



Location: 1130 N Eglin Pkwy, Shalimar, FL 32579

Date: 11.21.2024

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Board Approved: 2.21.25

## Program Committee Meeting Minutes

### **Program Committee Members Present:**

Kathy Curry, Representative of faith-based childcare providers – Director - Zoom  
Amy Bowles, Okaloosa County Schools – Southside Primary – Zoom  
Amanda Colwell, Okaloosa County Health Department Assistant Director  
Victoria Ebert, Private Sector - RC Hospitality - Zoom  
Kim Cox, Private Sector, United Fidelity Bank

### **Program Committee Members Absent:**

Kristen Murdy, Representative of private for-profit childcare providers - Director of Operations  
Julie Webb, Private Sector – ASHA  
Dr. Sandy Arteaga, Dean of Education & Charter School Initiatives NWFSC  
Ray Sansom, Private Sector - Radar Group – Chair  
Jeff Brown, Private Sector, Bridging Analytics

### **Coalition Staff Present:**

Dana Hodges, CEO  
Angie Strumeyer, COO  
Tawanda Brown, Education Manager  
Lori Monson, Compliance Manager  
Sharon Pierce, Eligibility/CCR&R Manager  
Deanna Hernandez, Executive Administrator

### **Public Present:**

None

- I. Call to Order – the meeting is called to order at 10:03 am
- II. Consent Agenda

Kim C. made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.  
Motion is carried by unanimous vote.

### III. New Business

#### a. Non-Compliance Policy Enforcement

Angie talks about the policy and asks for any suggestions on alternative ways to communicate the non-compliances other than email to help them stand out to the providers to ensure they are not missed. Several apps are suggested and discussed.

#### b. Workforce

Angie speaks about how the workforce affects the community. She discusses operation childcare and how it will help families. She also goes over the plan to work with the School



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District on creating a career pathway beginning in high school.

c. Enrollments Discussion

Angie discusses our focus on increasing enrollments as well as some of the efforts that have been made. She states that we are also taking steps to increase our visibility throughout the communities. She opens the floor for suggestions and discussions ensue.

d. Communication

Several communication apps are suggested and discussed.

e. VPK Registration

VPK registration begins on January 1, 2025. The Coalition will schedule VPK round-ups to motivate parents to register. They are working on making the events more inviting to encourage increased participation.

f. ECE Advisory Update

Tawanda goes over some of the key points touched on at the ECE Advisory Committee meeting that took place on October 29, 2024.

g. Conference

Ideas for the 2025 Spring conference are discussed, suggestions are requested.

h. SR PLUS

Angie explains the SR Plus program and how it differs from the regular SR program. It works as a graduated phase-out from the SR program.

IV. CEO Updates

a. VPK Designation

Angie provides an overview of the VPK designations. Dana explains the methodology that is used to determine the designations.

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Adjournment

Amanda Colwell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion is carried and the meeting adjourns at 11:50am.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Deanna Hernandez  
Executive Administrator