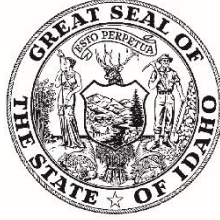


BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

John Young
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W Jefferson St, Ste 131, Boise, Idaho 83702

Child Care Expansion Grant Review Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, January 19, 2024
Time: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Location: In-Person*
514 W Jefferson St, Ste 136
Boise, ID 83702

Committee Members: Sarah Griffin, Emily Allen, Anna Almerico, Renee Bade, Martin Balben, ~~Ben Davidson~~, Lori McCann, Caroline Merritt

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Amanda Ames, Jenny Hay, Rebecca Watson

Guests: Tana and Jennifer from Storybook Cottage Oldtown, Ana and Terrance Thueson at Kreative Kids Academy in Twin Falls, Greg Feltenberger with Meridian Early Learning Academy, Ariel Olvera with Future Leaders Academy, Jon Swarthout with TRICA, Lorenzo Rodriguez-Olvera, Billi Clark with Nampa School District DBA Endeavor Academy, Crystal Hogg with University of Idaho, Colleen Braga with Boys and Girls Club of Ada County, Amber Cleveland with Wonderschool, Trista Jackson with Nampa School District DBA Endeavor Academy, Molly Beseris with Tiny Tots.

Called to order at 9:08 AM.

Welcome

Roll Call – Quorum Met

Review Agenda

Review January 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Ms. Bade to approve the January 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by Ms. McCann. Motion carried.

***Complete Scoring for Stoney Court Playcare LLC**

Updates include removing a donation in the in-kind funds and removing a van from the supplies and equipment category.

Capacity to Complete was scored by the Committee.

***Child Care Expansion Grant Award Recommendations**

Amanda Ames

Ms. Ames and Ms. Secrist reviewed the factors used to make previous awards: minimum score threshold, child care gap %, regional distribution, parental choice in provider type, minimum amount to move forward if initial request > \$500,000.00, cost per seat, and project readiness. They also reviewed the amount of funding available. The Committee opened discussion by reviewing the documentation and scoring.

Committee Discussion

Why are we having trouble getting small providers to apply for this grant?

This is why we have contracted with WonderSchool.

We did have quite a few applicants who started their application as small providers but as they developed their plan, they became large providers.

We have referred between 10 and 15 interested parties to WonderSchool to receive support.

Small Provider Discussion

Bruneau-Grand View School District and Ignite Idaho

These small providers both scored very well.

Mr. Balben motioned to approve both the small providers for their full amount:

- **Bruneau-Grand View School District for \$165,000,**
- **Ignite Idaho \$96,449.**

Second by Ms. Merritt. Motion carried.

Large Provider Discussion

The Committee considered selecting all applications that scored 23 or higher, and then sorting those by gap. They determined that they wanted to consider these applications first.

The Committee agreed that the City of New Meadows will be recommended for funding as they are the highest score and the highest gap.

The Committee found that Lincoln County also scored well and has a significant gap.

Whole Child and Lollipop Land are both region 6 and both good applications.

Above and Beyond the Classroom

Genesee Joint School District #282

University of Idaho Children's Center

Boys and Girls Club of Lewis Clark Valley

The Advocates in Region 4 work to serve the neediest in their community.

Castleford School District Wolf Pup Preschool is serving the school district.

Tiny Tots is in Malad with a gap of 47%. They will be adding 40 seats with this grant.

The Committee discussed that we are short in region 4, but we only have one remaining application in region 4 – Kreative Kids Academy. Their request is \$1.2 million.

We are currently \$155,000 over budget, if we fund these.

At roughly 10:10 AM, the Committee took a brief break to address technical difficulties.

At about 10:28 AM, the Committee reconvened, and staff shared with the guests how they had addressed the technical issues.

The Committee then began to discuss funding at lower amounts. They reviewed the replies from those applicants that felt they could move forward at less than the full requested grant amount. The Committee took those numbers into consideration.

The regions' populations were taken into consideration as well as their gap.

The Committee requested to see how it would look if we sent Whole Child LLC \$300,000.

The Committee engaged in discussion about region 3. They discussed the two highest scoring applications from region 3; the Boys and Girls Club Ada County - Kuna and Giraffe Laugh, both of whom received funding in FY23.

Nampa School District can take \$285,748 which would allow teachers to access high quality child care.

Mayra's Spanish Preschool and Daycare has made a small request.

The Boys and Girls Club – Kuna could be funded at \$609,000 which is in the middle of their reduced request range.

The Committee discussed when we will make decisions on the Small Providers. No large new providers will be added in the next few months. In May we will consider small providers, and then whatever funding we have left we can reallocate to large providers to fill in where we missed out on funding.

The Committee observed that the projects that they have identified are spread out throughout the state. Mr. Balben made it known that he has a dual interest in ABC Above and Beyond the Classroom as he is now on the school board, but he does not personally stand to gain from them receiving a grant.

Ms. Merritt made it known that she is a lobbyist for Boys and Girls Clubs, and recuses herself from scoring or voting on those applications.

Ms. Bade made it known similarly that she had an interest in Giraffe Laugh and recuses herself from that application.

The following motion was made by Ms. Bade, to recommend to the council:

- **The City of New Meadows for \$600,000**
- **Lincoln County for \$450,000**
- **Whole Child LLC (large center) for \$300,000**
- **ABC Above and Beyond the Classroom for \$72,318**
- **Lollipop Land for \$922,456**
- **The Advocates for \$455,000**
- **Tiny Tots Daycare and Preschool LLP (Malad) \$258,620**
- **Nampa School District DBA Endeavor Academy \$285,748**
- **Loly's Daycare LLC for \$400,000**
- **Kreative Kids Academy for \$644,000**
- **Castleford School District Wolf Pup Preschool for \$270,000**
- **Idaho Falls Family YMCA \$204,500**
- **Genesee Joint School District #282 for \$284,962**
- **Boys and Girls Clubs of Lewis Clark Valley for \$832,000**
- **Boys and Girls Clubs Ada County, Kuna for \$609,000**
- **Giraffe Laugh for \$750,314.40**
- **Mayra's Spanish Preschool for \$195,000**

For a total amount of \$7,533,918.40. Emily Allen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Almerico motioned to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:58 AM.