

KANSAS EARLY CHILDHOOD RECOMMENDATIONS PANEL

Monthly Meeting Minutes
Friday, September 16, 2022



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 Deaf-Blind Project/Kansas State School for the Blind
Mallory Arellano, Newman University School of Education
Brenda Bandy, Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition
Emily Barnes, Family Child Care owner/operator
Tiffany Bartley, KCSL
Tanya Bulluck, Child Start
Kelly Davydov, Child Care Aware of Kansas
Tabitha Ewing, Susanna Wesley Child Care
Jennifer Francois, Kansas Institute of Early Childhood Education
Jennifer Forker, Hutchinson Community College
Asia Foster,
Amy Gottschamer, Googols of Learning
Crystal Henry, Family Conservancy
Callie Hoffman, Kansas Parents as Teachers Association
Kim Kennedy, DCF, Kansas Head Start Collaboration
Dominique Lewis, Guidepost Montessori
David Lindeman, University of Kansas Life Span Institute at Parsons
Kelli Mark, KDHE
Malissa Martin, Community in Schools Mid-America
Amy Meek, KCCTF
Natalie McClane, KSDE
Pam Noble, KCSL
Stephanie Parks, KU Special Education
Patty Peschel, KCCTO
Dannah Schatz, Russell Child Development Center
Lisa Schmidt, Women's Community Y
Logan Stenseng, Zero to Thrive Kansas Coalition
Cornelia Stevens, TOP Early Learning Center

Tara Taylor, Head Start and Local Education Agency
Tricia Waggoner, KDHE
Jennifer Whiteford Houk, PAT Educator
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

Natalie McClane moved to approve the agenda and Pam Noble seconded, with a unanimous vote to approve the agenda as presented. To include the modification of Child Care System Cost module and not Child Care Cost Estimator.

August 13, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Eldonna Chestnut moved to approve the August minutes and Amy Meek seconded, with a unanimous vote to approve the minutes as presented.

Kansans' Open Forum - Written and Verbal Comments:

No comments submitted.

Child Care Cost Estimator Presentation

Cornelia introduces Jenny Welch-Buller with the Center for Public Partnerships & Research (KU CPPR), who gives an overview of Child Care System Cost model. She provides information about the variables that affect output such as center setting, benefits for staff, and non-personnel related expenses. Overall the tool is very helpful to show the total cost of child care at a number of different levels including the systems perspective or statewide lens.

Work on this project will continue in partnership between the University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research and Simon Workman. At this time the tool cannot be shared out to the public or to Panel members due to a non-disclosure agreement. The team at KU will continue to run scenarios with more recent Kansas data including population and capacity.

Nichelle Adams adds that DCF will be using the tool to conduct a new narrow cost analysis to be completed and look more closely at subsidy rates. DCF also hopes to use this tool to decide if subsidy rates are high enough to childcare providers to meet basic health and safety requirements. There was excitement amongst the group about subsidy rates possibly being reevaluated.

Jenny explained to the group that she is happy to work one on one with programs or entities and use the tool to create various situational outputs. She will also continue to share back to the larger Panel as appropriate.
state.

Questions about the work? Please reach out to Jenny Welch Buller, jwbuller@ku.edu

Workforce Appreciation Bonus Update

Cornelia introduces Drew Duncan, who gives an overview of bonus allocation process and work to date presented by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Drew provided an overview of the benefits of the Childcare Bonus program including increasing recruitment and retention as well as acknowledging a workforce that was hard hit by the pandemic. He advised that eligible childcare workers are able to apply for a one-time appreciation bonus of up to \$2,500. The program itself launched on July 18, 2022 and is a collaboration between the Kansas Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Kansas Department for Health and Environment (KDHE), and Child Care Aware of Kansas (CCAAs). A total of \$53 was allocated for this program and it is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

The presenter illustrated a number of requirements the childcare worker must meet in order to be considered eligible including their work status and employment history. He also went over the process of verifying their information in the child care licensing portal and emphasized that clerical errors in a user's profile may delay payment. The presenter closed the presentation by talking about some of the process issues to date including modifications that have been made to make the process more user friendly.

