



Full Council Meeting  
January 14, 2010  
Lawrence Public Library  
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Present: Dena Bracciano, Janene Snyder, Erin Taylor, Lindsey Sola, Robyn Elder, Jamie Gabriel, Gayle Anderson, Aña Williams, Rebecca Gaut, Pennie Dubisar-Cross, Penny Schau, Elaine McCullough, Rusty Schnur-Shelton.

**I. Welcome and Introductions/Agency Updates**

- Robyn Elder and Lindsey Sola, Baldwin Parents as Teachers, told of receiving Success by 6 funding. They are now able to continue to see 3-5 year olds who were in the 0-3 program. There are two visits per semester for 3-5 yr. olds and Friday playgroups available. The new building will resume construction when weather permits. It will be housing the 4 year old program, preschool, K-1 , 2, and Parents as Teachers.
- Penny Schau, SRS, said the Healthwave poverty level was raised, allowing more applications to be accepted. With the increase in applications, the waiting period to hear anything will increase. The LIEAP program (supplement for heating) will be receiving applications after January 18<sup>th</sup>. Applications are received online or applicants can pick up forms in the SRS office and mail.
- Peggy Dubisar-Cross, Cottonwood, said there is a 5-7 year waiting list for services. The application is free and they are still encouraging people to apply. They will hear this week about the family grant and will post the outcome on their website.
- Gayle Anderson, Lawrence Parents as Teachers, shared that they are currently performing quality standard evaluations on each other by observing visits to identify strengths/weaknesses and generate new ideas. They are restructuring their lending and resource library.

Car seat safety training was discussed. Gayle offered to provide a four-hour advocacy training for early intervention providers. Used car seats must:

1. Not have been in an accident (if you cannot guarantee it, then don't use it)
2. Must have be current (not older than 6 years; expiration date is molded in the plastic underneath)
3. Must not have been recalled by the manufacture

She said that the Safe Sleep video will be shown this Friday. It is a collaborative effort between The Rotary Club, LMH, PAT, tiny-k, KDHE funding, and donations through individuals such as Tina Ferguson who ran a marathon to raise support. This video is cross-cultural and was designed by reviewing past safe sleep videos to gather the best ideas. When the video is finished, The Rotary Club will go to Walmart and hand out materials as the Safe Sleep video is running on a loop nearby. They also have magnets available.

- Gayle provided Rich Minder's, Success by 6, update. They are collaborating with Healthy Families and PAT for a focus on fatherhood. There is a daddy playgroup once a month (like MOPS) where they sometimes go on field trips (i.e., Nature Center) or have a training session. The next one is this Saturday from 10 a.m.-11 a.m. in the East Heights gymnasium.

The Conscious Fathering class starts tonight at the United Way building.

- Jamie Gabriel, tiny-k, told of providing Play Therapy information at an in-service for PAT and Healthy Families.
- Elaine McCullough, tiny-k, said the tiny-k Community Screening is February 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 5 p.m. at LMH. Parents will need to call the tiny-k office to sign up as soon as possible since there are a limited number of openings.
- Dena Bracciano, tiny-k, told of the free vision/hearing screenings tiny-k was providing on Wednesday mornings to children enrolled in their program. They are now opening it up to any of the agencies that have children needing to be tested. Just call and make an appointment with Dena or Elaine.
- Rebecca Gant, Baby Talk, told of meeting with Denise Martinek at LMH regarding meeting new parents at the hospital after delivery to celebrate the birth, teach about infant reflexes and behaviors, provide materials about reading to their baby, and ask about concerns they may have. They are hoping to catch people with red flags that might normally be missed. After the initial contact, the parents will have a phone number to call if there are any concerns that arise and will be given a follow-up call about three weeks later. They are seeking support through grants.

Dena suggested that they visit with agencies that might be referring to. Baby Talk will try to meet with every parent at the hospital, but they know that it probably isn't possible with the speed at which mothers are dismissed. They are not seeking to have home visits as this is a service already provided by other agencies.

