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Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

John Young
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

317 W Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

Child Care Expansion Grant Review Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, May 31, 2022

Time: 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Committee Members: Sarah Griffin, Emily Allen, Beth Oppenheimer, ~~Erika Rupp~~, Aubrie Hunt (proxy for Erika Rupp), Anna Almerico, ~~Ben Davidson~~, Caroline Merritt, ~~Steven Laing~~

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Amanda Ames

Guests: Matt Farina (Idaho Legislative Services Office), Vijay Pillai

Called to order at 10:06 a.m.

Welcome

Roll Call – Quorum Met

Review Agenda – No changes to the agenda

Review May 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Ms. Oppenheimer to approve the May 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by Ms. Allen. Motion carried.

***Child Care Expansion Grant Policy Recommendation for Council**

Ms. Secrist reviewed updates to the Child Care Expansion Grant Policy. Please see attached document

The WDC Staff was able to have their Deputy Attorney General (DAG) review the draft policy and provide feedback.

Discussion:

How will applications be weighted based on age ranges?

- Ms. Oppenheimer discusses the language in the policy around age range and communities experiencing child care gaps. She expands on the differences around the state regarding care gaps for different age groups such as infant and toddler, and after school programs. The need for infant and toddler care remains the largest need statewide.
- The Committee will be able to address this factor in the scoring rubric.

Has anyone questioned the term “employer?”

- The Workforce Development Council regularly uses “employer” rather than business or industry to expand that the programs are available to private sector, non-profits, government and education entities.
- A good example of child care centers coming up with a collaborative or co-op would be a refugee community. Maybe some clarification would be useful as there are centers that have multiple locations that could be considered a collaborative or co-op.
- Clarification needs to be added to the FAQ or the definitions.

The match requirements should be 50% and the verbiage surrounding this requirement needs to stay consistent throughout the policy.

Ms. Secrist met with the Idaho Division of Financial Management about the possibility of providing upfront costs to grantees as well as reimbursable costs. The consensus is that providing funds on a reimbursement basis is more comfortable as there is more responsibility on the grantee’s side to be invested in the project.

- The WDC might see a large number of grantees needing upfront costs covered.
- The Council meets in September. If the Committee sees a large number of requests for upfront costs, a policy change request can be brought before the Council.

Has the Committee considered requesting a center’s incident history as part of the grant application review? It is good for applicants to know if this is something that will be reviewed by the Committee.

Ms. Secrist reviewed the Child Care Grant Application match template. Please see attached document.

- Adding technical assistance could be a beneficial addition.
- The Committee should add verbiage for in-kind match to have “fair market value.”
- Does the Committee have something to address subsidizing wages for child care staff?
- Something should be added to add weight to the score of an application for recruitment and retention purposes, and the ability to prove sustainability for wages.

Motion by Ms. Oppenheimer to recommend approval of the Child Care Expansion Grant Policy with the above changes to the Full Council. Second by Ms. Allen. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.