



Memo

To: Breckenridge Town Council Members
CC: Rick Holman, Shannon Haynes
From: Jennifer McAtamney
Date: 12-22-2017
Subject: 12-13-2017 Breckenridge Child Care Committee Report

The Child Care Advisory Committee held a regular meeting on December 13, 2017. Committee members present included, Erin Gigliello, Greta Shackelford, Johanna Gibbs, and Laura Amedro. Committee members Jay Homola Aaron Ness and Shelly Aleshire were unable to attend due to work conflicts. Town staff present were Jennifer McAtamney and Peter Grosshuesch.

The report for our November 8th Meeting was approved.

Final Review of RFP to Study Child Care Program

We are targeting state and national early education groups as well as town managers and program analysts to respond to our RFP. The State Office of Early Childhood has tweeted out the link to the RFP and we sent it directly to organizations like the Nation Institute for Early Education Research, Early Milestones, Colorado Kids Campaign as well as a list of Town Managers and other policy experts.

Once we receive the responses, we will assemble an interview committee to select the applicant to work with. Once an applicant is selected, we would look for the presentation to the committee and Town Council later in the spring.

As part of this discussion, we talked about John Heckman a Nobel Laureate Economist who has focused much of his recent work at the University of Chicago around investments and outcomes of quality early education. More information on his work can be found at <https://heckmanequation.org/>.

Annual Program Metrics

Jennifer has finished compiling metrics from the 2017-2018 round of Tuition Assistance Applications. The committee compiled a comprehensive list of metrics we want to measure annually. In that document we aligned 2016/17 and 2017/18 data so we can compare and contrast the information year over year. Jennifer shared this document with the committee and will post it on Dropbox so committee members can access at as needed.

Notable from that report over 51% of the families surveyed would have to leave the community if they could not afford or access care, 8.5 % would find new jobs and 30% would look for alternative care, which is often unlicensed, or in homes of friends. 138 unique businesses served in this year along with 13 independent contractors. For 2017-2018 - 60% of families accessing care in our local centers are

eligible and approved for Tuition Assistance. Families who access our tuition assistance program have lived in the community for almost 10 years on average. Jennifer will integrate this along with other program data into the Annual Report, which she will be preparing for Town Council.

Financial Practices for Non-Profits

Jennifer has made contact with Wally Ducayet who has a financial best practice class for non-profits. He has indicated he would be willing to put on this class for our partner centers and their boards. We will look to schedule this sometime in the late winter.

Standardization of Waitlist

The committee would like to see us move to a community wide wait list so we could have a more reliable method of assessing unmet needs of local families. Is there a standard set of methods and/or technologies we could ask our schools use? Could we track classroom capacity and enrollment on a monthly basis so we could see trends? There are all good questions and Jennifer and Greta will continue to work with our partners so we can get a handle on this important data point.

Needs Assessment

Molly Fitzpatrick from BBC and Jennifer had a short meeting to develop the scope of services for an update of our needs assessment. She will be sending a formal proposal after the holidays and since we have the dollars budgeted we will be able to get this kicked off early in 2018.

Invest in Teachers

This is our program that the Town Council allocated \$150,000 to support. We have worked with the schools to determine how many full time teaching slots are required at full employment. In order to distribute the money equitably across schools, dollars will be allocated based the number of full time teaching slots. (note: Administration has been removed from this total) All schools will be required to bring up their lowest teaching wages to \$15/hour. The remaining funds will be distributed among the teachers based on the needs and goals of each program. They will be adding information describing this program to monthly invoices so families are aware of the Town Council's extraordinary support for working families. In addition, the schools will be providing us short reports on how the funds were used and describing the impacts to their recruitment and retention efforts.

Committee Openings in January

We have three openings for our committee. They are one-year appointments to fulfill the roles of three members who have not been able to attend our meetings due to work commitments. In discussing the traits of desirable candidates, the committee would love to recruit a diverse membership. The committee members will look to reach out to local business owners, men and older constituents about participating on our committee in order to solicit more diverse viewpoints and input to our group.

Last year to handle the appointments Erin presented a slate of recommended appointees for Town Council to affirm. The committee recommends the same process for this year. Erin will have the slate of candidates for approval at the February 27th Town Council meeting.