



# EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA MUSCATINE COUNTY

~Promoting quality beginnings

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes Nov 16th 2021 11:00-12:00

<b>Committee Members &amp; Staff:</b> P = Present    A = Absent    E=Excused		<b>Meeting:</b> Executive Committee
<b>Chair:</b> Pr. Aleese Kenitzer P		<b>Location:</b> Zoom Virtual Meeting
<b>Vice Chair:</b> Tasha Wall P	Director Whitney Howell P	
<b>Treasurer:</b> Jerri Robison P		
<b>Secretary:</b> Scott Dahlke P		
	Minutes completed by Yesenia Cruz	

**Called to Order:** The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Kenitzer at 11:08 am with introductions

### 1. Review of Consent Agenda:

- a. Meeting Agenda
- b. Oct 19th 2021 Meeting Minutes:
- c. Financials- Jerri stated that the administrative assistant was at 23%- Whitney stated that this was over the 20% allocation because of Yesenia's start date- first paycheck was a month and a half. FYI Whitney's expenses for the meetings and conferences on Nov 2-4th, exceeded what was allowable to reimburse by the State. Whitney stated that a vote would need to take place if we want to reimburse her 100%. A motion to recommend that all expenses that were not covered by state be reimbursed was made by Tasha- Scott seconded- Motion carries to present to the board.
- d. Motion to approve consent agenda- by Tasha- Scott seconded- motion carried.

**2. Association FY21 Annual Report & Legislative Priorities:** Whitney shared the annual report as well as the draft legislative agenda. The draft was actually approved so that will be the Legislative agenda for the coming session. She stated how nice it was to be able to attend the conference face to face and be able to network in person. She said that it was nice to listen to the lobbyist and hear about last year, and their plans for the coming year.

**3. Childnet 3.0 Training Incentives:** A training that child care providers are encouraged to take that will increase the quality in their childcare or child care centers. Howell stated that a lot of child care centers are rated on a QRS scale, and that in the coming year that will be transformed into what is being called IQ4K. Attending a Childnet training will get them to a level 1, and if they finish all that they can move onto the next level. The Childcare Resource Center is offering these training sessions. It is 25 hours of training. Howell stated that she wants to recommend that we put up \$700 for incentive so that the providers can attend these trainings. She wants to have a deadline of getting the training completed by the end of this fiscal year. Scott motioned to recommend that we give up to \$700 for completion of training by providers with a deadline of completion by the end of this fiscal year. Tasha Seconded- Motion carried

**4. Tony Reed with Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center - EOR & Fiscal Agent FY23:** Tony stated that Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center is owned and operated by 31 counties in Iowa. They provide 8 major services: Juvenile Detention- Fiscal services- Employable record, employment services. They provide full flexibility to the board. They provide networking as well. They would provide fiscal services. Payment of the bills, monthly reports, and audits. Tasha asked if this is on top of the administrative assistant or if it would be replaced with CIJDC. Howell stated that she believes that this could replace the



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administrative assistant. Tony explained that CIJDC would NOT replace the assistant. It would all be up to the board. Tasha asked about the visibility of ECI. Howell stated that she has not had a lot of people come in person to speak with her at the office. Jerri asked about the claims and how that would look like. Tony said that they follow State best practices, it wouldn't be too different from what is being done currently. Also said they can offer stability. Currently everyone still has questions on this and want to speak more on it before bringing it to the full board. No decision will be made today.

5. **Government Child Care Task Force Report:** Howell summarized the report: The taskforce was composed of childcare providers, businesses, economic development, city government, child care resource and referral as well as Iowa Women's Foundation. The recommendations that they have specifically to help providers: Develop a shared service model allowing child care providers to access a statewide web based partnership platform for support on various business operations, Child care stabilization grants \$220 Million ARPA Funds, and create fire and safety code requirements- creating consistency and transparency in fire and safety codes. Specific support for business: create a "best place for working parents designation" starting in January, Business Coordination, business slots & investment credits, Property Tax Parity & Vacant School Rehabilitation, Sales and Use Tax Exemption- \$10 million. Support for families: Child care assistance update- effective Nov 1st, DHS increased the number of monthly absence days for CCA from 4 to 6- these supports end Sept 2023. Expand early learning opportunities by blending child care and preschool options. Child care enrollment hub, Develop a central online hub for parents to quickly and easily find information regarding child care facilities, openings, and enrollment. Investing in the Child Care Workforce: Workforce Education Compensation- Continue to support child care workforce programs and leverage new opportunities to fill the gap for individuals interested in pursuing the child care profession.- Ratio Requirements: Re-examine staffing restrictions and child staff ratios to determine whether regulatory changes should be made.
6. **Open Forum:**
7. **Next scheduled meeting: December 14th, 2021, 11:30 am at TBD**
8. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Tasha and seconded by Scott- Motion carried