

Registered Ministry Advisory Group  
Minutes  
April 18, 2012

Present: Erin Kissling, Charlye Vance, Amy Spudic, Diane Pike  
By Phone: Christine Felde, Victoria Matney, Christi Dolezal, Sue Ragans, Marissa Lawton, Tracy Marshall, Ginger Cayler, Amber Johnson, Judy Ford, Robin Christman, Stephanie Brown, Diane Pike, Sherry McClure, Jean Casmer Hill, Lisa Clifford, Melanie Brizzi, David McCormick, Joan Doubree, Lucinda Nord, Barb Newton

The meeting of the RMAG was called to order at 2:01 p.m. at the South Government building in Conference Room 1 by Barb Newton, Chair.

Lisa Clifford is the new RM Director. She is overseeing both licensed centers and RM. Lisa has been in childcare serving as a teacher, director, VCP consultant, licensing consultant and then overseeing licensed centers. She brings a wealth of experience to the position and she will help to align the different standards. We are happy to have her to work with us! Lisa's contact info is: [lisa.clifford@fssa.in.gov](mailto:lisa.clifford@fssa.in.gov). or cell # 317-234-3923.

Ginger Cayler works for Childcare Answers and is looking for new ministries to get on to Paths to QUALITY. She is helping to get capital improvement projects to help ministries to get on Paths. If you know of anyone wanting to get on the project please let them know that there is help available and mentoring to get your VCP (Voluntary Certification Program) and start on Paths to QUALITY.

Tracey Marshall from IACCRA suggested that if you want to get on the Paths to QUALITY program that you contact your local Childcare Resource and Referral. The local CCRR can provide mentoring for Paths to QUALITY. There are incentives for the different levels that you obtain.

Barb Newton discussed the opportunities for continuing education and workshops. Barb suggested that there are many great inexpensive or free workshops for boards and directors from Indiana Youth Institute. If you go to their web page, you can get the weekly newsletter via email. There are grant opportunities weekly also! Go to [www.IYI.org](http://www.IYI.org). to sign up! IYI also has a data center with statistics and help with grant writing. Continuing education is available free via webinars at [www.IACCRR.org](http://www.IACCRR.org). There is a central training area and you need to sign up for the webinars. The nice thing about this sight is that it keeps track of your hours of continuing ed for you.

Community grant opportunities are available for ministries if you collaborate with other ministries and other childcare centers. In Columbus, registered ministries,

preschools, and daycares united and created a group of "Private Preschools" . By forming a group, we were able to apply for grants and also do group advertisements.

THE IAEYC conference is next week in Indianapolis. There will be lots of great presenters so try to Attend.

This June, the NAEYC Professional Development Conference will be here. This is a great opportunity for directors to attend a national conference without the cost of travel.

The state has been awarded a pilot to have a military liaison. We are the 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation of reserves being called up. There will be a workshop for people working with children of reservists called "Living the New Normal."

Staff changes are evident in the nursing staff, health consultants and also with administration. Cory Wolford has resigned. Current evaluators will cover his area until someone new is hired. If you are unsure of who to contact you can always email or call Lisa Clifford or Melanie for information.

When doing Universal Precautions, you can do training on the IACCRR website. There is a webinar available for no cost. You need to sign up for a specific time and date that the webinar will be offered. This will meet the certification necessary for the VCP or P to Q certifications.

The changing complexion of early childhood in Indiana is something that many communities are dealing with as more public preschools become available. It was suggested to be proactive to find out what is happening in your community.

Lucinda Nord of United Way summarized the Legislative session for us. It was a successful year although only one bill passed. HB1136 was the bill that addressed the establishment of a Registered Ministry Advisory Group. The bill passed the House 91-1 and also passed the Senate. It was awaiting passage when SB0035 was attached to it. SB0035 amends the definition of a childcare ministry to specify the grounds for the organization's federal tax exemption and to require annual filing of supporting documentation with the division of family resources. This bill got to the conference committee. When SB0035 was blended into HB1136, that is what killed the bill. We will try again next year.

Lucinda felt that there was lots of media coverage and that the feeling is there that the House and Senate want to improve childcare in Indiana. SB0268 did pass and that is the bill that establishes an Advisory Committee on Early Education. This year there was \$500 million dollars in "race to the Top"

government money that we could not qualify for because we did not have an Early Learning Advisory Committee. This will enable us to apply in future years.

Melanie Brizzi discussed the joint meeting of licensed centers, homes and RM. The meeting is being worked on. Melanie is looking for an outside facilitator to run the meeting and also wants to try to find someone from a state that incorporates public preschool as well as homes and RM and private schools. Melanie will be sending out a survey on "Survey Monkey" to allow you to send in your preferences for date, time and topics.

Melanie provided us with some volunteer opportunities to serve on committees. The Carefinder Review Team is looking for suggestions to improve the Carefinder Web page. Melanie would like us to meet to help make the webpage more user friendly. Now is your chance to make the improvements that you would like to see. There is also an opportunity to serve on the Paths to QUALITY marketing and outreach team. They meet once a month. Please volunteer to help make improvements. Contact Melanie to let her know of your willingness to help.

CHIRP- Dave McCormick and Dr. Joan Doubee are working on the legal aspects of the immunization records. CHIRP stands for "Children and Hoosiers Immunization Registry" Currently, licensed centers are able to access information on their students. RM are not able to access the information. CHIRP is a state registry that works with the CDC. It is not mandatory to participate but we have a good representation of providers in our state. The registry is maintained for adults as well as children. Parents are able to access their child's records up until their child turns 18 and then the child must be given a pin number to access their accounts. This is a great way to maintain our immunization records and they are maintained throughout your lifetime. Schools nurses must report the immunizations and since 2009, any drivers' that applied for licenses also had their numbers info entered into the CHIRP data base. Hospitals have imports into the immunization records as well as private practices. They are working on a Citizen's Immunization Portal that will give you a PIN # to access your immunization records. Currently, that part of the portal is under development. Should be a useful tool in the future but we are looking over the legalities of sharing the info. We will know of the results hopefully by August 1.

The by-laws state that there will be a chair, asst chair and a secretary for the group. Barb Newton will serve as chair, Christi Dolezal will serve as Asst chair and secretary will be Erin Kissling.

Discussion over frustrations with P to Q and community changes continued.

The meeting was adjourned at 2: 58 p.m.