

**Early Childhood Council Meeting  
 October 13, 2008; 9:00-11:30am  
 Harmony Library Community Room  
 4616 S. Shields Street, Fort Collins**

**Introductions and Announcements**

- Every Child Ready to Read workshops through the Library District; for 2-3 yr olds; Monday October 20<sup>th</sup> or Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup>

**Approval of September Minutes**

Sondra Lee pointed out inaccurate information about mental health services available in Estes Park. Foothills Gateway does do all visits at homes and child care sites and can/do drive to Estes for these. With these changes, Cathie McCallum moves to approve the minutes, Lorna Greene seconds the motion, and all approve.

**Nutrition Education Program**

- Can do trainings for families, parents, teens, children
- Designed for low income families; 50% of participants in a training must be low income
- “Loving your Family, Feeding their Future” book
- Demonstrations on healthy eating, fat vs. muscle weight, portion size, sugar/fats in favorite foods
- Could do a training through the Council for child care providers
- Also a Nutrition Center at CSU that offers one on one training and counseling; sliding scale

**Secondhand Smoke Project and Safe Kids**

- Safe Kids is funded through PVH
  - New grant with Bohemian
  - Infant safety classes
  - Work with Poudre Fire Authority to do car seat checks
- Concerns about parents smoking in cars and at child care sites, so the Secondhand Smoke Project is collaborating with Safe Kids on this
- A recommendation to avoid smoking in cars was added to a childcare transportation agreement developed by Car Seats Colorado. The agreement will be promoted by Safe Kids in their car seat check programs. Local Centers are also encouraged to use the agreement, which includes reminders about state car seat laws and recommendations for proper fittings
- SHS project doing periodic check-ins with nurse consultants at child care sites

**Colorado Early Childhood Framework**

*Family Support & Parent Education*

	<b>Existing Services</b>	<b>Suggestions/Concerns</b>
<i>Access Outcome #2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Leadership Training Institute training coming soon but still</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need more information on the Fatherhood Initiative</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>looking for additional funds</li> <li>• Fatherhood Initiative (need more information)</li> <li>• Family Support and Early Intervention Leadership at Foothills Gateway</li> <li>• Parents as Teachers through The Family Center</li> </ul>	
<i>Quality Outcome #1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protective services-safety</li> <li>• Child protection and child screening/parent education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification &amp; definitions of these terms</li> </ul>
<i>Quality Outcome #2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEN</li> <li>• Lutheran Family Services</li> <li>• Bright Beginnings</li> <li>• Nurse Family Partnership and other health dept. services</li> <li>• Early Intervention (Foothills Gateway)</li> <li>• School districts</li> <li>• Child Find</li> <li>• HCC</li> <li>• Library District</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop new needs with flailing economy (mental health, paying bills)</li> <li>• Stigma of parenting classes only being for those parents who have messed up.</li> </ul>
<i>Quality Outcome #3</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCR&amp;R</li> <li>• Early Intervention</li> <li>• All parent education programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessing quality health and mental health care and not just choosing someone who accepts your insurance</li> </ul>
<i>Equity Outcome #1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Library District</li> <li>• Center for Adult Learning</li> <li>• Children's Speech and Reading Center</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barriers to cultural access</li> <li>• Dual language books</li> </ul>
<i>Equity Outcome #2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Self-Sufficiency</li> <li>• Pathways Past Poverty</li> <li>• Loveland Human Services commission</li> <li>• Neighbor to Neighbor</li> <li>• Workforce Center</li> <li>• Legal Aide</li> <li>• Crossroads Safehouse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater need for legal services</li> <li>• Bilingual support services</li> <li>• Immigration issues</li> </ul>
<i>Equity Outcome #3</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pathways Past Poverty</li> <li>• Early Intervention</li> <li>• Health department</li> <li>• School Districts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More service providers who accept Medicaid for children with special needs</li> </ul>

*Mental Health*

	<b>Existing Services</b>	<b>Suggestions/Concerns</b>
<i>Access Outcome #1</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More people to do trainings</li> <li>• More workshops to continue training (graduated levels)</li> <li>• Public stigma of mental health</li> <li>• Wider use screenings for mental health concerns</li> </ul>
<i>Access Outcome #2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CFERT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More mental health consultants</li> <li>• Identifying needs sooner</li> </ul>
<i>Quality Outcome #1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PACT (group socialization)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mentors for new providers</li> <li>• Classes for early childhood professionals</li> <li>• Specific requirements in training for early childhood providers around mental health (i.e. Weld does a required training for CCAP providers on identifying abuse)</li> <li>• More in-house training with consultants</li> </ul>
<i>Quality Outcome #2</i>		
<i>Equity Outcome #1</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More consultants</li> <li>• Dual diagnosis for children</li> </ul>
<i>Equity Outcome #2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protective services</li> <li>• Foothills Gateway and County Human Services is collaborations for keep kids with challenging behaviors in their homes/families</li> </ul>	

*Health*

	<b>Existing Services</b>	<b>Suggestions/Concerns</b>
<i>Access Outcome #1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCHAP</li> <li>• Secondhand Smoke Project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding Project Smile to other schools</li> <li>• Education for parents about dental care and what age to start and how often</li> <li>• Providers who accept Medicaid and CHP+</li> </ul>
<i>Access Outcome #2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CHP+ marketing to the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sending out insurance information with child care referrals</li> </ul>
<i>Quality Outcome #1</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECC Health Committee is waiting for the State initiative on this to do more work</li> </ul>

<i>Quality Outcome #2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child care center audit with the County</li> </ul>	
<i>Quality Outcome #3</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infectious disease book bring distributed to child care centers and some doctor's through the Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines for when sick kids/providers shouldn't go to child care</li> </ul>

### **Touchpoints Activity**

- Value disorganization as an opportunity
- Activity- said the same instructions to us all, but we came up with different outcomes
- "Communication is the process that regulates the interaction and disorganization of relationships."
- Building relationships with parents is key
  - Lets parents set the agenda
  - Value disorganization as a communication style

### **Program Updates-** in handouts

- ECCAT updates are in the handouts today, but did not come out by email before this meeting for those who are interested.
- Pathways Child Care Access Initiative
  - Access to affordable care where and when they need it
  - To address the cliff effect with over-qualifying for CCAP
  - I/T care and economics
  - The astonishing amount of children birth to 5 living in poverty

### **New Business**

- Next Council meeting, November 10th, will be our Strategic Planning session from 9:00am-2:00pm. Lunch will be provided. The meeting will be facilitated by Maro Zagoras who did our strategic planning last time.
- Still in need of a Council Meeting facilitator; to start in December. Suggested that this be open at the beginning of each meeting for volunteers to relieve some of the pressure of attending all meetings.