Common Questions & Answers can be found online at <http://www.ks.childcareaware.org/>

Technical Assistance & Support? Please reach out to CCA-KS Grant Navigators at 785-823-3343, grants@ks.childcareaware.org or chat at www.ks.childcareaware.org

Child Care Aware of Kansas Budgeting Tool

Cornelia introduces Tanya Koehn and Laura Prater with Child Care Aware of Kansas who give an overview of the budgeting tool that can be used by communities and providers to estimate startup and ongoing costs of running a childcare program.

The presentation included screen sharing the Budgeting Tool and talking through various sheets and fillable fields. The presenters showed the audience where to locate the budgeting tool on the Child Care Aware of Kansas website. They also modeled how changing one variable such as capacity will modify other fields in the sheet. Users can fill some fields while some fields are static.

Providers or interested community members can use this tool to calculate the total cost of starting a child care program. It can also be used to look at independent conditions in just one program depending on variables like staffing or capacity changing. The designers of this tool hope users are able to use this tool to increase their knowledge of running a business. This tool is available for public use on the Child Care Aware of Kansas website.

Questions? Where can we find this tool on the website? It is under ks.childcareaware.org, its available under new provider resources. There is a business administration section, and it is located there.

Questions about the work? Please reach out to 1-855-750-3343, ks.childcareaware.org, info@ks.childcareaware.org

Career Pathway Presentation

Cornelia introduces Hannah McGahey with the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust fund, who gives an update about ongoing efforts related to the childcare provider Career Pathway work including future collaboration opportunities with the Panel.

- The presentation included updates about what has changed since Panel members last saw the Career Pathway. Some of these changes were adding a pre-professional level for Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathway students at the high school level. Another modification was removing levels 8 and 9 which were masters level and PhD's respectively.
- The presenter also updated Panel members about continuing efforts by the Career Pathway Team and the Professional Development Implementation Team. She let the Panel know that there are alignment opportunities coming during various phases of the Career Pathway rollout that the Panel can assist with. Panel members were also informed of ongoing strategy sessions with systems level shareholders.
- Brief updates were also given about movement in the core competencies workgroup, the development of a career guide in partnership with Child Care Aware of Kansas, and alignment efforts with the registry development.

Emily Barnes is excited to see the evolution of this and being involved in the conversation. Excited to see how this is developing and thank you for all your hard work!

Questions about the work? Please reach out to Hannah McGahey, hmcgahey@ksde.org

Updates:

Child Care Licensing Feedback Requested:

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Child Care licensing is proposing amendments to K.A.R. 28-4-114, Application, licensee

Written comments encouraged and accepted until October 28, 2022, at 5pm

Family Voice:

Title V Community Readiness Assessment Survey

Bright Spots:

- Pam Noble shares that her crisis industry case manager let her know she received \$2,500 from family promise just as a pay it forward. She helps families in crisis find quality childcare.

- Logan Stenseng spoke about an emerging project. They submitted a grant recently through the American heart association to focus on an advocacy campaign. They brought up mentorship was important to the field and getting mentorship approved as KDHE hours. Hopes that if we do not get the grant that those ideas will live on and make ways to make those happen.
- Marites Altuna shares her agency will soon be partnering with KCSL
- Corneila Stevens shared information about parameters for Public Student Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) that may allow child care providers working in allowable settings to qualify even if they didn't before. There is a temporary expansion until October 31 to apply, you must make 10 years of payments to get the full amount of your loans forgiven.

Upcoming Meetings: (all via Zoom)

- Early Childhood Recommendations Panel meeting – Friday, October 21, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (schedule changed)
- Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund Meeting – Friday, October 7, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Early Childhood Stakeholders Group Meeting – Friday, October 7, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:46am