

KANSAS EARLY CHILDHOOD RECOMMENDATIONS PANEL

Monthly Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 24, 2023



Visit the [Children's Cabinet website](#) for meeting materials and the [YouTube recording](#).

Members Present

Nichelle Adams, DCF
Jennifer Adhima, Kansas Head Start Association
Marites Altuna, Kansas State Schools for the Deaf & Blind
Brenda Bandy, Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition
Emily Barnes, Barnes Childcare
Tiffany Bartley, KCSL
Beth Blubaugh, KAIMH (presenter)
Megan Brohaugh
Tanya Bulluck, Child Start
Eldonna Chesnut, Johnson County CCL
Kelly Davydov, Child Care Aware of Kansas
Jarvis Doleman, KDHE
Tabitha Ewing,
Jennifer Forker, Hutchinson Community College
Asiya Foster, MARC
Jennifer Francois, Kansas Institute of Early Childhood Education
Amy Gottschamer, Googols of Learning
Crystal Henry, Family Conservancy
Callie Hoffman, Kansas Parents as Teachers Association
Caroline Ireland, DCF (presenter)
Clayton Jarrard, KU-CPPR
Lisa Jeanneret, DCF
Kim Kennedy, DCF-HSCO

Dominique Lewis
Chavis Lickvar Armstrong, KU-CPPR
David Lindeman, University of Kansas Life Span Institute at Parsons
Malissa Martin, CIS of Mid-America
Natalie McClane, KSDE
Lucas Neece, KCCTF (presenter)
Pam Noble, KCSL
Lindsay Orion, KU-CPPR
Stephanie Parks, KU Special Education
Patty Peschel, KCCTO
Bethany Samuel, DCF
Dannah Schatz, Russell Child Development Center
Lisa Schmidt, Women's Community Y
Megan Smith, KSDCF
Logan Stenseng, Zero to Thrive Kansas Coalition
Cornelia Stevens, TOP Early Learning Center
Tara Taylor, Head Start and Local Education Agency
Ly Tran, DCF
Marie Treichel, KAIMH (presenter)
Tricia Waggoner, KDHE
Hannah White, KSDE
Reva Wywadis, Child Care Aware of Eastern Kansas

Minutes

Welcome

Cornelia Stevens called the meeting to order with a quorum present, described processes for a remote meeting, and directed participants to the [Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund website](#) for meeting materials.

Meeting Agenda

Hannah White moved to approve the March agenda and Brenda Bandy seconded, with a unanimous vote to approve the agenda as presented.

January, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Marites Altuna moved to approve the January minutes and Natalie McClane seconded, with a unanimous vote to approve the minutes as presented.

Kansans' Open Forum - Written and Verbal Comments

Kansans are encouraged to submit comments through the [Kansans' Open Forum Comment Form](#) by 5:00pm the day prior to each Panel meeting to share written comments or to sign up to share verbal comments with the Panel during this portion of the meeting.

No comments submitted.

Child Care Capacity Accelerator Grant

Cornelia introduced Lucas Neece from the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund to present on the [Child Care Capacity Accelerator Grant](#). This grant opportunity opened about two weeks ago and it has a deadline of May 15th.

The Child Care Capacity Accelerator Grant's purpose is to support community-based applicants to build or make capital improvements that create additional licensed child care seats that align with health and safety requirements and address systemic challenges to sustaining those child care seats. With intended outcomes that include:

- Increased number of licensed child care facilities
- Increased recruitment and retention of child care providers
- Increased number of licensed child care seats
- Improved community ratio of licensed child care workers

Informational webinars being held on:

- Friday, March 31st from 1-2pm
- Thursday, April 6th From 1-2pm

CCL Regulatory Review Update

Cornelia introduced Jarvis Doleman with KDHE to discuss the Child Care Licensing Regulatory Review Update.

KDHE is in the process of reviewing all statutes and regulations, currently holding two-hour meetings twice a week. Through the Children's Cabinet, DCF, and KSDE they were able to get funding to support this review at an additional capacity. The scope of the review is grounded in Lexi's Law legislation, meeting the federal guidelines of the Child Care Development Block Grant reauthorization, looking at state and national fire codes, staying within national health and safety standards, and comparing ourselves to neighboring states. KDHE should complete the 3-phase Child Care Licensing Regulatory Review by the end of the 2023.

2023 Early Childhood Governance Summit Recap

Cornelia gave a quick overview of the Early Childhood Governance Summit that was held during the February meeting. The purpose was to bring early childhood governance groups together to discuss opportunities for how we can work together to best accomplish goals for the All In For Kansas Kids Strategic plan, share and celebrate progress, and discuss goals for 2023. 13 groups shared information about the programs and services they provide to children's and families across the state. The livestream is available to watch on the [Children's Cabinet YouTube channel](#).

