne Mervenne

Via Phone

Olivia Lagina
Marianne Udow-Phillips
Debbie Dingell
Sally Vaughn, Chair

Guests

Matt Gillard-United Way
Penni Foster-Fishman MSU

Staff

Joan Blough
Carrie Hatcher
Karen Roback
Alissa Parks
Judy Samelson
Stephanie Tanksley

I. Call to Order

Acting Chairperson, Sally Vaughn, called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM

II. Invitation for Public Comment

None

III. Approval of Minutes

February 9, 2011

Janet Olszewski motioned and was seconded David Hollister to approve the minutes.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the ECIC Executive Committee approves the minutes of February 9, 2011.

Motion by seconded by. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Chairperson's Report

Legislative Update May 2011

Star Power

Matthew Gillard reported on the legislative meetings that were taking place during Star Power. There was a shift in the conversation with the legislators in the outreach effort as more of the locals made their own contact with legislators for Star Power 2011. Holly Wingard was instrumental in training the local collaboratives in preparation for scheduling the meetings, initiating the conversations about their issues and making their case for early childhood with their legislators. As a result, the locals are well prepared for their meetings this year and the local leadership was more involved in the process than ever before. There was a good response on the turnout of the locals

including one group of over 280 persons. The turnout was a success and will continue to be in the future.

Department of Human Services

School Aid: The DHS subcommittee recommended budget cuts by 50% in up to early childhood funding. However, Early childhood is expected to be funded at current levels and may see a possible increase of \$6million on the GSRP line. There will be a cut of about \$100 per pupil after all language has been approved. There may be a shift of the GSRP program over to ISD having ISD serve as a fiduciary for the GSRP program.

Great Start Collaborative

The GSC funding is expected to be funded at \$6M.

Ann Mervenne inquired about whether or not the budget reflected any of Governor Snyder's initiatives that were stated in his message on April 27th.

Matt responded that the Governor made it very clear through his message on the 27th, that early childhood was a priority.

Office of Great Start

Governor Snyder made the announcement in his education message that ECIC will be meeting with Mike Gadola, DHS and MDE regarding the Executive Order. ECIC will be working to provide clarity between the functions of the Office of Great Start and ECIC. The Office of Great Start's primary focus will be to pull together the delivery of direct services to young children. We will continue to work with the Office of Great Start to identify the needs of young children, bring best practices and to garner the support needed from legislators for that purpose.

Sally Vaughn attended a recent Executive Order meeting and gave insight on the Governor focus that the issue of quality needs to be the foundation which decisions are made including or to include what gets transferred, changed and redesigned.

Joan Blough facilitated a meeting with six states that have initiated a version of the Office of Great Start. We brought them together to learn of their experiences. We had the MDE, DHS and DCH in this meeting so that we could determine what had worked for them. Karen Aldridge indicated that it was very clear the Governor's office is looking for ECIC to lead the changes and the initiation of the Office of Great Start.

Financial Statements for March 2011

Carrie Hatcher, ECIC Controller, presented the financial statements for March 2011. According to the March 31st 2011 financial statements ECIC continues to show sufficient working capital. This included the Kellogg funds, for a total of \$5.5m million in cash or cash equivalent. Other large funds include the contract advance and the ARRA fund.

FY10 Audit

Ms. Hatcher reported the FY10 Final Audit Report to the Committee. Details of the FY10 Financial Statements and the FY10 Single Audit were discussed. There was an A on the Report Card resulting in a clean audit. No notes, findings, comments or questions were presented. The single audit will be sent to the group at a later date. We were considered a low risk audit for the first time in ECIC's history. There has been very good support by our controller and the financial group. There is an RFP for an independent auditing firm that will go to the Chairman's Discussion Group on June 8th.

Sally called for approval of the resolutions:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the ECIC Executive Committee approves the March Financial Statements as presented; and

Dave Hollister and Betsy Boggs motioned and seconded for approval of the Audit.

Motion by seconded by. Motion carried unanimously

Matching Grants Program

Alissa Parks came forward to speak on the Early Childhood Investment Corporation announcement in November of plans to grant approximately \$3 Million in ARRA funds to Great Start Collaboratives (GSCs) for the establishment of local Great Start Funds. All GSCs identified a local fiduciary to hold the funds and are required to raise a dollar for dollar match prior to funds being formally awarded by ECIC this summer.

In March, thirty-one applications were received totaling almost \$2.2 Million. After a formal review and scoring process, ECIC awarded funds to all thirty-one GSC areas (see attached spreadsheet for award amounts). We had several GSC areas that requested \$100,000, the maximum amount allowed for this opportunity. ECIC followed up with these specific GSC areas and asked if they could raise additional matching funds beyond the \$100,000. Based on their responses, ECIC awarded additional funds to those areas.

