



Public Engagement Minutes
January 7, 2010
2:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Capitol - Room 14

Legislative Updates

- Legislative Session starts on Monday January 11th. For legislative updates, etc, visit the Iowa General Assembly Web site <http://www.legis.state.ia.us/index.html> or you can get on the Every Child Counts mailing list via their Web site at <http://www.everychildcountsiowa.org/>.
- After recommendations were submitted to the Governor's Office by Community Empowerment (CE) in partnership with ECI, the Governor's Office will be putting a Bill together recommending CE to be moved into the Department of Education. This does not support the recommendations put forth by CE/ECI.

Day on the Hill Updates & Planning

- ECI Day on the Hill will take place on February 3rd, 2010 following the ECI Council meeting. The Council meeting will be at the Des Moines Botanical Center from 9:00 a.m. – Noon and Day on the Hill will be at the Capitol. There will be lunch offered over the lunch hour at the Botanical Center and there is a bus system set up to transport attendees to and from the Capitol. The two Child at Heart Awardees will be presented their awards at Day on the Hill and also give a brief speech.
- The group provided feedback on a draft registration form, which will be finalized and sent out early to mid next week.
- So far the food has been ordered and the buses secured. The invoice for the bus has been sent to Lois at DMACC and in the process of being paid for out of the money set aside for Day on the Hill out of the Congress budget. The food invoice will be sent to Lois after the event.

Ideas for Keeping Stakeholders Engaged

- Robin Robinson developed a document to be used throughout the month of February. The purpose of this document is to give stakeholders ideas of how to stay engaged and continue advocating for children during the month of February, especially since there will not be an ECI Congress.
- Any feedback on the document can be emailed to Jenny by next Friday. Thanks Robin for all of your work on this!

Child at Heart Award Update

- The Child at Heart Award subcommittee decided to change the award process slightly this year to include an individual from the state and the local level. The individuals will soon be contacted in regards to their award and will be asked to give a brief speech at the ECI Day on the Hill. The Child at Heart Award materials/criteria, etc will be re-visited at a future Public Engagement meeting since is a new process for the group and transitional details need to be determined.

Other updates

Early Childhood Advisory Council

- ECI is still in the process of writing the application to support the work of the Early Childhood Advisory Council. A small workgroup has been formed to work on the details of the application. If you would like to join email Gretchen ghageman@idph.state.ia.us. The goal to submit is set for March 1st, 2010.

Race to the Top

- Department of Education will be submitting the Race for the Top grant in mid-January. Approximately 15-16 states will be awarded a grant.

ECCS

- ECI will be submitting a continuation application for the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grant in May. This will be the second extension year.

Project LAUNCH

- The Iowa Department of Public Health was awarded Project LAUNCH. The focus of this grant is on healthy mental development of children ages 0-8; also focusing on prevention and promotion rather than treatment. The interventions that will be used for the project will be an expansion and enhancement of Positive Behavior Supports (PBS) and Nurse Family Partnership, which will be new. There is also a strong evaluation piece to this project.

Annual Report

- ECI will be submitting an annual report to the Governor's Office in regards to the work of the state's Early Childhood Advisory Council. This has been done in partnership with Empowerment in the past. The report will consist of an update and highlights of the broader early childhood system, the Council and the six component groups. If you have any updates you would like added to your component group's update, email Gretchen.

Other Updates

- Every Child Counts has developed and printed a new brochure entitled *Children at a Crossroads*. This brochure will be distributed to partners and legislators and at ECI Day on the Hill.