



Sac COUNTY COALITION



Decat/Community Partnerships for Protecting Children, and BVCS Early Childhood Iowa Minutes

Date: October 12, 2015 **Time:** 9:00 am - 10:00 a.m. **Location:** Sac County Law Enforcement

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Annette Koster, BVCS Early Childhood Iowa; Angie McCollough, Regional Housing Authority; Amanda Handley, New Opp.-Family Development Center; Jenny Sorensen, New Opp. –FA-Head Start; Angie Baack, New Opp. Prevention & Tobacco; Carol Bayer New Opp. – Prevention; Sarah Zach, Parent Partners; Carrie Coats, Family STEPS; Retta Mitchell, CCR&R; Jenny Ahlers, CAASA; Kim Nelsen, Sac City Public Library; Ashliegh Wiederin, New Opp. -1st Five; Mollie Scott, Decat/CPPC.

SPEAKER: Carol Bayer, New Opportunities, Family Literacy Counselor
The Family Literacy program was started with the ARRA funds stimulus package. United Way of Central Iowa in Polk and Dallas Counties have a goal for 75% of residence will be financially stable. The program is also available in Carroll, Audubon, Greene, Calhoun and Sac Counties. Referrals can be made to the program by contacting Carol at calling 712-792-9266 ext 605 or cell phone: 712-830-0836 or email: cbayer@newopp.org.

The first step in the program is to track expenses, break down receipts to see where funds are being spent. Break down expenses into reality. Carol explained that credit reports can be done three times a year (3 companies), getting the reports over time can monitor to see if credit it getting better. The program provides information to track payments, save for special events/days, and many other tips. The program is free. Able to meet in neutral locations, provider group presentations.

Discussion was held about credit scores, “cliff effect”, employers checking credit scores before hiring.

NETWORKING/PROGRAM UPDATES

Attendees:

- CAASA, Jenny Ahlers
Setting up sex abuse prevention trainings in Sac County with schools. Curriculum is research based. Will work with comprehensive services and or individual counseling and or support groups as needed.
- Child Care Resource & Referral Child Care Consultant, Retta Mitchell
Still need for child care providers in Sac County, have them call Retta M. phone number 712-660-0687. Taking SIDS information into child care environments, talking about safe sleep, using halo sacks instead of blankets, crib safety, and containers.
- Decat/CPPC, Mollie Scott
Decat allocated mentoring additional funds. Looking into an afterschool mentoring program in Sac City. AmeriCorps working on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and adding STEAM (art). Low cost items school based peer to peer activities started, referrals accepted.
- East Sac County Schools, report from Becky Halbur
Watch Dogs has 280 Dads and 85 children registered at kickoff event.
- Early Childhood Iowa, Annette Koster
Shared information Open Meeting/Open Records meeting offered by Region XII Council of Governments.
- Family STEPS, Carrie Coats
Currently have 22 families enrolled in the Family STEPS family support program. Two families discharged. Outreach to Head Start, Early ACCESS, and WIC for referrals.
Sac County offer a standalone preschool program serving 20 children ages 4 years and three years of age. Priority is given to four year olds. Some attend both Begindegarten and Head Start providing children a full-day of preschool. This year serving more three year olds. Wait list active, all families are low-income, Foster families automatically are eligible.
- Head Start, Jenny Sorenson
Housing Authority is at a month. Can call Angie or Region XII Region Housing Authority office for application 712-792-5560.
- Housing Authority, Angie McCollough
Brochure was shared on Family Self Sufficiency (FSS). Provide support to families as they become self-sufficient.

New Opportunities, Inc., Kristi Jenkins	Treatment open on Mondays, numbers are increasing. Donna Badding-Fenner will be taking over counseling.
New Opportunities, Inc., Angie Bock	Diane Berry with Iowa Partners for Success, sent a handout to share with the group. The handout is to identify services in Sac County and to assist in preventing duplication of services. Introduced herself to the group. Angie is the new Prevention Specialist. Programs working on include Girl Talk and Life Skills. Materials from Quit Line Iowa provided; Ready to quit? Landlords: Smoke costs a Fortune, and Drug in the workplace. Started LIHEAP in October, anyone with a disability/elderly. In November will be open for everyone. Income guidelines up to 175 of poverty level. Can apply through April.
Family Development Center, Amanda Handley	Holiday Christmas toy sign up. Can be on any New Opportunities Services or income eligibility. Looking for donations for 14 years of age or younger. Thanksgiving food baskets, normal sign up. Wall Lake mobile food pantry in December. Sign sheet, proof of income not needed is on the honor system. 85 children attended the Children's Health Clinic, five from around Sac County. Will be offered again next year.
1 st Five, Ashleigh Wiederin	Met with Sac County Clinics, clinic managers, currently not on board. All the clinics in Carroll are on board. McFarland holding clinics to training staff on the Ages and Stages Questionnaire and MCHART. Unity Point clinics is coming from the top seven to nine month process.
Partner Partners, Sarah Zack	Fifteen more counties in Iowa will be granted 1 st Five, announced around the 17 th . No referrals from Sac County for the program. Three out of 30 Counties served that not have a lot of DHS removals. Five children are in Foster Care. To participate in Parent Partners must have families involved with court System. Recruiting for Parent Partners, applicant must have had child/ren removed and been successful in system.
Sac City Library, Kim Nelsen	Handout provided for Christmas tree forest. Display tree at the Library during the month of December (provide own tree). December 5 th 1:00 pm hosting an open house with Santa and Mrs. Claus. The community will be invited to vote for their favorite tree, for a \$1.00 a vote. Proceeds will go toward the summer reading program. Contact knelsen@saccity.lib.ia.us or 662-7276. Kids Day Programs having Halloween event today, crafts, and fun activities. The program will be held eight or nine days throughout the year, when kids are out of school. Give the kids an opportunity and place to go. Usually partner with Sac City Recreation Center. S'mores and Storytellers event on Sunday had a good turnout.

Next meeting December 14th.