

Early Care & Education Trainer's Meeting Summary – Dec. 13, 2013

Educators Credit Union, Racine

Present: Lucy Arroyo, Cassandra Malone & Andrea Sherman, Racine County Human Services/Professional Services Group; Bev Baker and Sarah Hawks, Racine County UW-Extension; Janice Borchart, Little Saints Child Care Center; Carolyn Dame, 4C for Children; Corie Davis, 4C for Children & WI Early Childhood Collaborating Partners; Carrie Holden and Andrea Murray, WI Early Childhood Association; Nelly Martinez, Racine County UW-Extension and Children's Hospital-Community Services; Kath McGurk – WI Dept of Children and Families-Bureau of Quality Improvement; Tina Ginner Melzl – 4C for Children and Racine County UW-Extension; Carrie Scruggs, Next Generation Now; Debra Vanswol – WI Dept of Children & Families – Child Care Regional Operations

Introductions with flip chart overviews (*photos of flip chart pages on website*)

- Racine County Child Care Certification
- Department of Children and Families – Bureau of Regional Operations
- Department of Children and Families – Bureau of Quality Improvement
- WECA – Wisconsin Early Childhood Association and affiliates
- 4C for Children Inc.
- Racine County UW-Extension
- Children's Hospital – Community Services
- Next Generation Now – offering less training than last year – 2/month; Safe Sleep/Shaken Baby; SCAN-MRT (Jan. 1 Young Star will not accept) Stewards of Light; Strengthening Families; redeveloped a portfolio; art/music for children, etc. (will have if 4 have reserved)
- Little Saints

Dept of Children and Families – Bureau of Quality Improvement received Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge Grant. TEACH scholarship went out last spring, but waiting for approval to expend additional grant funding to support professional development and systems wide improvement (\$33 million multi-year grant). Funding may also be used for family engagement, data, inclusive practices, etc.

Little Saints – Wheaton Franciscan Health Care received a Pregnancy Centering grant to work with expectant mothers. Women receive prenatal care in a group setting. (Little Saints provides child care during groups.)

CCEI (Child Care Education Institute– online training (<http://www.cceionline.edu>))

Directors' Group in Racine - It is a challenge to get Racine County Early Education directors together – Janice has been attending the Region 3 administrators meetings in Waukesha. Carrie Scruggs is willing to organize Directors' meeting at NGN to explore issue of child care reimbursement rates and attendance based reimbursement. Meet bimonthly – try for a year – Carrie and Janice will connect

Community of Practice – Collaboration Coaches twice per year pull together group (cross sector) - trainers and home visitors (Pyramid, next COP meeting February – contact Corie Davis)

Coaching and Implementation Practice – attempt to reduce duplication and energies by looking more broadly at training and support. Corie will draw a picture of all of this and share with the group.

Invite Center Directors/Family Care to next year’s meeting.

Have a resource fair during Week of the Young Child – cross sector

2014 – DCF continue some Ages and Stages Questionnaire training in 2014 – follow-up training for ASQ training to put into practice (Race to the Top) for a few pilot projects for consultants to help coach/mentor. Find missing piece within training to improve implementation. Project LAUNCH – able to give questionnaires – WECA – Carrie Holden – agreement will remain in effect (Cindy Muhar is determining future possibilities)

School-age Curricular Framework for Guiding Children – Tina offers

Community Resources that may assist Early Care Providers help families

- Racine County Family Resource Directory and Quick List (produced by Racine County UW-Extension) could be added to the quarterly Early Learning Series calendar
- Racine County Family Resource Network that is led by Children’s Hospital Community Services – the group consists of organizations that work with families. It meets every 6 weeks in Racine to discuss community resources and network. It was suggested to send an introductory email to Early Care Administrators. Contact is Nelly Martinez.

Trends / Needs

Survey Conducted in November / December 2013

617 surveys distributed in Racine and Kenosha counties (included duplicates – email, DCF mailing list, UW-Extension workshop); 13% response rate

The survey results are posted online.

Discussion –

Be more specific about what age group and types of providers would benefit most from the training (i.e. age of children, for new providers versus experienced providers)

- Needs of newer generation of providers may be different from experienced providers. For example, new generation doesn’t know music for young children, finger plays, etc.
- Newer generation may lack the foundation of early education; and need to be very specific for the first two years – model it
- Long time, experienced staff – some feel the trainings offered are so basic, need to label the level of training – beginning, intermediate, advanced (child care just beginning) DAP101
- Some trainings may be appropriate for both new and experienced providers such as ASQ and portfolio
- Registry – label trainings at tier 1, 2, 3?

- Add age of children that the training targets, if appropriate
- If trainings are labelled very narrowly, trainers worry about getting enough participation / attendance. It is beneficial to broaden trainings to get good participation
- If you have a bad experience at a training, then providers tend not to try another one

Providers want trainings that are easily applicable to the classroom. How do we do this?

