

Childcare Committee of the Bedford Area Resource Council

Meeting Minutes June 29, 2022

Our Mission: The Early Childhood Committee of the Bedford Area Resource Council serves as a facilitator of conversation and action focusing on identifying and meeting the Early Childhood Care and Education needs of Bedford County's families.

Our Vision: All Bedford County families will have access to quality (Early Childhood) Care and Education for their children ages 0 – 12.

1. Welcome / Introductions

Misty Jewell-Child Care Aware, Susan Prillaman – VA Cooperative Extension, Kim Gregory – CVCC, Amanda Powell -Bedford DSS Subsidy, Betty Easter – BARC Coordinator, Crystal Bailey – Family Engagement Early Head Start HumanKind, Pam Bailey – Bedford Economic Development, Denise Hutton – VA Career Works, Kara Sensenig – Smart Beginnings Roanoke Valley, Carolyn Hitchcox – Centra Bedford Emergency Department. Mary Buchanan – Centra Bedford Community Engagement

2. Centra Members

Welcome Mary Buchanan and Carolyn Hitchcox who are both on Centra's Bedford Childcare Task Force.

3. Updates from committee members

Susan Prillaman announced the return of Potpourri for Providers on September 24 from 8 – 3.

4. Andy – update on meeting with local representatives

Pam said the meeting date is Aug 6. Holly, Andy, Pam and Karen Wesley (BBCV Director) will join a zoom with Steve Newman and Kathy Byron

5. One Pager from Survey Results – who will do it, what will it include, how will we share it and with whom

Need a one-pager for Employers outlining benefits of employer-sponsored child care. Kim Gregory shared some information. Holly will begin work on this.

6. Centerfest

September 24 from 10 – 6. Cost for space. Gus

We have been given one free 10 x 10 space. Unable to bring GUS - \$\$ - Need a couple of volunteers to help plan what we will share and schedule volunteers. Is anyone willing to head this small project up?

New Business

Employers:

Pam Bailey will get with CVCC in Bedford about the use of a space to hold a meeting with Bedford employers sometime in August. We will combine resources and present information, possible have a guest speaker via Zoom – a successful businessperson who supports child care. Kim Gregory agreed to speak.

It was also suggested we request some face time at a Bedford Chamber Breakfast.

Family Day Homes

How can we encourage people to open a FDH? Create a flyer. Share with MOPS, GF women's Club, Motherhood Collective.

Amanda shared that the expanded subsidy has been extended and we need to inform families who may not realize they qualify.