

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

John Young
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W Jefferson Street, Boise, ID 83702

Child Care Expansion Grant Review Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, October 7, 2022

Time: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Committee Members: Sarah Griffin, Emily Allen, Beth Oppenheimer, Erika Rupp, Anna Almerico, Ben Davidson, Caroline Merritt, Renee Bade, Martin Balben (Proxy for Beth Oppenheimer), Dan Cabrera (Proxy for Renee Bade) (5)

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Amanda Ames, Paige Nielebeck, Cassandra Mansour, Rebecca Watson

Guests: Jennifer Stoneman, Tana Storybrook, Craig Gerard

Called to order at 9:02 a.m.

Welcome

Roll Call – Quorum Met

Review Agenda – No changes to the agenda

Review September 23, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Ms. Rupp to approve the September 23, 2022 Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Davidson. Motion carried.

***Child Care Expansion Grants**

Kiddie Academy

In scoring this the Committee members had some differences of opinion.

What constitutes an employer partnership? This was unclear to some members.

- For example, this applicant showed a relationship with Big Als and a letter of need from the community.
- The fliers they showed are marketing fliers and not necessarily a demonstration of relationship.
- This relationship is one of “support” but not a documented mutually beneficial partnership.

The Committee debated the wording of the “Provide high quality childcare” eligibility.

- The Committee notes that the application asks new applicants how they “will provide high quality care in Idaho” and that it does not require that they already are providing that care. This way we are not eliminating new providers.
- This wording needs to be reflected in the way we grade.

- That will require a formal change to the rubric. The Committee agrees that this is appropriate.
- The debate here was around what would qualify for exceptional and conversely for questionable scores. The Committee determined the following:
 - Exemplary: Hours served significantly exceed traditional business hours (12 or more hours in duration M – F, evening/night hours and/or weekend hours).
 - Reasonable: Somewhat exceeds traditional business hours (longer or earlier/later than traditional hours but less than 12 hours; e.g. 6:30 AM- 6 PM).
 - Questionable: Traditional business hours served (some combination of hours between 7:00AM-6:00PM).
 - Missing: Less than traditional hours (hours less than traditional hours as shown).

Kaniksu Community Health

Although the hourly rate is not clearly indicated by this applicant, the applicant reports that they will be providing clearly competitive benefits. This lifts the score in this section, but the Committee agrees that hourly pay is an important part of clear reporting from applicants.

The Committee noticed that Kaniksu Community Health Clinic’s match is 49% and not 50% match.

- Because a 50% match is an eligibility criteria piece, it will need to be addressed prior to being awarded any grant funds. Staff will follow up with the applicant to work with them.

Care House Learning Center

This application has some great information in the business plan about protective factors. The Committee was impressed with this.

This applicant clearly understands the context of running a childcare facility and the idiosyncrasies of staffing. The sustainability is clearly outlined in a believable way.

The Committee requests a clearer indication of how many childcare seats will be created with this facility. Staff will follow up with the applicant to verify.

Brella

The City of Boise will be a partner for this applicant.

This applicant did not list hourly rate in the main application but did list full benefits package and very competitive wages in their business plan. This is exceptional for the area.

This applicant did not submit a full budget but noted that they would be willing to provide more information. Staff will follow up.

The “pay for what you use” model is innovative, and the Committee agrees this is a great approach to childcare.

Boys and Girls Club Nampa

The Committee notes that this project is specifically for the club’s “tweenagers”.

These are not licensed facilities, and therefore wouldn’t be eligible for wage enhancement funding.

However, they are receiving significant federal funds in other areas and many of their applications reflect this. The Boys and Girls Club is not a traditional daycare facility and does not have the same kind of employer partnerships that some other applicants demonstrate. Despite this they have extensive employer and community relationships, and their score reflects that fact.

The Committee notes that we have not seen a lot of applications for this age range and therefore this application stands out as a unique one. Providing care for this age group is clearly meeting a need, but not the one that has been identified as the highest need in the state – birth to 5 years old.

Fiscal structure – the proposed project doesn’t appear to match the budget. The application states that St. Als will be providing nutritious snacks, which should be reflected in the budget under in-kind funds.

The Committee agreed that these are coachable issues, not deal-breakers.

Boys and Girls Club Lewis Clark Valley

This applicant looks like it has some other grant funds that they've qualified for. Age range: up to 13.

This application did not seem to evidence employer partnerships (the way the Childcare Grants Application defines them) even though they demonstrate a lot of employer collaborations.

This applicant demonstrates a significant need in their community.

The director, program lead and other positions are all delineated and it looks like only the director is going to receive benefits. This leads the committee to be concerned about turnover.

Ms. Secrist let the Committee know that Boys and Girls Club Lewis Clark Valley were a major initiator of a teaching apprenticeship initiative, and their staff seem to take a lot of ownership in this program. **

Little Me with Daycare

The Committee would like to skip this application today because they believe it will take longer to score.

Lucky Duck Preschool

The applicant states that they provide care for a wide range of ages including children over 13 with disabilities. They are one of very few applicants that offered that care.

This applicant also seemed to offer a larger window of coverage than typical: over 12 hours. This applicant surveyed their employees and received valuable feedback.

If the applicant receives this grant, which is a very large request, where is the documentation of the in-kind monies?

- The Committee notes that this application could use more information.
- Staff will come back to the question of fiscal structure at our next meeting.

Updates:

How is the survey working for the Committee?

The staff wants to make sure that we are not asking too much of the Committee but would love to provide helpful tools. Is this survey a helpful tool?

- The Committee agrees that the rubric is a valuable tool.
- The survey is not being used by everyone across the board.
- The members of the Committee appreciate the amount of logistics time the staff have been spending.
- The Committee would like to focus on the rubrics and see if increased participation could speed up our conversations.
- We can add a place for the Committee member to put their name in the survey, so staff knows who has filled out each form. It does not have to be anonymized.

Meeting adjourned at 11:09 AM