- Add comments from past participants such as with the ASQ, may help providers better understand the training and how the knowledge was applied to the classroom.
- Extra credit workshop to receive another registry credit (take home assignment can bring it up to a tier 3 training)

How to best accommodate the schedules of providers

- Schedule multiple trainings for one day rather than several days/evening (i.e. 6 p.m. and Saturdays) Source: 4C survey of early care providers);
- Participants like events with more trainings offered at one time
- Sunday afternoon trainings may be a possibility, based on focus groups (DCF)
- Online training - WECA has business practices and cultivating childhood wellness through gardening; Maybe a blended training that combines online training with an in-person follow-up; Learning styles are important to consider – best method to learn/get training; Transportation issues; some may take training online; those who are disciplined do very well with online training
- Trainers' needs – trainers need to know how to teach online
- Two year associate degree courses

Training Needs

- Young Star trainers – finding that providers aren't ready to take the entire series – need preliminary training / experience first
- 4Cs Survey asked about specific training that they offer – providers wanted the Young Star – Pyramid and WMELS
- WMELS – homework should be to create lesson plans for a month based on what they learned
- Hosting the Books and Blocks at NGN – hands-on, well received
- Business Ethics – when not being treated well at work – don't know the employment rules, take advantage of (part of Model Work Standards through WECA) – also come up in Milwaukee – could be a 2-3 hour training; work environment – what if no kids need care that day – what are the expectations around staying/taking leave; do program for the directors first, then do something with staff

Special Considerations – Trainings in Spanish and Transportation Challenges

- Spanish interpretation – other person will explain it; could we offer one training only in Spanish but people didn't come in Racine and Kenosha (4C); suggestion to do a training day for Spanish

language learners; MATC classes – some centers take a van to make accessible to staff; coordinate/partner in groups; need to get WMELS in Spanish; Carrie and Nelly on waitlist to be trained – need a mentor; maybe Baby Express could provide transportation for W2 families; or Head Start could help if in program; modules on dual language children – for providers to work on – modules through Collaborating Partners website

Credit Based Education / Credit for Prior Learning

- Credit-based education – more people accessing TEACH scholarships; credit based instruction with TEACH scholarship – 45 Racine County, 38 Kenosha County completing credit based instruction somewhere in state; Fall semester with TEACH scholarship at GTC = 8; Christine Spang is outreaching to engage in credit based instruction; Kath sees an increase in TEACH; encourages everyone to connect with Christine
- Credit for Prior Learning – 16 Technical Colleges in state – 13 offering; GTC not doing it yet but hopes to; Michelle Riley contact at Blackhawk Tech – on Young Star on tips and tool; WECA under TEACH link with maps; MATC offering 3 credit course; each tech college had own cost; Moraine Park Tech and Blackhawk Tech may be lower cost options.
- UW-Parkside – status of early childhood classes?
- Private colleges have in interest in offering credit based early childhood courses – Wendy Wink contact for private college
- Carthage – should be invited to next meeting
- “Young Star Training” – trainings stand-alone but not “Young Star” trainings – earn points if completed (can be YS supported, probably less support in the future – training cost will go up)
**obtain update from GTC

Training for Children with Special Needs

- Possible trainers include: Jones Hospital; autism (Nelly will ask at Children’s); Ann Farrah (at Milwaukee County); MECCA website has a training calendar;
- Is staff qualified to take the child with special needs? Have conversation to make sure staff is qualified and reasonable accommodations can be made; talk about it with the parent; 4C – it is hard to determine which child care centers take children with special needs because it is self-reporting in their database. 4C can only give the list of providers and cannot make a recommendation.

Market Information from Department of Children and Families

- 265 child care programs participating in Young Start (43 licensed family, 117 licensed group; 101 certified providers; 4 public school aged programs) – interested in training opportunities
161 at 2 star; 69 3 star; 5 at 4 star; 10 at 5 star; 19 not rated – receiving Technical Consultation - Kath is seeing improvement – 2 stars are interested in working on quality improvement

- Low income kids participating in Wisconsin Shares tend to attend higher quality programs –61% are in 3, 4, 5 star programs vs. 39% of low-income children attend 2 star programs in Racine/Kenosha counties
- Overall in state – 3, 4, 5 star ratings tend to be licensed providers more often than certified providers (83% of certified providers are at a 2 star level compared to 51% of licensed group centers); licensed groups and family homes also tend to serve more children
- Access for parents in Racine/Kenosha – special needs a challenge especially over age 12; Western Racine County infant rooms empty; W2 – Burlington case worker not finding as much care available – are they connecting with 4C?

Contact for Mandated Reporter Training in Racine County

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 Supervisor – Child Protective Services Unit
 Youth and Family Division
 1717 Taylor Ave.
 Racine, WI 53403
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Evaluation

Participants were asked what were the positive outcomes accomplished during the meeting and what changes may need to be made as a result of the meeting.

Positive	Changes
The visuals of the organizational overviews were helpful	Connect with Gateway Technical College
The meeting helped to reacquaint and to refresh	Connect with all higher education partners
It was good to be updated on what is new in Racine County	This meeting should be held more often
I am leaving with information and can go back and “do”	Move this meeting earlier to November or early-December
It is good to see the local and state perspective	Create a picture of where we are crossing over (i.e. ASQ training (beginner / intermediate / advanced)
The provider survey was helpful	Include family providers in the meeting
Data sharing is helpful	Compile and share a list of 2014 trainings that are planned
It is good that the county certifiers attended	

Possible topics for next meeting from meeting notes:

- Generations of workers – implications and training needs
- Teaching online – key principles to use effectively
- Next year’s plan for training – include higher education institutions
- Race to the Top - update

- Child Care Directories – status of meetings/plans
- Young Star Ratings – update on 2 star providers moving to a higher rating