

Linn County Early Childhood Iowa Governance Board MINUTES

February 23, 2021

3:15-4:30 PM via Zoom Webinar

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83727233917?pwd=WU5NcXBvUGVYNHFZVEFNSENDRUxQZz09>

Meeting ID: 837 2723 3917 Password: 231867

Per Iowa Code section 21.8 an electronic meeting can be held when there are valid concerns that an in-person meeting is "impossible or impractical" (e.g. COVID-19).

Board member present via Zoom or Phone: Richard Barrett left @ 3:58 pm, Linda Bigley, Karey Chase, Wyatt Dagit, Amy DeMeulenaere, Tricia Kitzmann, Karen Lewis, Dan Louzek @ 3:25 pm, Nancy Scheumann, Drew Westberg left @ 3:58 pm, Jasmine Wu.

Excused Absence: Patrick Munyakazi, Andrea Rogers, & Ben Rogers

Staff via Zoom: Chris Kivett-Berry & Kristen Peyton

Guests via Zoom: Amy Becker, Morgan Bryant, RaeAnn Gordon, Meridith Myers, Kelly Nelson, Christi Regan, Colette Stocks, Diana Strahan, Lydia Sweeney, & Melissa Williams.

Call to order: Tricia Kitzmann, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:18 pm with quorum present (10/14) and (11/14) at 3:25 pm.

- a. In-Person Services Summary: The data for Jan-Feb is in the Board packet and has been submitted to the State ECI office as required.
- b. Linn Co Board of Supervisors Legislative Priorities: Included in the packet. Two ECI priorities are included in County (Additional) Priorities.
- c. Impactful Data Source from Richard Barrett: Child Care Data resource link provided.
<https://www.epi.org/child-care-costs-in-the-united-states/#/IA>

Action: Minutes of 1/26/21 Board Meeting:

- **MSC:** (Wu, Bigley) Motion and Second to approve minutes from January Board Meeting. Motion carries unanimously.

Board Operations:

- a. State ECI FY 20 Annual Report: The summary was included in the Board packet. Kivett-Berry briefly reviewed the highlights including a quote from the Linn Co CART program. The full report can be found at <https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov/document/eci-2020-annual-report>.
- a. **Action:** Requests for Additional FY 21 ECI Funds and Next Steps: In order to remain under the 20% carryforward cap, existing Linn Co ECI funded programs who indicated they would fully utilize their FY 21 allocation were invited to submit funding requests.
School Ready \$: Five (5) funding requests were submitted for a total of \$36,880 School Ready \$. ECI staff have vetted the proposals to ensure the requests are ECI fundable expenses. The following programs submitted a request for additional FY 21 funds: Linn Co Development Center (\$22,744), Nurturing Parent Program In-Home Long Term (\$3,656), Nurturing Parent Program In-Home Short Term (\$1,219), YPN In-Home Long Term (\$7,131), and YPN In-Home Short Term (\$2,130). A detailed summary of the funding requests for additional FY 21 \$ was included in the packet.
Early Childhood \$: There were no funding requests received for Early Childhood (EC) \$. The next step is to follow the approved Phased-in-Plan approved at January meeting. **Note: A small \$ amount of the Child Development Center request is for Early Head Start and would need to use EC \$.
 - **MSC:** (Westberg, Scheumann) Motion and second to award a Contract Amendment to Linn County Child Development Center for up to additional \$22,744 total of FY 21 School Ready-Early Childhood funding. Motion carries unanimously.
 - **MSC:** (Bigley, Scheumann) Motion and second to award a Contract Amendment to Nurturing Parent Program Long Term for additional \$3,656 & Short Term services for additional \$1,219 in FY 21 School Ready funding. Motion carries unanimously.

- **MSC:** (Westberg, Wu) Motion and second to award a Contract Amendment to YPN Long Term for additional \$7,131 & Short Term for additional \$2,130 in FY 21 School Ready funding. Motion carries unanimously.
- b. Invite Nominations from Board Members: One Member has served their 6 year term and will rotate off the Board in June. Thus far, one referral has been received. Kivett-Berry shared that some of the desired skill sets are: Finance, Marketing, Non-Profit, and Faith. The need for Diversity and Gender Balance was noted. Board members, as the Nomination Committee this fiscal year, are invited to submit nominations to Kivett-Berry.
- c. ECI SWOT Analysis: Linn County asked departments to complete a SWOT analysis as part of the process to update the County Strategic Plan. ECI Exec Committee will use this to assess Board progress on funding priorities. Board Members are invited to complete by March 2nd at 12 pm.

Committee Updates:

- a. Child Care Provider Solutions Team: The Team divided into two work groups. One work group is focusing on the community perception of child care and the other work group is focusing on improving wages/benefits.
- b. Business & Child Care Solutions Team: No meeting since December.

Program Engagement:

- a. 2nd Quarter Program Data Snapshot: Mid-year data was included in the Board packet for review. Peyton will share a crosswalk of FY 20 & FY 21 Mid-year data in the next Board packet to illustrate the effects of COVID & Derecho.
- b. FY 20 ECI Funded Program Customer Demographic Data: Summary included in packet. Programs are encouraged to continue outreach efforts with the intentions of serving diverse populations.
- c. Updated Tool O: Included in the packet. Kivett-Berry highlighted some of the data that programs are required to report based on their service type.
- d. FY 21 Success Stories:
- i. Parent Ed Consortium- Take & Make Kits: Morgan shared their new monthly service offers 75 educational, hands-on activity kits at no cost for ages 2-5. Twenty-five (25) of those kits are reserved each month for community partners to share with their consumers.
 - ii. YPN In-Home Program-Activity Kits: Meridith updated the Board on distribution of Books and educational activities families enrolled in the YPN In-Home Visitation services.

Community Engagement:

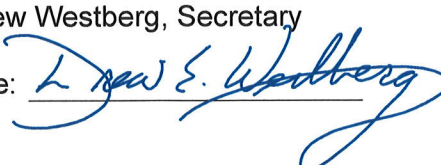
- a. Metro Economic Alliance Business Panel: On Feb 26th at 3pm, local employers will be sharing how they are pivoting to overcome common workforce concerns including child care. All are welcome to join.

Open Agenda: None.

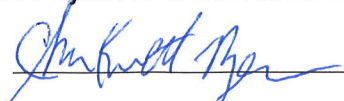
Motion to Adjourn:

- **MSC:** (Wu, Dagit) Motion and Second to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:22 pm.

Reviewer: Drew Westberg, Secretary

Signature:  Date: 3/18/21

Recorder: Kristen Peyton or Chris Kivett-Berry

Signature:  Date: 3/18/21