MINUTES of the Child Care Advisory Committee October 5, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Child Care Advisory Committee, held at the Holiday Inn Kearney Conference Center, Ballroom 2, Kearney, Nebraska, 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 physical copy at the 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

- Christopher Dean
- Adela Yanez
- Sandra Kosierowski
- Lisset Christian
- Adriana Chavez

The following Advisory Committee members were absent: Stephanie Dowding, Kimberly Ricker, and Michele Lawson. The following staff members from the Department were also present during all or part of the meeting:

- Lindsy Braddock, DHHS Public Health, Administrator- Occupational Licensure
- Amy Redden, Program Specialist, Office of Economic Assistance
- Rita Krusemark, 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: The Committee voted 10-0 with 3 absent to adopt the agenda for the October 5, 2024, Child Care Advisory Meeting.

OPEN SESSION DISCUSSION

- 1. Criminal Background Check update.
 - Lindsy Braddock provided updates on the following:
 - Fingerprint data was presented. For the month of September, Children's Services Licensing processed 1055 applications, received 842 CHRI results, and average 6 business days to process a full background check. 98% of applications were processed in less the 45 days.
 - A joint Public Health and Office of Economic Assistance LiveScan project was announced, which would provide more location options for getting fingerprints done besides Nebraska State Patrol offices.
 - 5-year background check renewals started for child care staff on October 1, 2024, with the expectation that the volume of renewals would increase starting in March 2025. Renewal notices will be sent to child care staff whose 5-year eligibility is ending. Notices are mailed out 90 days ahead of expiration of eligibility.

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

- Committee Members asked questions as the information was presented and discussed continuing ways to improve processing times and communication between licensing staff and child care providers.
- 2. CCDF Subsidy Policy and Grant Opportunities Updates Amy Redden
 - All ARPA funds were spent by the deadline of 9/30/2024. There are no remaining pandemic funds.
 - As previously shared, there are new federal requirements:
 - a. Prospective pay paying providers the first of the month for the month. (i.e., paying October 1 for care to be provided the month of October)
 - b. Pay enrollment vs. attendance
 - c. Use contracts to hold spots for infant/toddlers, children with special needs, and children in underserved area.

DHHS is actively in the planning stages to implement these requirements. The Department is currently working under the 2-year waiver, which allows time for system and regulatory changes.

- Title 392 Child Care Subsidy is opening up to make changes to incorporate the new federal rule. Any suggestion can be sent to Nicole Vint and will be taken into consideration when updating regulations.
- 3. Subcommittee Updates
 - Subcommittee members provided updates and discussed regulation revisions and efforts to establish a child care staff temp./substitute pool for providers.
- 4. Discussion and Vote on Date of Next Meeting

Committee voted 10-0 to schedule the next meetings for the following dates and times:

- WebEx, Tuesday, January 28, 2024, 6:30 8:30PM
- In Person, Saturday, April 12, 2025, 10AM 2PM

CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Adjournment- Sabrina Glynn-1st and Denita Julius-2nd