Early Childhood Advisory Panel (ECAP)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6972145272?pwd=SfHAzLIkwTmcYm1PdkdzNVNLNUZ6dz09
Meeting ID: 697 214 5272
Passcode: 1
1-253-215-8782

January 26, 2021
AGENDA

1:00 Welcome

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)
April Montgomery (Program Director, Telluride Foundation)
Miriam Campana (VISTA, Bright Futures)

1:05 Review & Approve 12.8.2020 Minutes

GIPNER: MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES
WARING SECONDS
- Gipner and Pandolfo were temporarily busy and unable to approve the minutes

1:10 Bright Futures Overview

- Bright Futures serves as the ECC for San Miguel County
- Merritt used the BF brochure to demonstrate its two main designations:
  - Early Childhood Council – legislative designation
    - One of 34 ECCs across Colorado
  - BF is the ECC for Delta, Montrose, San Miguel, and San Juan counties
    - BF also has Family Resource Center designation
- Barber reminded to finish approving the 12.8.20 minutes: ALL APPROVE MINUTES FROM 12.8.20

1:15 Emergency Funding Update

- Barber gave Emergency Funding update
  - Based on applications received to date, $45,000 could be expended in 1st quarter alone.
  - There’s more need than we anticipated
- Merritt and Barber explained why every center is at the level of emergency need right now.
  - Tuition is not enough to cover their costs
PPE grants for centers have holes
- Centers having to close due to COVID yet hard costs remain. Some centers are refunding family tuition during closure times.
- Merritt and Barber urge ECAP to consider making an emergency funding investment in our centers
- Merritt communicated that there is $71,000 in Strong Start that is unappropriated-- and it wouldn’t impact reserves.
- Merritt requests ECAP to consider awarding $45,000 of unappropriated funds to centers as emergency funding. Use the (other) $45,000 that is currently in capacity building to provide emergency financial aid to families in need.
- Barber would like to offer centers direction re: allowable uses of this money
  - Biggest needs: payroll assistance, overtime for staff and directors, cleaning supplies, rent, utilities, and insurance
  - No formal follow up report is required
- Distribution of funds based on need and functional capacity

MILLER MOVES TO DISTRIBUTE $45,000 IN UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS FROM 2020 BUDGET FOR CENTERS TO BE DISTRIBUTED BASED ON FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY AS WELL AS PROVIDING EMERGENCY FUNDING FROM OUR FINANCIAL AID LINE TO FAMILIES IN NEED OF A SCHOLARSHIP BETWEEN NOW AND AUGUST 31ST
WARING SECONDS
ALL APPROVE

- Waring question - can we do this on an expedited track?
  - Barber responded Yes

1:45 Updates

- Barber announced Strong Start received an award of $150,000 from the Telluride Foundation to be awarded along with Strong Start funding in 2021
- Centers are currently filling out applications for the Strong Start annual grant cycle, closes Feb. 10th
  - Goal – To have the distribution amounts at our next ECAP meeting
    - Checks distributed by mid-March
- Primetime/Norwood District Preschool Building Issues Discussion
  - Gipner to assist with Strong Start/Norwood School District discussion re: building repairs

Strong Start Evaluation March 23

- EffectX - Evaluator to present on March 23
- EffectX also available to conduct presentation to Board of County Commissioners
  - Hoping to get on the agenda for that in April or May

Other Business

2:37 Adjourn

2021 ECAP DATES:
2/23
3/23
4/27
5/25
6/22
7/27
8/24
9/28
10/26
11/9
12/14