May 2024

Old Business:

- Week of the Young Child was well received and great participation. Over 125 people participated in the Family Friday Carnival. Great response to other nights and people wanting to participate next year. Thank you cards were available to sign at the meeting and Lindsey will laminate and deliver them to the business/person's who gave time and supplies

- For future community events for PIECE. Ellsworth Child Care Center will have an open house in August. We will talk more at the July meeting about whether people want to have different booths or maybe just one booth representing PIECE and having all of the members information available. Still trying to find an event in Ottawa County where PIECE can be represented. There is a community baby shower happening in June that could be a possibility.

Member Updates:

- Julia w/DCF: Shared "How can DCF Help You" flyers, she can email directly if interested. New online app is active for child support help and the mobile help line is still available. DCF has open positions. DCF can also conduct mandatory reporter training via a partnership with KCSL

- Rachel w/KCCTO/KITS/ITSN: wrapping up grant year. With the new grant will fully move to KState and now not connected via KU. Are expecting much of the same work for next year.

- Pat w/USD 305: updated flyer for screening clinics. Doing free training with Greenbush for social/emotional and executive function. Kindergarten round up is finished. Slightly lower #'s than last year. Head Start will have a classroom in each school starting this next school year. The numbers will stay the same at this time. The Head Start's did kindergarten visits recently to help with transitions and they went really well. Pat thanked everyone who provided additional information for the state Star Recognition. If they received it, which they feel they will, will be first school in the state to receive a silver star.

- Alicia w/CCAKS: Quality Classroom project is finishing last bit of assessments, its been a good year and some great data has been collected. For CCAKS as a whole, still looking to hire a full time Executive Director officially. Other programs are all rolling along and doing well and 2 of our programs have been approved to continue with their grants.

- Emily w/Infant and Toddler: lots of transitions happening and updating of IEP's. Just received a grant increase of $50,000 that will mostly likely be used towards some continuing education. They are fully staffed. Going through some rebranding with marketing for Salina Regional so they pop up more when people are searching for specific resources. Figuring out some things with ASQ's as they thought all clinics working with them were doing them the same but found out that isn't the case so doing some re-evaluating of what might work best.

- Tabitha w/PAT: Currently has 19 families with 35 children participating. Just finished Quality Endorsement project last month and on track to meet program goals. PAT is rebranding nationwide. By end of June will have all satisfaction surveys complete.

- Leighann w/Surveying: Senate Bill 96 didn't move forward. Hopeful that new regulations will still happen soon that should impact centers and home providers. Currently have a lot of good applications for the licensing specialist and will be doing interviews next week. Provider Appreciation event for providers in Saline, Ottawa and McPherson Counties happening at McPherson Opera house on Friday the 10th. Will have a free movie and some concessions and give aways happening.

- Ingrid KCCTO: End of grant cycle and they are refunded. Two free learning opportunities coming up. May 30th from 630-830pm Finding the Joy Within and June 27th from 630-830 will be on Rethinking Challenging Behaviors. Also have a training in Minneapolis on the 24th of this month.

- Chrisina w/ United Way: Partners applications now open. Grants awarded to 7 centers. They received ½ the funding so the centers received ½ of what they requested. Have received data from the needs survey and she is working to update the info now. Also have a now program, United Network. People can come in and receive free access to laptops to work on job applications, resumes, trainings, etc…can also print and scan all for free. Open to public Monday-Friday from 9-4, no appointment needed.

- Lindsey w/CAPS: Shared more information for Qualify Classroom and also that CAPS will be releasing parenting training for the summer soon, however will not be as many trainings since most people are busing in the summer.

Ingrid shared presentations on mental health conversations held throughout Kansas as well inclusion conversations. Great information shred and conversation had on what PIECE could do to help with both of those needs.