They are also hoping to collaborate with the Lawrence Public Library to celebrate a baby's first visit to the library with a photo and materials about reading to your baby.

- Rusty Schnur-Shelton, Coordinator for USD #497 Early Childhood Special Services, said that the school district is facing budget woes with another \$500,000 needing be cut this year. They are looking at an additional 4 million in cuts next year. There is a hiring freeze. They are collaborating with PAT for screenings which have had a full attendance. Currently serving 130 children (ages 3-5), they may be adding another ½ day class (already have 4).
- Erin Taylor, Imagine Drop in Childcare, announced that the center is open and was licensed as a home day care in a commercial setting (KDHE designation). They can only serve 12 kids, 1 to 12 years of age, and soon hope to be able to care for babies. It has been open 10 days (even on snow days) and has had 1 child per day (a different child each day). They are receiving publicity: Channel 6 interviewed them on Christmas Eve, ads in paper, word of mouth and their website. In the near future, they are hoping to offer 3-6 qualified families four hours free per month and are in the process of determining what those qualifications would be. They are seeking funding through grants and are open to marketing suggestions.

Their goal is to keep it as a drop-in center and to not become a regular daycare center.

## II. **tiny-k News**

- Next Community Screening: Thurs. Feb. 18 – call to reserve a space, 5:00 – 7:15 times available
- Staff News: Aña, OT is due on Jan. 28. Hired part time replacement, Lauren Foster to fill in.
  - SLP Practicum Student this fall from KU, Whitney Sizemore
- Received incentive grant from tiny-k Foundation, \$2,318
- Renewed KELC grant for infant-toddler networks, same amount? \$9,245
- Received \$172.51 from Lawrence Give Back program! Do you need a card?
- Strategic Design: Being finished up.
- tiny-k playgroups – will discuss at staff meeting today. Interest in opening up to all 0-3's ?
- Early Learning Day in Topeka at Capitol, Feb. 4
- tiny-k day at Capitol – Mar.10

- The tiny-k Foundation newsletter, Opportunity Knocks, is available at [www.tinyk.org](http://www.tinyk.org).

**SWEETS AND SEATS** - “new” fundraiser! April 24, 2010, 7-10 pm at Steve’s Place, Childcare will be provided at location close by.

Committees are beginning to meet to do work! Sign up to help! We need you!!

Committee Meetings: Will be sent out by email.

SAVE THE DATE POSTCARDS!! Pass out or send to family and friends! Thanks!!

### III. **tiny-k Local Data**

- Currently serving 124 children with 15 in evaluation process
- 7/1/09 – 12/31/09:  
99 children referred for evaluation, 72 qualified, 11 in process, 14 did not qualify
- Referrals: 35 Dr., 2 hospital, 1 health dept., 18 parents/family/friends, 20 education/PAT/screening, 8 NICU, 14 other
- 23/30 “transition/age 3” children qualified for Part B, 17 children dismissed because age-appropriate skills
- 7/1/09 - -12/31/09 Served 204 children
- FY 09 (7/1/08 – 6/30/09) served 277 children, FY08 = 225
- FY 10 (7/1/09 – present) have served 208 children

### IV. **tiny-k Website**

- [www.douglascountytinyk.org](http://www.douglascountytinyk.org)
- Will have a “donate” button so people can make a donation through PayPal soon

### V. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** (meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues of month, 5:30 at LMH, anyone is welcome to attend)

- Governance Committee was reconvened, any participating agency representative can join

### IV. **PUBLICITY/PUBLIC AWARENESS EFFORTS –**

*Dates for future Full tiny-k E.I Council Meetings:*

April 8, 2010, July 8 2010, and Oct. 14, 2010, all at 9:00 a.m at Lawrence Public Library. *We will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. of every 3<sup>rd</sup> month.*