

SECAC Council Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 25, 2016, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Jackson, Mississippi

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Vickey Berryman, Ricky Boggan, Johnny Franklin, Tamara Garner (representative for David Chandler), Brittany Herrington, Ed Langton, Patty Marshall (phone), April May, Lora Mederos, Jennifer McNeal, Nathan Oakley (representative for Carey Wright), Mimmo Parisi, Sandra Parks, Tina Routh, Laurie Smith, Holly Spivey, Cathy Sykes (representative for John Davis), Nita Thompson, Mary Ulmer (representative for David J. Dzielak), Carolyn Willis

OTHERS PRESENT

Eileen Beazley, Lydia Bethay, Aressa Coley, Debbie Ellis, Latasha Hadley, Ariel Jacobs, Theophilus King, Michael Newman, Deloris Suel

MEETING OBJECTIVES

1. Approval of Minutes
 2. SECAC Updates
 3. Public/Additional Comments
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MINUTES

Approval of Minutes

Chair Boggan opened discussion on the minutes from the July 28 SECAC meeting. Tina Routh motioned to accept the minutes. Mimmo Parisi seconded the motion. The council unanimously approved the motion.

SECAC Updates

Carolyn Willis gave the update for the Health, Mental Health, and Nutrition Committee.

Ariel Jacobs gave the update for the Family Support Committee.

Langton gave the update on the Early Care and Learning Committee. He took the opportunity to recognize the committee's Regulation and Vision Subcommittees, led by Herrington and May, and their important role in addressing committee objectives.

For the CCDF voucher program update, Parisi gave a presentation on what can be learned about the program through available data. He shared statistics and maps on the number of providers receiving CCDF voucher funds.

Coley said the new law requires all CCDF-receiving providers to be trained in 10 health and safety areas. She said MDHS is working with community colleges to get this training to all providers.

Public/Additional Comments

Debbie Ellis said when the discussion first began on revising CAPP policy, there was a decision involving increasing staff training hours from 15 to 18 hours. She is happy that it is not additional hours. She said when she started receiving funds, she received pay for labor day and other holidays. She said that was an adjustment. She said she is not defending the cost to providers, but at least the requirement is not 18 hours. In exchange for the paid day for Labor Day, she said she is going to pay them in exchange for this training. She said she thinks that is fair. She said she is delighted she does not have to drive to Jackson to get this federally required training.

Theophilus King said when reading the Health, Mental Health, And Nutrition Committee's definition of safety, he is concerned about the mental health of the clientele, especially on the family end. He said they don't receive counseling and that they need it. He said he hopes that this kind of attention can be subsidized by MDHS at some point. He said he likes the idea of including family in the definition, but he said you need a licensed clinical social worker to help parents with their mental health counseling, communication skills, financial budgeting, and education structure plans. He said he has seen it happen again and again where children get all the attention in early childhood, but it's like people say "You're on your own" by third grade. He mentioned different maladies that run rampant in homes and families and said this represents a need for funds going toward licensed clinical social workers. He then said the most impoverished areas in the state get the most CCDF funds. He said that's why that 10 percent of providers is there. He said it's not about equity. He said equity is already there. He also said this is accounted for by parents' decisions on where to send their children.

Eileen Beazley said Excel by 5 has been sending out CCDF newsletters to providers in their network to help prepare providers. She said the newsletters have been very helpful

Latasha Hadley said her first concern is about professional development. She said this training could have been also given by universities and other professional development programs to make the process more convenient for providers. She said she could not make comments on the page.

Michael Newman said one concern is that Early Years Network is a big resource that has not been utilized. He said professional development staff from EYN can provide training for providers. King said how smart does one have to be to do these health and safety presentations? He said he is not qualified to do CPR, but he is an educator and could look at material and then present the training to his own staff King said he doesn't know why the process has to be so restrictive.

Chair Boggan adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.
