

**MINUTES of the  
Child Care Advisory  
Committee  
April 13, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The WebEx hosted meeting of the Child Care Advisory Committee was called to order at 10am. Copies of the agenda were emailed in advance to the Committee Members and posted on the Child Care Licensing website. Matthew Hayden, DHHS Public Health, Program Manager, Children's Services Licensing, placed a link to the Open Meetings Act in the Webex chat box and a physical copy was placed at room entrance.

**ROLL CALL**

The following Advisory Committee members were present to answer roll call:

- Penny Gerking
- Sabrina Glynn
- Denita Julius
- Stoney Straatman
- Erin Branch
- Michele Lawson
- Christopher Dean
- Adela Yanez
- Sandra Kosierowski
- Lisset Christina
- Stephanie Dowding
- Kimberly Ricker
- Adriana Chavez

The following Advisory Committee members were absent: Thelma Sims, Holly Hill, and Jean Venne. The following staff members from the Department were also present during all or part of the meeting:

- Lindsay Braddock, DHHS Public Health, Administrator- Occupational Licensure
- Nicole Vint, DHHS Administrator I, Office of Economic Assistance
- Amy Blinston, DHHS Public Health, Program Specialist, Children's Services Licensing
- Matthew Hayden, DHHS Public Health, Program Manager Children's Services Licensing

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Kimberly Ricker made the motion, seconded by Denita Julius, to adopt the agenda for the April 13, 2024, Child Care Advisory Meeting.

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES** with 1 change; Michelle needs to have 1 "L" and not 2.

**MOTION:** Kimberly Ricker made the motion, seconded by Sabrina Glynn, to adopt the agenda for the April 13, 2024, Child Care Advisory Meeting.

**OPEN SESSION DISCUSSION**

1. Criminal Background Check update.

Verificación de antecedentes penales

Amy Blinston and Matt Hayden provided updates on the following:

- Fingerprint data slides were presented. Committee Members asked questions as the information was presented. Data reflects the BUSINESS days the process takes for NEW prospective staff. The number of

These minutes have not been approved by  
the Child Care Advisory Committee.  
Translation will be completed after the  
minutes are approved.

new applications, criminal history record information received from NSP and requests for eligibility to be re-issued or sent to a new child care.

- DHHS has continued to improve the fingerprinting background check process, including:
    - Provided a flyer to be distributed by Nebraska State Patrol and other law enforcement entities to persons getting printed for childcare. The flyers provide links and education regarding all steps required to complete the fingerprinting background check process.
    - An email reply system that confirms to an applicant when their fingerprinting background check has been received has been implemented.
    - Nicole Vint updated information about the Live-scan fingerprinting devices which would allow DHHS to provide better access to fingerprinting services for more sparsely populated parts of the state.
    - The fee waiver for fingerprinting is currently through April 30, 2024. A further extension to the fee waiver has been proposed with approval pending.
  - Renewal of fingerprinting background checks begins October 1, 2024. Planning for the 5 year renewals has begun, including:
    - Further information will be provided to child care licensees in the coming months. Staff will receive a renewal notice 90 days ahead of their renewal date.
    - Committee members asked how the renewals effect NEW staff in child care. They expressed concerned that adding renewals could slow the process down.
2. CCDF Subsidy Policy and Grant Opportunities Updates – Nicole Vint  
Actualizaciones de la Política de Subsidios y Oportunidades de Subsidios del CCDF
- Updates were given to the group regarding the grant process related to covid funding
  - The 2025-2027 State Plan for the Child Care Development Grant document was distributed. A section-by-section outline was presented.
  - Some changes were made with the CCDF Final Rule, including:
    - Reduce family co-pay
    - Pre-payment to the child care provider
    - Authorize by enrollment not attendance
    - Use grants and contracts for direct services, at minimum for children in underserved geographic areas, infants and toddlers, and children with disabilities.
    - 12-month eligibility for newly added children
3. Legislative Update- Matt Hayden
- LB874 was presented and discussion occurred about the new statutes; DHHS discussed they were finalized on 4/11/24 and DHHS will be working to establish how the new statute will be implemented
4. Discussion on rules for adding and removing Advisory Committee members
- 2 absences each year will be reviewed by the committee
  - Expected to RSVP by accepting the invite sent associated with the Webex
  - Vote commenced to remove 3 members not participating; DHHS will send the removal letters; Kim 1<sup>st</sup> and Sabrina- 2<sup>nd</sup>
5. Discussion and Vote on Date of Next Meeting
- July 16<sup>th</sup>- 7-9pm- Penny- 1st and Denita- 2nd
  - October 5<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm- Denita- 1<sup>st</sup> and Michele- 2nd

## **CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT**

### **MOTION:**

6. Adjournment- Erin- 1st and Denita-2nd

