

Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council



KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2013, 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Offices – Room A & B
775 Ball Avenue, NE

Members/Alternates Present: Candace Cowling, Lynne Ferrell, Sandra Ghosten-Jones, Jack Greenfield, Lynn Heemstra, Joanne Hoganson, Paul Ippel, Gary Lemke, Adam London, Sharon Loughridge, Jacob Maas, Maureen Noe, Julie Ridenour, Diana Sieger, Matthew VanZetten, Patti Warmington

Members Absent: Nadia Brigham, Wayman Britt, William Forsyth, Judge Patti Gardner, Cynthia Gladyness, Kevin Konarska, Christopher Smith, Justin Swan.

Guests: Jessica Ellenbaas, Rebekah Fennell, Kathy Freberg, Kristen Gietzen, Rich Liberatore, Jodi Petersen, Jim Talen, Nancy Teat, Rachael Way.

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Lynne Ferrell opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions were done. The agenda was reviewed and accepted.

Diana Sieger made a motion to accept the minutes from the April meeting as submitted, supported by Jack Greenfield – UNANIMOUS

2. Public Comment

None.

Lynne Ferrell reported that Paul Ippel is retiring and asked Sharon Loughridge and Diana Sieger to provide some comments on behalf of the KCFCCC. Both talked about the many things Paul accomplished as Executive Director of network180, as well as part of the KCFCCC Council and Executive Committee.

Paul Ippel thanked the group for their words and provided some of his own. He talked about the changes he has seen over the last ten years in our community due to the efforts of our partnerships.

3. Wallace Grant/Data Sharing Presentation

Matthew VanZetten shared that he attended a presentation at an Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Network meeting about a data sharing process being developed in partnership with ELO and GVSU Community Research Institute (CRI). He noted that there are other systems where this could potentially be applied, and thought it would be beneficial for others to see the presentation.

Dr. Jodi Peterson, a Senior Researcher from CRI introduced herself and gave a little of her background. She is the primary investigator for the ELO Network evaluation, as well as the KSSN Evaluation and the

Greater Grand Rapids Community Survey. This work being shown today originates through a Wallace Foundation grant. The grant is process-oriented with a goal to develop a system to get manageable and quality data across networks of Out of School Time Providers. Jodi said this will become a pilot for the ELO, adding this could make sense for use with Collective Impact as well.

First, ELO Stakeholders were identified as:

- Funders
- Programs
- Schools
- Parents
- Youth
- Community

Next, the goals of the ELO were identified as:

- Implement sustainability measures for long-term growth
- Implement a system of professional development and quality accountability
- Ensure all children and youth have access to quality after school programs
- Establish a data-monitoring system on access and outcomes

Jodi continued, explaining how once the data is collected, it is integrated and is available for use among partners giving them the ability to create their own reporting for their program purposes. She added this is not a promise to be everything to everyone, but the goal is for providers to get more out of it than they put into it and to show the impact across the entire network of programs.

For Collective Impact, this means you can get cross-sector patterns, showing how various programs can work together to improve outcomes for youth. It also meets providers where they are, and it is not prescriptive. Those who want to take part need to help develop a data dictionary so CRI knows what they are talking about to ensure it is interpreted correctly.

When asked the question about what age group this program would include, Jodi said initially it would pilot the Kindergarten through 8th grade, hoping to follow these kids throughout high school to graduation. Other data or systems could be added in the future as part of the survey group since it is an expandable program.

Matthew thanked Lynn Heemstra and the ELO Network for their many contributions, and their willingness to think how this work could be spread across other platforms.

4. Kent School Services Network/Pathways to Potential Update

Matthew shared there is a lot of work going on with the Kent School Services Network (KSSN) right now, connected to a State initiative – Pathways to Potential. In a recent speech by the Governor, he talked about Pathways to Potential, how this is modeled after the KSSN, and the work being done at Sibley School. The Governor's office is hoping to replicate this program on the east side of the state in Saginaw, Pontiac, Detroit and Flint. A group from various state departments (MDE, MDCH, DHS) is touring Sibley and Harrison Park schools, looking at different models and learning about our efforts.

With the State looking at our community for a potential model, this would be a good time to advocate for state resources. A group from Kent County has been meeting with the Governor's staff to discuss ways to partner with the east side of the state. There is a lot of interest in this, mainly in terms of braided funding. One outcome may be the release of a Request for Information (RFI) from non-profits and public systems to combine services at school sites across communities in a true community school model. Since the State is looking at doing this, there is hope funds may be available to help expand DHS capacity locally.

Also, the KSSN Leadership Committee is asking for a report team put together for governance of KSSN. Teresa Neal and Wayman Britt are co-chairing the committee and will be making recommendations for changes. We are at 27 schools across 8 school districts now. There will be a KSSN Leadership Meeting later in the month to propose governance changes.

There should be a full report in September.

5. **Collective Impact Update**

Lynne Ferrell shared that the presentation to the County Commissioners went well, and there was good interest on the part of the Board of Commissioners. Also, two community meetings were held at Community Research Institute (CRI), with 40 people attending each meeting.

The 501(c)3 is being put together with the help of some pro-bono legal assistance from Varnum. Staff space is being considered by co-locating with Talent2025, and an initial meeting scheduled with the Trustees on June 17. A couple of funding opportunities are underway as well.

6. **Miscellaneous**

- Sharon Loughridge attended the Harrison Park Celebration Event. She said it was very inspiring as it spoke to the issue of Community School and the Challenge Scholar Partnership at Harrison Park. She said it was a packed room with lots of parents invested. The Community School Coordinator gave a tour afterwards and it was wonderful to see the investment of the universities. There are professors and students from the universities coming and speaking to the kids and embracing the idea of Challenge Scholarship.
- Diana Sieger said a couple of years ago efforts were underway to create a college-going culture in our community. Through the efforts of the College Pathways Coordinator at Harrison Park, Gwynn Heatley, everyone connected to that school has been engaged. Great success is being realized.
- Jacob Maas announced that Karen Tolan is retiring from ACSET. Her position as Associate Director is currently posted. Please reach out to your contacts. Application is available on ACSET's website at www.acset.org.
- Sandra Ghosten-Jones mentioned that the Area Agency on Aging has moved to 3215 Eagle Crest Dr. They are all under one roof now.
- Candace Cowling asked if anyone has seen the article from the Brookings Institute on Suburban Poverty. She would like a copy. Lynne Ferrell said a copy would be sent out to everyone if it is located. <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/21/opinion/cul-de-sac-poverty.html?emc=eta1&r=0>
- Rebekah Fennell shared news about the Great Start Readiness expansion, which will take place over the next two years. There is hope to have slots for every eligible four-year-old in the state. Right now they are working with private centers and schools in preparing for this. Work is being done to organize and glean resources into the places that need help.

7. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Next Council meeting: Tuesday, September 3, 2013 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Room A & B