



# Memo

**To:** Breckenridge Town Council Members  
**From:** Jennifer McAtamney  
**Date:** 12/27/2018  
**Subject:** December 12, 2018 Child Care Advisory Meeting Report

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The Child Care Advisory Committee held a regular meeting on December 12th, 2018. Committee members present included, Laura Amedro, Scott Perlow, Bradley Ragan, Mary Jo Zweig, and Dick Carleton. Greta Shackelford, Johanna Gibbs, Joyce Ruderman, Jay Homola, and Mary Jo Zweig had conflicts and were unable to attend. Staff from Town of Breckenridge included Jennifer McAtamney & Peter Grosshuesch.

## **APA Recommendations**

As a follow up to our October and November, meetings where we prioritized the program recommendations the group compiled a final list of program improvements to support the Town Council and Program Goals.

The following items rose to the top of that list and will be incorporated as strategies and activities to help support our overall program goals.

- Address Capacity Issues
- Competitive benefit packages for teachers
- A housing assistance program to aid and assist Recruitment
- Hire a shared Grant Writer
- Implement online calculator for families applying for assistance for 2019/20
- Track child outcomes in partnership with Summit School District
- Have Kindergarten teachers share importance and impact of early childhood education with Town Council and for our webpages

Now that these top priorities are identified staff will work integrate them into our overall program goals and develop a work plan to track the progress of each.

## **Provider Agreements**

As part of our program, we renew our Provider Agreements with our partner schools annually. In preparation for sending out our 2019 contracts, we reviewed the agreement, metrics and accountability measures that we have in place with our partner schools. The committee determined that there were no updates needed at this time.

### **2019 Committee Appointments**

We have four committee member terms that are expiring in January. We will be posting notice in the Summit Daily and on the Town's website. Interested candidates should apply by the deadline of January 9<sup>th</sup>. Interviews will be conducted January 10 – 15 with a slate of candidates to be presented to Town Council for appointment to 3-year terms.

### **Carriage House Renovations**

Work has begun on next set of renovations at the Carriage House. Plans are in place for moving and combining classrooms as this project will require some work to be done during the schools operating hours. All efforts have been made to minimize this disruption. We anticipate completion of the new classroom and renovations to be done in early 2019.

Carriage House received grant of \$12,000 from Epic Promise for the Lobby Renovation. This project will be the final phase after the Classroom expansion and renovation project the town has funded. The cost of the lobby renovation is estimated at \$50,000 and will not commence until the required funds have been secured. We are working with staff there to identify additional grant opportunities through the county and state. This phase will provide a secure and energy efficient entrance to the school as well as provide office space for staff and an ADA accessible check in area for parents.

### **Summit PreK Update**

Preparations for rolling out Tuition Credits as part of the Summit Pre-K program are in full swing. Applications will be available starting on December 17. Outreach and application nights are planned for after the holidays in order to get all eligible children enrolled by January 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Outreach & Partnership Updates**

#### **City of Chicago**

The Mayor of Chicago and Act for Children created an early childhood committee to work on the professionalization of the workforce and they have reached out to learn more about our efforts here in Breckenridge. Jennifer will be presenting to that working committee in early January.

#### **Workforce Moonshot Grant**

In our partnership planning grant with Early Childhood Options (ECO), we are going to pilot our first back off essential services position. The four centers in Breckenridge will be collaborating with ECO to build a job description for a full time human resources generalist and grant writer. This position would also be charged with looking into how we can offer competitive benefits to teachers in the field of ECE. Working with ECO, we have secured funding for this position for a full year to test it in the field. We are also working with Mathematica, the technical support organization for grant program to document our processes and determine how to measure the impacts of this new position.

#### **San Miguel County**

Jennifer presented to the Bright Future in San Miguel County. They were interested in our tuition assistance program

**Early Childhood Council – Workforce Presentation**

Lucinda Burns and I presented our work on EC Cares and the Moonshot grant to the Statewide Early Childhood Conference. They were particularly interested in our Invest in Teacher's program and EC Cares as a way to move the needle to professionalize the ECE Workforce.

**Survey Monkey Apply Case Study**

Survey Monkey has done a case study on our use of their software for our Tuition Assistance Program and how it has streamlined the application process and enabled us to collect important demographic and other pertinent data as part of our application process.