

Childcare Task Force of Ellis County Meeting Agenda

April 20, 2022

Welcome Center – 2700 Vine Street

Virtual Option: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

1. Committee Member Introductions:

Amy Staab	KDHE	Childcare Licensing Surveyor
Andrea and Nick Felder	Bright Minds Academy	Providers
Angie Tetlow	Parent of potential provider	Provider
Aubrey Woolf	Early Childhood Connections	Educator
Barb Wasinger	State of Kansas	111th District Representative
Bradford Wiles	Cottonwood Extension District	Early Childhood Development
Brett Schmidt	Learning Cross Preschool	Provider
Brooke Deines	Shining Stars Preschool	Provider
Corey Burton	USD 388	Superintendent
Dacia Haselhorst	TreeTop Security	Possible provider link
David Clingan	Grow Hays	Community Advancement
Donna Hudson-Hamilton	Early Childhood Connections	Early Childhood Development
Doug Williams	Grow Hays	Community Advancement
Eddie Herrman	HaysMed	Employer
Hali Bielser	Uhlig, LLC	Parent
Jeff Pfeifer	Victoria Senior Center	Community Advancement
Jennifer Burgardt	Childcare Aware of Kansas	Community-Wide Resource
Jennifer Oborny	Hays Area Children's Center	Infant/Toddler Early Intervention
Jill Keller	KDHE	Childcare Licensing
Kaitlin Robben	Hays Medical Center	Parent
Kayla Ford	Golden Belt Cooperative	Representative
Kelly Horn	Sunshine Connections	Child and Adult Care Food Program
Laney Roths	FHSU Early Childhood	Instructor
Lisa Lane	Ameriprise Financial	Parent
Melissa Schoenberger	Kansas Dept. of Health & Environment	Field Services Supervisor
Michelle Dannels	Early Childhood Connections	Provider
Patrick McGinnis	Breathe Coffee House	Community advancement
Penny McGinnis	Tiger Tots	Provider
Rachel Gardner	University of Kansas	Research Project Coordinator
Rebekah Meyer	Childcare Aware of Kansas	Health Consultant
Sandy Jacobs	City of Hays	Mayor
Sarah Meitner	Heartland Community Foundation	Grant Resources
Sarah Wasinger	The Chamber in Hays, Kansas	Community advancement
Shae Veach	HaysMed	Employer
Shelley Scheck	Daycare	Provider
Steve Keil	DSNWK	Employer
Tasha Eichman	Nex-Tech Wireless	Parent
Tori Ruder	Ruders Rugrats Daycare	Daycare Provider

*Jeff Brull was also in attendance from the HaysMed Foundation. Kristy Younger was in attendance as a prospective child care provider for Victoria.

2. Prospective/Current Child Care Provider Meetings Review:

- Ellis Meeting: March 22nd at Ellis Public Library – Eight current providers attended.
- Hays Meeting: April 4th at the Welcome Center – Nine current providers and one new provider attended.
- Victoria Meeting: April 14th at the Elms Conference Room – One current provider and two new providers attended.

3. Child Care Appreciation for 2022

- Mason Ruder – Hays City Mayor will read official proclamation on April 28th at 6:20 p.m. at the Hays City Commission meeting (See attached proclamation)
- Scheduled/shareable Facebook post on May 6th for actual day with a Facebook post to also promote the drop in appreciation event
- 50 care packages being assembled for child care providers – notification sent to chamber members to help provide items for care packages
- Drawing for the remaining \$50 in Chamber Cheques

4. Child Care Provider Video

 [Child Care Video v5.mp4](#)

The video was debuted during child care appreciation week.

5. Previous Minute Corrections

- KDHE licenses the address and not the individual for child care providers who rent space to provide care for children. If the location of the facility changes, the provider must fill out a new application.
- The liability does not fall on the property owner, it falls on the licensee/applicant.

6. Grant Writing Update – Upcoming Deadlines

- Heartland Community Foundation grant cycle closes May 15th
- Dane G. Hansen Foundation grant cycles close the 25th of each month
- State of Kansas Community Tax Credit Program applications are due by April 30th (planning on looking at this for next year possibly)
- Should we apply for any of these grants, and what would our asks be?

The group discussed submitting a grant for marketing for child care providers, which would include a \$10,000 ask.

7. Child Care Provider Rate Through The Chamber in Hays, Kansas

- See attachment

The Chamber is offering a special rate for child care providers to join The Chamber and receive many of their benefits. The rate will be \$100 per year.

8. Survey/Questionnaire to Businesses from Child Care Aware of Kansas

Wasinger said she would be working with Burgardt to distribute a survey to chamber member businesses in the May newsletter. Wasinger said the survey would be promoted through the Monday news blasts as well. Burgardt will try to provide an update with survey totals at the May task force meeting.

9. Updates from Task Force Members

- Reno County is currently looking at doing focus groups within their communities to discuss child care. Could this be something that we should consider?

- Single parent, below poverty, ESL, Migrant, no high school diploma, and teenage parents qualify for the free lunches provided for by the state.
- Hudson-Hamilton shared that she is working with Hays High School to add a CDA program for the 2023 school year, which should help get students qualified to begin providing child care or work in centers looking for workforce.
- FHSU is working to address regulations that would allow providers to work towards a degree

10. Future Meeting Date – May 18, 2022 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

- Future agenda items: