



EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 12, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Teleconference

Commissioners present:

Kellie Campbell
Nancy Brooks

Commissioners absent:

Marcia Merrill

Advisors present:

Jen Horowitz of Let's Grow Kids
Charlie Gliserman of Vermont Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance

Staff present:

Hannah Lane

Presiding:

Kellie Campbell

Recording: Hannah Lane

Meeting called to order 9:05 a.m.

a) Approval of Meeting Minutes

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, & MAY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Nancy moves to approve all the minutes from December through May. Kellie seconded. Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Discussion of childcare during COVID-19 and the creation of a one- or two-pager highlighting the connection between childcare and women's economic well-being.

VCW's conversations have focused on sustainability and the representation of women who work in the field, and their well-being. Lots of folks are working very hard on this. Childcare is critical to support our economy and to support working women. We're discussing the creation of a short document that highlights the economic impact childcare has on women and what's happening with childcare amidst COVID-19.

Discussion included:

How is childcare impacted by COVID-19?

The lack of childcare is a challenge for working women re-entering the workforce.

Some concerns have been circulating about the closure of the UVM childcare program. A group is forming to work on an op-ed and includes a UVM Professor and childcare advocates, Meg at VWF, VWW, VCW, LGK. They discussed the need for our work to be more intersectional.

How can we put the gender inequity front and center as we advocate for rebuilding the childcare?

When we think about putting a document together we should think about who the audience is.

In 2018, LGK and VCW published a white paper, Women, Work, and Childcare, available at https://www.letsgrowkids.org/client_media/files/pdf/WWCC%20WP%20FINAL.pdf. That paper could be updated pretty quickly. What data do we have that reflects the experience of early childhood educators? A report was released a few months ago that we could pull from that. There is a request out from the Child Development Division about childcare programs during the Stay Home Stay Safe closures. If we get that information in time, that might be helpful to pull in.

Our work has been focused on middle- and high- income women. We need to make sure that we look at this through many lenses and how childcare impacts diverse communities.

LGK has had a good response to its survey, diverse family experiences, and from every county in the state.

Including afterschool programs is a good way to find folks with diverse xperiences/backgrounds.

Weekend care is complicated and very dependent on where you live. Open and closing times in some communities even M-F barely goes beyond work hours at a state office. Non-traditional hours of care is a big issue. Vermont is still figuring this out.

Who wants to be involved? Are there others we want to invite to work on the report? How do we balance that with the time pressure to get something out?

Nancy willing to help. The Alliance cannot serve in a leadership role but is willing to offer support. Jen may be able to have some data to share from the new survey in a week and a half, but will check with the survey conveners.

Draft a table of contents. What needs to be updated, who might be the right data source? What's missing?

Nancy & Kellie will create a document to start collaborating on. Hannah will look through the Listening Project data for childcare stories that might be relevant.

Build Stronger document - LGK and partners released a proposal to the legislature on how we can use COVID recovery funds to strengthen the early care and learning system. It might be helpful to look at this document as we think about how to frame the updates.

c) Updates

Charlie shared the recording of VECCA proposals regarding what to do with the COVID-19 Relief Fund Meeting Recording:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/ysAsDezK6nIIRdLd7Ab6Z_AjALz5eaa8g3BMrPAPmBu63ePIU-MJlxF47gMr2j1r

Meeting adjourned 9:45 a.m.