

The Child Care Advisory Committee held a meeting on May 18, 2015. Committee members present included Mike Connelly, Greta Shackelford, Jennifer McAtamney, Elisabeth Lawrence, and Laurie Blackwell. Carla Koch and Lucinda Burns were absent. Laurie Best, Jenise Jensen, Emily Oberheide and Sole Drumwright also attended. The following agenda items were covered:

- 1) Staff advised the Committee that there are three major program changes occurring simultaneously, as summarized:

Staffing Changes-Transition to the Recreation Department and to Independent Contractor

- Sole Drumwright has been hired as the part time Child Care Enrollment Administrator in the Recreation Department. She has been working to refine the sliding scale, and the 2015/2016 Rules and Regulations, and prepare for the upcoming enrollment/application period.
- Emily Oberheide is under contract for Administrative/Management Services and will assist Sole during the program changes and enrollment/application period, while also working on her tasks (long term funding, shared services, metrics and outcomes, increased oversight, accountability, efficiency, education and outreach)

2015/2016 Rules and Regulations

The Committee reviewed a memo dated May 14th from Laurie Best seeking input and final comments relative to the eligibility requirements for the 2015/2016 Rules and Regulations. The final Rules and Regulations will be available for families June 1. These Rules and Regulations will be reviewed annually. The 2015/2016 program incorporates:

- Asset testing-cap at \$225,000
- resident/non-resident rate adjustment
- Elimination (or increase) to the \$650 cap
- Raise family co-pay from 12-13% in order to offset cost of other changes

Sliding Scale (Process change from current Tuition Assistance Calculator)

Staff is working to change the process from the family-specific scholarship calculator to a sliding scale because it is more streamline, transparent, easier for families to use, and focuses on family co-pay as opposed to Town subsidy. The scale is still being adjusted to include a daily rate (to eliminate the free day) and to incorporate the program/formula changes discussed above. Because staff would like to test the scale before it is widely distributed, we intend to use the scale internally for the 2015/2016 application round using the actual family applications/data. This would allow us to make internal tweaks to the scales, before the awards are finalized, in the event there are unanticipated impacts to the budget, families, or Providers.

- 2) Staff also discussed the composition of the Committee. One Committee member has withdrawn. The Committee does not believe it is necessary or prudent to replace that member at this time. The Committee felt it would be best to address that vacancy in January of 2016 when other terms also expire.

The next Committee meeting will be July 8, 2015 at 3pm.