Tactic Work Group Orientation

Cornelia, Lindsay, and Chavis gave an overview of the new tactic work group structure. The overall goal of these work groups is to develop recommendations to implement tactics from the AIFKK Strategic Plan. Tactic work groups will meet separately at the end of every Panel meeting for the next three months (additional time may be scheduled by the group as needed) to work towards these goals/outcomes and will report back at the beginning of the following month's meeting. The Panel is asking for each group's outcomes/next steps no later than the June 16th Panel meeting. Each member of the Panel should have already been assigned to a work group, if not please join what speaks to you. The work groups include the following tactics:

- Strategy 4.2: Promote family-friendly workplaces throughout the public and private sectors.
- Tactic 6.1.1: Develop recommendations to increase compensation and benefits for early childhood care and education professionals.
- Tactic 6.1.5: Document and address recruitment and retention challenges (includes all early childhood care and education professionals).
- Tactic 7.1.2: Study local zoning and homeowner associations across the state to identify laws that adversely affect the ability to operate a child care business in residential and commercial spaces.

All resource documents can be found on the [Panel SharePoint Hub](#).

Early Childhood Education Shared Resources

Cornelia introduced Caroline Ireland from DCF who discussed Early Childhood Education Shared Resources. Specifically the [ECE Resources Kansas](#) website, whose purpose is to host a plethora of resources for the ECE world all in one place for both teachers and providers alike. The website has resources broken down and categorized by topic and sub-topic:

- Engaging Families
 - Cultural Responsiveness
 - Child Development
 - Education
 - Social and Emotional
- In the Classroom
 - Assessment
 - Curriculum
 - Literacy
 - Physical Activity
- Saving Money
 - Local Vendors
 - Where to Get Started
 - Calculating Savings
 - Savings Programs
- Successful Program Management
 - Forms
 - Policies
 - Templates
 - Reducing Risks
 - Business Strategic Plans
 - Compliance and Policy
- Kansas Specific Resources

Infant Mental Health Endorsement

Cornelia introduced Marie Treichel, Lana Messner and Beth Blubaugh, who shared information on the Kansas Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (KAIMH). KAIMH is a non-profit whose mission it is to advance the field of infant and early childhood mental health through:

1. Promoting and advocating for public policies that advance the importance of social and emotional development of infants and young children.
2. Professional recognition and connection through the KAIMH Infant Mental Health Endorsement.
3. Providing educational opportunities on infant and early childhood mental health.

The endorsement for culturally sensitive, relationship-focused practice promoting infant and early childhood mental health (IMH-E) documents competency in the infant, young child-family field. It recognizes professionals who understand these concepts and apply them to their work with families. IMH-E recognizes achievement of knowledge and training, recognizes specific work with infants and toddlers and their caregivers, identifies best practice competencies at multiple levels and across disciplines, and offers a pathway for professional development in the infant, early childhood, and family field. KAIMH is in support of eight endorsement competencies, reflective supervision/consultation, and continuing capacity growth.

KAIMH's annual conference will be held April 27-28, 2023, registration still open, with keynote speakers Allie Ticktin, MA, OTD, OTR/L and George Thompson, MD.

For more information please visit the [KAIMH website](#).

Panel Updates

Cornelia asked the Panel to share any specific topics/agenda items that they would like to hear more about at future meetings by utilizing the [Agenda/Resource form](#), available on the Panel SharePoint Hub.

Applications for the 2023-2024 year will be available in April, and are due by May 5th. You can find the [Panel application](#) on the Children's Cabinet website. We encourage all of our current members to re-apply for another one year term and to please share with any others that might be interested in joining our group.

Bright Spots

- Tanya Bullock shared that an ordinance for the city of Wichita that will allow group licensing for family child care programs has passed through the commissioner and is something to be celebrated.
- Eldonna Chesnut shared that Johnson County held their Communities in Action meeting a few weeks ago and many people in attendance have expressed their interest in putting a Child Care Coalition together for the county.
- Hannah White wanted to shout out all of our members that were at the Core Competencies work day yesterday. Linda Logan and the entire work group did a fantastic job.
- Marites Altuna extended an invitation to the group to a Pre-School Open House at the Kansas State School for the Blind in Kansas City, KS on April 14th from 3-6pm. If you have any questions, email Marites.
- Dominique Lewis, of the Kansas City area, had the opportunity to participate in a Community Conference yesterday hosted by the Junior League in KC. During the conference there was a lot of interagency partnerships being made and conversations that felt hopeful for the future of child care.

Upcoming Meetings: (all via Zoom)

- Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund Meeting – Friday, April 14, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Early Childhood Recommendations Panel – Friday, April 21, 9:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:35am