

**Early Childhood Council Meeting
February 9, 2009 9-11:30 a.m.
Foothills Gateway
301 W. Skyway, Fort Collins**

Introductions and Announcements

- *Judy Seibold- After School Zone Conference Feb. 21st.
- *PSD Early Childhood Program- CPP slots available. Informational meeting scheduled for March 4, at Fullana.
- *Speech and Reading center- Free Speech Language screenings ongoing.
- *Jan Morcheski- The Health Department will have an event on Thursday February 12 from 6-9 for the Latino Community featuring a discussion on concerns around health issues for that community.
- *Nancy Almond- Raising Resilient Kids will be in Estes Park on March 5.

Approve meeting minutes from 1/12

Lorna Green Moved to approve. Susan McColl seconds.

Touchpoints Principle

What do we bring to the interaction?

Susan McColl shared information from recent trainings that are being offered for programs in Larimer County. A discussion followed with opportunity to share what we would bring to an interaction where there was an atypical drop-off.

Larimer County Alliance for Grandfamilies- Josh Rabe and Jacque Miller

Powerpoint slide from Larimer County Alliance for Grandfamilies. The function of the organization is to support grandparents in the journey of raising grandchildren. Some key points include:

- *Attaining custody is one of the main issues facing Grandfamilies today.
- *Most of the children they are caring for are facing situation of drama; drugs, incarceration, death, ect.
- *Grandchildren are benefiting from a stable home environments, familiar living arrangement, contact with other family members.
- *Linda Tanner, Grandparent representative, shared a personal testimony about her struggles to obtain permanent custody of her grandchildren.
- *Grandfamilies face difficulty financially, socially, emotionally, and practically. There is difficulty accessing community services, funding the legal needs for custody, and dealing with potential emotional and behavioral problems of children in their care.

*Larimer County Alliance for Grandfamilies is a grassroots effort to offer support to Grandfamilies. The mission of the Larimer County Alliance for Grandfamilies is: To work collaboratively to support the health and well being of Grandfamilies through community education, development of support systems, and advocacy for change. For more information on Larimer County Alliance for Grandfamilies: www.fortnet.org/lcgrg

Overview of Upcoming Trainings

A training survey is available to help with ECCLC plans for upcoming years.

Discussion to identify additional trainings for next fiscal year

Ideas for trainings at large:

- *Tools for helping staff talk to parents specifically with developmentally concerns.
- *Medical providers standardize screenings.
- *Centers would like trainings around the correct information for changes in licensing (the new rules and regs.)

Update on Council Application progress

The finalized strategic plan will be sent out once completely edited. Some outcomes need to be changed slightly. The application is due on Wednesday February 11. Linda is working on finishing touches.

Update on Colorado Trust Planning Grant

The ECCLC has been told that we have been awarded money, but we have not received notification of the amount of funding. Each council received some sort of support, but we don't know how much. The grant is around community needs and medical access and support.