AGENDA

In attendance
Kathleen Merritt (Executive Director, Bright Futures)
Cathy Barber (Strong Start Program Coordinator)
John Pandolfo (Telluride School District Superintendent)
Cheryl Miller (Community Member at Large)
Lance Waring (County Commissioner)
Perri Gipner (Norwood School District Superintendent)

1:00 Welcome

1:10 Review & Approve 7.28.2020 Minutes
MILLER: MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES
WARRING SECONDS
ALL APPROVE

1:15 Telluride Foundation Collaboration Update and Next Steps
- Barber and Merritt met with Telluride Foundation last week
- Reviewed provider feedback about this potential collaboration:
  - Providers who also offer school-age programming will have to apply individually for the school-age program, but it’s a simpler application
  - Strong Start application and follow-up forms will be simpler than with Telluride Foundation
  - Strong Start application is in March, but some providers are receiving Telluride Foundation money sooner than that
    - Discussed moving up the Strong Start application process
- Admin fee will come out of Telluride Foundation operating budget and not the grant money
- Allocation of funds across the buckets will be up to Strong Start
- Discussed allowing providers to apply for financial aid money (from Telluride Foundation grant money, not Strong Start financial aid pool) as part of the QI grant
  - Let providers apply for financial aid under capacity building
- Discussed differences between Telluride Foundation financial aid funding and Strong Start financial aid program
ACTION: Barber to ask providers if they want to remain in control of financial aid scholarships (from TF grant money), or leave all financial aid decisions up to Strong Start

- Question – what percentage of the TF funding has previously been going to financial aid?
- BOCC will need to approve Strong Start/Telluride Foundation collaboration

1:45  **Strong Start Financial Aid and CCCAP Eligibility Update**

- New CCAP coordinator in SMC, Gina Sharpe
  - Got 6 families on CCAP, which has saved Strong Start $32,000 and more families are still applying
  - Many families were not aware of CCAP and/or did not know the sources of their financial aid scholarships
- Emphasis that Strong Start is here to pick up where other funding sources leave off
- Barber has been working to educate financial aid recipients
  - ACTION: Barber to distribute individualized award letters to families that outline all the sources of scholarship funding, how much child care truly costs etc.

2:15  **Strong Start COVID-19 Emergency Funding Consideration**

- Discussed $32,000 financial aid surplus from CCAP referrals
- Discussed creating a COVID-19 emergency funding pool of money in 2021
- Discussed Strong Start collaboration with Good Neighbor Fund to support lost wages if a preschool has to shut down, or if a teacher has to quarantine etc.
- ACTION: Barber to send out survey to providers to get a general estimate of what emergency needs might be – could include a dollar amount or just information about providers need, or COVID-related costs providers have incurred that are not sustainable
- Barber has been working with a 3rd party evaluator to collect data about the impacts of covid on providers to include in annual report

2:30  **Adjourned**

Sent Zoom Invites for Remaining 2020 Meetings:

**Tuesday, September 22 – ECAP to consider 2021 proposed budget**

Tuesday, October 27

Tuesday, November 17

Tuesday, December 8