Janet Olszewski had the following question:

Where are we with the race to the top monies?

Judy and Joan responded:

The President has been very effective in avoiding the cutting of funding to the Early Learning Challenge Grants. There is over \$700M dollars in that fund. The early childhood community is working very hard to get the Department of Education to separate these funds. We will be a part of the discussions on the designation of these funds. The funds seem to be a combination of system dollars and program dollars. We look at it as an opportunity to work hand in hand with the new office and to help to fill in the gaps in service.

Master Resolution-Chairperson's Report

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chairman's Discussions Group approves the award of \$125,000 to Bay Arenac/Saginaw to establish a local quality improvement fund as recommended.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chairman's Discussions Group approves the award of Great Start Local Fund Award to establish a local quality improvement fund as recommended.

V. Old Business

None

VI. New Business

Joan gave some introductory information on the findings regarding the Great Start Collaborative and Parent Coalitions. Joan encouraged the board members to call their great start collaborative and ask to see what is in their binders. Joan indicated that ECIC was not given the responses and that GSCs and the GSPCs could feel free to respond freely and openly.

Penni Foster-Freeman took the floor:

Penni discussed the Building Effective Great Start Collaborative and Parent Coalitions

There was quite a bit of information shared and several questions from the board.

Joan indicated that ECIC would like to see more Board involvement in the preparation of the Annual Work Plan. She would like to see the members of

the Strategic Planning Committee come together for a couple of meetings to work on the preparation of the Annual Work plan prior to the September Board Meeting.

Joan indicated that in the past we has presented their accomplishments but in addition to that she would like to see an environmental scan from which projections for 2012 can be made and then do some priority setting based on those projections. This would take place in early July.

In August Joan indicated that she would like to meet again and have the different focus areas present their proposals based on the environmental scan and the priorities that were set. ECIC is moving to a dashboard model and anticipates a much more streamlined work plan that is more strategic and concise.

There was discussion about the level of commitment from the board members and if there are persons that have been disengaged, there needs to be some considerations there.

Karen Roback

Karen indicated that the current structure of Great Start Connect is working effectively and that they recently made a comparison of this year and last year's number and Great Start Connect is on track to surpass the number of individuals trained. More dollars are going to direct service than ever before. We have given each RRC an evaluation and provided them with feed back of their status as far as the performance measures. There will also be basic measures that are essential in order to achieve success as an RRC. They will also receive feedback on those assessments, be given a timeline for improvement and provide them the necessary support to achieve their required performance levels.

This will be shared during May and RRCs will have a timeline within each element needs to be brought to expected performance level. Failure to do so will result in loss of the opportunity to apply for future RFPs as a Regional Resource Center. Each Regional Improvement Team had the opportunity to provide feedback on the RRC and the results were shared with the program directors, May 12th. The program directors will use the results as a formative evaluation to improve implementation.

There will be an RFP going out in October for the QRIS/QDC Implementation and Douglas Luciani indicated that he would like to see an acceleration of the RFP process. The CONNECT resource center contract is coming to an end and ECIC is recommending that we no longer continue with those services and bring something in-house. At the time when we originally began this process, we thought this was a good option however at this time there are other ways to do this more effectively.

Equity and Disparities Meeting/Retreat

Douglas Luciani indicated there had been a meeting and it was determined there would be a retreat as well. Per the report in the packet two of the good outcomes were that a consensus definition for vulnerability and persistent disparities that the committee is scheduling a retreat, have a great moderator and are inviting various individuals and discuss what this means in their communities.

Master Resolution – New Business

JULY

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Chairman's Discussion Group approves a contract amendment for the Olmsted Group in amount of \$245,000, to build on previous work and to implement and launch a marketing campaign to promote CONNECT as recommended; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Chairman's Discussion Group approves a contract with Detroit Public Television (DPTV) in the amount of \$600,000 to build upon previous work and develop comprehensive, multi-purpose tools and toolkits for a parent engagement campaign as recommended.

AUGUST

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Chairman's Discussion Group approves a contract with Mosaic Network, Inc., in the amount of \$197,700, for a grant evaluation and management solution, software package and technical assistance for a period of one (1) year, as per their proposal as recommended; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Chairman's Discussion Group approves a statewide crib exchange as presented not to exceed \$750,000 as recommended, and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Chairman's Discussion Group approves a contract with Neimand Collaborative for messaging, branding services and technical assistance commencing on June 1, 2011 and continuing until September 30, 2011 and, in the amount of \$177,000 as presented.

Chairperson, Sally Vaughn adjourned the meeting at 4:05 PM.