

## Early Childhood Council of La Plata County Meeting Minutes January 13, 2011

**Attendance:** Tamara Volz, Jennifer Dallmann, Angela Atkinson, Barbara Dodds, Diane Zimmerer, Laura Melot, Edythe Eberhart, Charlotte Pirnat, Elizabeth VonTauffkirchen, Jessica Keitz, Lindsay Sherman, Patrick Callahan, Missy Rodey, Mary Gilden, Carol Cochran, Koel Phelps, Libby Culver, Carol Blatnick, Joel Jones, Heather Taylor, Kathleen McInnis, Merrilee Williams

**Guest(s):**

### Meeting Outcomes:

- Partners share information on EC Council Projects & Committees
- Participants gain an awareness of the future work of the EC Council in relation to building and supporting local early childhood system infrastructures
- Participants gain a deeper understanding of statewide early childhood systems building and the implications of the local council work.

Topic	Discussion/Findings	Actions/Follow-up
<p style="color: red;">Introductions, Partner Agency Updates &amp; Announcements</p>	<p><b><u>Welcomes/Updates:</u></b></p> <p><b>Tamara Volz</b> and the group participated in a meet-and-greet networking activity.</p> <p><b>Heather Taylor</b> announced that the southwest district of CAEYC is starting the Week of the Young Child (WOYC) planning and is looking for volunteers.</p> <p><b>Barbara Dodds</b> announced that Tim with United Way is looking into creating a new element in funding, "Ready to Learn", to support and assist the early childhood education field.</p> <p><b>Elizabeth VonTauffkirchen</b> announce that Bayfield Library will be offering another <i>Baby Signs Class</i></p> <p><b>Joel Jones</b> reported that the Early Childhood Leadership Commission is preparing to submit their first report to the Legislature.</p> <p><b>Edythe Eberhart</b> reports that there has been some discussion about fire regulations and inspections of licensed Family Childcare Homes In Durango.</p>	<p>For information about the Early Childhood Council of La Plata County contact Tamara Volz at <a href="mailto:tamarav@ecclaplata.org">tamarav@ecclaplata.org</a> or visit our website at <a href="http://www.ecclaplata.org">www.ecclaplata.org</a></p> <p>If you are interested in volunteering for WOYC contact <b>Heather Taylor</b> at <a href="mailto:heathertaylor@mercydurango.org">heathertaylor@mercydurango.org</a>.</p>
<p style="color: red;">Updates on Projects, Programs and Activities</p>	<p><b><u>Childcare Resource &amp; Referral:</u></b></p> <p><b>Jen Dallmann</b> gave a Resource &amp; Referral Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recently 99/108 childcare providers rates were updated for the state to conduct its Market Rate Survey. The new report will be posted to the CDHS website pending</li> </ul>	

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	<p>completion. A current Market Rate Survey was distributed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was some discussion about new EC programs that may be opening in the area. Please be advised that the Office of Child Care Resource &amp; Referral ( R&amp;R) cannot give referrals without permission and information from the individual program. It is the licensed childcare program’s responsibility to contact the R&amp;R with current openings and information.</li> <li>• Jennifer also shared a new resource call <b><u>Operation: Military Kids</u></b>. Operation Military Kids strives to support military children and youth before, during, and after the deployment of a loved one .If you know of a young child whose family is in the military, contact Jen for details about support from <i>Operation Military Kids</i>.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Overview of Office of Professional Development (OPD) Website:</u></b>  <b>Barbara Dodds</b> highlighted the Office of Professional Development’s website which can be found at <a href="http://www.ColoradoOfficeOfProfessionalDevelopment.org">www.ColoradoOfficeOfProfessionalDevelopment.org</a>. She also distributed a Site map for this website which is very helpful.</p> <p><b><u>Quality Initiatives Update:</u></b>  <b>Diane Zimmerer</b> reported the following about Quality Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scheduled and coordinated Qualistar Ratings for 4 programs (7 classrooms) in LPC and the ECC has arranged payment for these ratings totaling \$8,400.</li> <li>• 16 classrooms will receive Environmental Rating Scale Assessments in Feb. &amp; Mar plus the opportunity to apply for mini grant incentives.</li> <li>• Initiated a comprehensive data collection system to track all Quality Assessments in LPC.</li> </ul> <p>Cradling Literacy: Registration is still open for the Feb &amp; Mar sessions. TO register go to <a href="http://www.ecclaplata.org">www.ecclaplata.org</a> and click on Calendar of Events, and follow the on-screen instructions.</p> <p><b>Angela Atkinson</b> provided an analysis of the quality assessments voluntarily undertaken by child care providers in La Plata County from 2008 – 2010. A total of 35 individual classroom assessments were conducted among 25 centers and family home providers. For a complete report on the analysis including a summary of findings, please contact Angela Atkinson.</p> <p><b><u>Health Integration Project:</u></b>  <b>Missy Rodey</b> reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sliding Scale Fee/Discounted Care Program – Program Name: Community Access and Referral Enrollment System (CARES)</li> <li>• Medical Access Voucher Program</li> </ul>	<p>For more information on R &amp; R or to obtain more information on Operation: Military Kids contact <b>Jennifer Dallmann</b> at <a href="mailto:jend@ecclaplata.org">jend@ecclaplata.org</a>.</p> <p>For more information contact <b>Diane Zimmerer</b> at <a href="mailto:dianez@ecclaplata.org">dianez@ecclaplata.org</a>.</p> <p>For more information contact <b>Angela Atkinson</b> at <a href="mailto:aatkinson@centurytel.net">aatkinson@centurytel.net</a>.</p> <p>For more information or a copy of a complete report, contact <b>Missy Rodey</b> at <a href="mailto:mrodey@frontier.net">mrodey@frontier.net</a>.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Childhood Community Resource Guide</li> <li>• Pediatric Health Care Home Collaboration</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Primal Leadership Opportunity:</u></b>  <b>Lindsay Sherman</b> announced that she will be holding group meeting sessions on Thursday mornings, to review the book <i>Primal Leadership</i>. The goals are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create a supportive peer environment in which to deepen the learning opportunities from this particular book.</li> <li>• To connect with others in the community that share similar (professional) passions and possibly similar professional challenges.</li> </ul>	<p>If you are interested in participating in the <i>Primal Leadership</i> book study, please contact <b>Lindsay Sherman</b> at <a href="mailto:lindsaysherman@tchs4c.org">lindsaysherman@tchs4c.org</a>.</p>
<p>Other Items Identified</p>	<p><b><u>It's About Kids Committee:</u></b>  <b>Libby Culver reported</b> on the <i>It's About Kids</i> Committee and discussions with the Colorado Children's Campaign priorities for this legislative session in relation to the anticipated budget cuts. Libby also distributed the cardboard dolls. If you are interested in decorating a doll to be displayed at the Capital on March 12, please contact Libby and return the doll by Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Next Early Childhood Council meeting  <b><u>Feb. 10th 2011 3:00 – 5:00pm</u></b></p>	<p>Contact Libby at <a href="mailto:lculver@durango.k12.co.us">lculver@durango.k12.co.us</a></p>