



## 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

For Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Location: Bradford Memorial Library – El Dorado, KS

#### Attendees (16 total):

Audra Kenneson, Smart Start; Darcy McCoy, First Baptist Day Care; Darla Carter, Family Life Center Safehouse; Jamie Downs, Butler County Health Department; Juanita Newberry, CDI Head Start; Kathy Gann, Children's Mercy Family Health Partners; Kris Nicholson, Child Care Ware of Kansas; Leslie Sissel, Parents as Teachers; Marla Canfield, Department of Commerce ECAAP; Nijah Fudge, El Dorado City; Susan Harsh, Rainbows United Bright Beginnings; Suzi Thien, Sunlight Children's Advocacy and Rights Foundation; Tresa Garcia, Parent; Traci Polenz, UniCare; Tricia Bassingthwaite, New Direction Christian Learning Center; Brooke Wolf, CDI Head Start; Crisanne Thompson, CDI Head Start.

#### Introductions & Announcements:

- Susan Harsh – Save the Date: Saturday, April 21 for the Rainbows 5K Run and Family Fun Walk in Butler County (El Dorado). Funds raised will stay in Butler County. For more information contact Susan at sharsh@rui.org or see the website: [www.rainbowsunited.org/events/56](http://www.rainbowsunited.org/events/56).
- Kathy Gann – Agency name change to: "Children's Mercy Family Health Partners – a Coventry Company." Big changes coming to Medicaid. Healthwave will serve older population as well and members will see no changes in benefits and phone numbers. A new contract will be done and several out of state providers have put in for it. The governor's proposal will include three managed care providers. We know that the two who currently do it (Children's Mercy and UniCare) have put in along with other companies. The new proposal is that no one provider will have over 50% of the market share. The current contract will run through 12/31/12, so no changes right now.
- Nijah Fudge – Last night the All American City meeting went well. 63 families came and people ate. There were breakout sessions and a video was shown. The next step is a community meeting/Jamboree. We are going up against 150 cities in 36 states. The great video can be found at: <http://vimeo.com/28314194>

- Audra Kenneson –
  - 4-County MSA Home Visitation Group will host a FREE training: “Emotional Labor” on January 23 at 8:30 to 10:30 am in the Cessna Room at Wesley Medical Center.
  - The next Incredible Years parent training series will start on January 30 at the First Presbyterian Church in El Dorado. Audra and Jamie will be teaching it. The series lasts for 12 sessions. Free Child Care (staffed by EduCare) and free family meal (cooked by Tresa Garcia) will be offered.
  - Upcoming trainings for child care providers & families:
    - January 24 – Mandated Reporting – 6:30 to 8:30 pm at EduCare
    - February 4 – Safe Slumer – 9:00 to 11:00 am at Butler County Health Department.
    - February 18 – CPR/AED – 8:00 am to Noon at BCC Welcome Center.
    - February 18 – Pediatric First Aid – 1:00 to 4:00 pm at BCC Welcome Center.
  - To register for ANY of the above trainings, contact Audra at 320.1342 or akenneson@rui.org.
- Darla Carter – The two role playing experiences they offer through the Safehouse have gone well in presentations: Dating Violence & Team Sex Assault. They are planning on implementing them in the high school and middle school in El Dorado. They’d like to look at having them in other districts as well.
- Kris Nicholson – A decrease in staff at Child Care Aware of Kansas which resulted in a reorganization. Kris is now the Quality Initiative Manager and oversees TEACH, WAGE\$, KQRIS Coaching and overseeing the grants. Child Care Aware of Kansas no longer will offer the BELIEF Institute.
- Jamie Downs – Changes in the Kansas register. Going through training in February and March and MUST have all changes begun by May. They are doing the surveys electronically. The public portal is coming. The next two weeks at the Health Department, they will be laying new carpet and tile!

**Guest Presenter:**

Susan Gardner – Bethlehem House: Susan was unable to attend today.

**Bright Beginnings Semi-Annual Update – Susan Harsh**

Susan continues to need community-wide numbers of screenings done on children Birth – 3 years of age. If you do any screenings (mental health, hearing, vision, etc) if you turn the number in to Susan she can send it in on our community-based report. With the numbers turned in to her for the 2011 included in what Rainbows did, there were 919 screenings provided (up 300 from previous year). Bright Beginnings served 184 children in 2011 (up about 20 from 2010). They served 140 in the last six months. For more information about Bright Beginnings Infant/Toddler Services, or to turn in your screening numbers, please contact Susan at 320.1342 or sharsh@rui.org.

### **Smart Start & Early Childhood Block Grants – Audra**

We are funded for 2012. We put out the applications for Child Care Scholarships. We are budgeted to serve 23 children with this scholarship; we received 28 applications. A waiting list has been started. More grants (Start-Up, Grant to Existing Providers, Infant Care Supplement, and Special Needs Supplement) will be posted to the website soon. Keep your eye out at [ButlerKids.org](http://ButlerKids.org).

### **2012 Calendar:**

If you would like to sign up to present information about your agency, please see Audra. We can sign up more than one speaker per meeting. Speakers can have anywhere from 10 to 30 minutes and can utilize audio/visual equipment or sit in their chair and talk. There are no specific requirements for what must be shared. We have many new faces at our table and want to be sure they know about the partners in our task force.

### **Other:**

None

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be on **February 15, 2012** at Bradford Memorial Library (611 S. Washington; El Dorado, KS) at **11 am**. The presenter will be Becky Wolfe who will speak about Leadership Butler.

*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  
Monday, January 30, 2012