

**Chicago Department of Children and Youth Services  
Children Services Division  
Education Advisory Committee  
June 18, 2008  
Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Greta Towers, Healing Temple	Kim Cothran, Chicago Commons
Merima Pehlivanovic , St. Augustine College	Laura Young, CYS
Deb Zapalik, CYS	Jackie Jordan, Trinity Resources
Deborah Jaye, BGCC	Ms. Carpenter, Centers for New Horizons
Ernestine Carr-Thomas, Salvation Army	Elysia Aufmuth, CCEE
Rosie Macias, El Valor	Danielle James, Salvation Army
Stephania Koliarakis, Howard Area	Sandra Gonzalez, CYS
Barbara O'Laughlin, CCEE	Amy Labb, Albany Park
Tameka Gavin, Easter Seals	Jody Anderson, CYS
Tamara Carter, Hull House	Florence Ekoi, Easter Seals
Jacinta Passamentt, CYS	Lucille Taylor, CYS
Isolda Davila, CYS	Pat Jackson, North Avenue
Deborah E. Walder, South Shore UMCC	Carrie Clark, CYS
Luther Hinton, Douglass Tubman	Margaret G. Jordan, CYS
Mary Kaleta, Harold Washington	Dorothy Coleman, City Colleges
Camille Gant, Westside Holistic	Maria Gonzalez, CYS
Kimberly Harmon, Westside Holistic	Anya Robinson, CYS
Derbert Plaza, Catholic Charities	Sonja Anthony, North Avenue
Denise Jordan, CYS	Evelyn Richardson, Henry Booth House

**I. Welcome and Introductions:**

Members of the Education Advisory Committee were welcomed by Co-Chair Derbert Plaza and Co-Chair Denise Jordan. Committee members were asked to introduce themselves and to review last month's minutes in preparation for approval/disapproval. There were no corrections recommended; a motion to approve the minutes was made by Jacqueline Jordan, Trinity Resources Unlimited and seconded by Greta Towers, Healing Temple.

**II. Identification of Note Taker:**

Isolda Davila, CYS Support Services Coordinator was identified as the note taker for the meeting.

**III. Administrative Update:**

Denise Jordan acknowledged the hard work of delegate agency staff over the past months in preparation for the Federal Review.

In celebrating the completion of the Federal Review, CYS will host a day of recognition for all Head Start delegate and partner agency staff and their families. CYS recognizes the hard work that was put into the review effort and would like to share the results. The day of recognition is scheduled for Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup> and will be held in the CYS parking lot. There will be refreshments and entertainment; an announcement will be posted on COPA.

CYS will initiate a process for adding new grantee partner agencies utilizing the RFP (Request For Proposal) format. An orientation will be scheduled in July for agencies interested in becoming a partner. Selected agencies will be notified in August and a possible start up time could be in September or October.

CYS Summer planning sessions for all Head Start component areas will take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week in July. Delegate agency staff interested in participating should contact your CYS Support Service Coordinator.

CYS received a five million dollar grant to provide summer programming and additional summer jobs for teen-agers 16 years old and older for a period of six weeks.. The State of Illinois awarded the money to the City to develop or extend services to children in an effort to keep them and older teens off the street and out of danger. CYS is looking to provide an opportunity for children between the ages of 6-12 to attend a full day summer day camp program. The program focus will be delivered using a "PEACE" curriculum. This initiative is on a fast track and agencies located in the designated areas should respond as soon as possible.

#### **IV. Early Head Start:**

Training on the Creative Curriculum for Infants Toddlers and Two's will take place July 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and continue October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will also be a CYS training for Infant and Toddler teachers at Marcy-Newberry – Fosco Park on June 19<sup>th</sup> - Guiding Learning for Infants and Toddlers. Registration for the training events are posted on COPA and is targeted for administrators, education/network coordinators, and site managers. Agencies will receive a Creative Curriculum book and a tool kit. On July 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup> a training on the Family Child Care Rating Scale (FCCRS) and Business Administration Scale (BAS) will take place at National Louis University located at 122 S. Michigan.

#### **V. School-Age:**

The School Age Committee held its last meeting in May. The Committee will not meet during the months of June and July. Training sessions at Hartgrove Hospital may resume in August.

#### **VI. Training:**

- Creative Curriculum.net June 27<sup>th</sup>, August 29<sup>th</sup>, September 26<sup>th</sup>, and October 24<sup>th</sup>
- Creative Curriculum.net for program administrators will be held on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>
- Family Child Care training for Network Coordinators will be July 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>
- CYS will hold a meeting (TBD) specifically for Executive/Program Directors and Network Coordinators to get a clearer understanding of the new Family Child Care Rule.
- Cluster training sessions will begin in September
- Training sessions for new education managers will be planned
- Teacher cluster trainings will continue to be scheduled

### **VIII. Federal Review:**

There were several issues that were brought to the attention of CYS and stood out as an area for potential findings. Some of these issues will be incorporated in the CYS 2009 training plan for the next program year:

- group sizes (Head Start and Early Head Start)
- safe environments (including playgrounds and first aid kits)
- teacher qualifications (Head Start and Early Head Start)
- ongoing monitoring and record-keeping
- dropping children from Early Head Start

Delegate agencies, Hull House, Westside Holistic, Chicago City Colleges and Catholic Charities gave comments on their experiences with the federal reviewers when they were visited. Albany Park related how they agency was all prepared, waiting and the reviewers never showed up! Committee members acknowledged the hard work and support received from CYS staff.

### **Announcements:**

- Tamara Carter, Hull House, completed a second Masters Degree in Early Childhood Education with a Type 04 certification
- Paulette Mercurius, Catherine Wiggins and Denise Jordan completed the Infant Mental Health post-masters degree certificate program at Erikson Institute.

Next meeting will take place September 17, 2008.