



**Butler County Child & Family Development  
Task Force  
January 20, 2010**

**VISION STATEMENT**

The Butler County Child and Family Development Task Force, with community support, ensure quality, available, and affordable childcare, early childhood education, children's health services and family support for all children in Butler County.

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees (25 total):**

Angie Baur, Community Foundation of Greater Butler County; Audra Kenneson, Smart Start; Barb Roths, Butler County Extension; Brandi Smith, SCMHC Preschool; Brooke Thomas-Fekken, Smart Start; Darla Carter, Family Life Center Safehouse; Debbie Mai, Rainbows United; Jamie Downs, Butler County Health Department; Jamie Jellison, EduCare; Jill Morrow, Bright Beginnings; Jodi Evans, YMCA; Kathlene Maness, Mid-CAP Head Start; Kathy Van Zelfden, Smart Start; Kris Nicholson, KACCRRRA T.E.A.C.H./WAGE\$; Luann McFadden, Bright Beginnings; Marcy Cone, Child Start; Marion Nichols, Mid-CAP; Mark Wirth, 1<sup>st</sup> Church of the Nazarene/Butler Dads; Marla Canfield, ECAAP; Susan Harsh, Bright Beginnings; Teresa Leonard, Bradford Memorial Library; Nancy Martin, Mid-CAP; Jennifer Sanyer, ARC of Butler County; Debra Mattingly, SRS; Kandi Miller, United Way of the Plains.

**Introductions & Announcements:**

Audra welcomed the group and everyone introduced themselves.

- Barb – Walk for Kansas will be March 7 – May 1. Barb handed out a flyer. For more information, contact Barb at 321.9660 or [broths@ksu.edu](mailto:broths@ksu.edu).
- Marion – Vita training is going on. Taxes done for free for those earning less than household income of \$47,000 per year. She'll let us know when they start and will send out flyers.
- Darla – Kids Safe program is to start in February. Staff is going to "Finding Words" training. The group will focus on 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> grader children who have been abused or in an abusive situation. For more information, contact Darla at 321.7104 or [safe.house@flc.kscoxmail.com](mailto:safe.house@flc.kscoxmail.com).
- Audra – Incredible Years parent training class is scheduled to begin on February 22 in Andover. Brooke and Audra will co-teach it. Audra passed out flyers and will post it on the website. For more information contact Audra at 320.1342 or [akenneson@rui.org](mailto:akenneson@rui.org).
- Jamie – H1N1 Vaccines are still available at the health department. There is no charge if you go to the health department to get one. For more information call the Butler County Health Department at 321.3400.
- Angie – The Community Foundation is formalizing the first grant cycle with April being when we can submit mini-grants for \$150 – 300 requests. There as a deposit in the B-K fund to help with our cash match. For more information the foundation's website is [www.communityfoundationbc.org](http://www.communityfoundationbc.org).

**Guest Presenter:**

Nancy Martin – Dental Coordinator, Mid-Kansas Community Action Program –There is stimulus money to pay up to \$400 for an adult to receive dental service. This program is geared to help people who are underemployed or unemployed and looking for work. The voucher would require that the user pay a copayment of \$1 - \$20 and would be used only at identified dentists in Butler County and Wichita. They are not to be used for routine care, but can be used for extractions, fillings, etc. in order to aid the person to get back to work, or get back to looking for work. The user cannot have any other dental insurance. Nancy is looking to begin a dental coalition to help solve the need of dental care issues in Butler County. If you are interested please contact Nancy at 452.1326 or [nmartin@mid-capinc.org](mailto:nmartin@mid-capinc.org).

- During the presentation, Angie Baur of the Foundation of Greater Butler County noted that private donors in the Remington School District have set up an account with the foundation to help with dental issues in that school district.
- Marion noted that the United Way of El Dorado gave money for emergency dental care for adults with an El Dorado zip code.

**Butler Dads – Mark Wirth:**

Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) is a program from National Center for Fathering. The concept is to provide positive influence by fathers in schools. The minimum commitment is to serve all day, one day per year and during that time monitor entrances, lunchroom, and hallways, work in class, and be around the children. Schools where the program has run have seen less bullying and less violence. Mark has talked with the Ministerial Alliance about trying to initiate Watch D.O.G.S. in August 2010 for El Dorado Elementary Schools. If you know a dad, granddad, uncle, male sibling, etc who would like to participate, Mark can be reached at 321.1313 or [mark.wirth@att.net](mailto:mark.wirth@att.net).

**2009 Grant Update and Looking forward to 2010: (handout)**

- Smart Start Grant
  - 2009 Update
  - 2010 Goals
    - Submitted by the United Way of the Plains on Friday, January 15.
- Early Childhood Block Grant
  - 2009 Butler County Information
  - 2010 Goals for Butler County
    - Approval received
  - Final Report to Donors (4-county area)
  - Center for Research and Evaluation Services (WSU Evaluators for ECBG) Report as of December 5 (handout)

**Visioneering Update**

All task force partners are welcome to attend Visioneering Birth – K Alliance. Because most cannot, three individuals were appointed to represent Butler County when the alliance began: Sue Barrientos, Debbie Mai, and Audra Kenneson. At the last Visioneering meeting, they discussed allowing only one person from an agency vote. Because there are several programs at

the Visioneering table that are funded through Rainbows, not all of the programs will have a vote – this includes the Debbie and Audra. Should Sue Barrientos not be at a Visioneering meeting, Butler County would not have a vote at the Visioneering table. At the last Visioneering meeting, Audra asked, “If 9 people from Butler County attended Visioneering meeting, would they have a vote if they came from 9 different agencies?” The answer she received was, “yes.”

Audra asked the task force what they would like to do. Several options were discussed.

- The group can think about it and make a decision next time about a course of action.
- The group can invite the co-chairs of the B-K Alliance to attend our next task force meeting and then ask them about the decision and present our concerns.
- The group can compose a letter to the co-chairs and the MSA council

The group decided to ask Sue Barrientos, the Chair of our task force, to compose a letter stating our concerns, asking that if there is a vote to be made at the B-K alliance, if she is not present to please delay the vote so we can notify our group and send representative(s) who can vote, to allow Audra or Debbie to have a vote for the community, or to be able to do proxy votes (members of our community sign their votes over to one representative). The groups asked that in the meantime, Debbie take our concerns and recommendations to the MSA Council.

A paper was sent around for signatures to attach to the letter created by Sue, and when the letter is created (prior to sending to the B-K Alliance co-chairs) Audra will send to the task force for them to see.

### **2010 Calendar (handout)**

Please help Audra in finding guest speakers for our meetings. If you would like to present information about your agency, please let Audra know.

### **Other**

No other information.

**Next Meeting:** Our next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, February 17 – **AT THE ANDOVER YMCA**. Guest presenter will be: Jodi Evans. We will tour the Andover YMCA and Child Care area at 11 and then begin our meeting. Please bring your own lunch.

*Note: If you or someone you know would like to be added to the mailing list for the Butler County Child & Family Development Task Force, please email Audra Kenneson at [akenneson@rui.org](mailto:akenneson@rui.org)*

Minutes written by Audra Kenneson, LMSW  
January 22, 2010