

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, April 19, 2024
Time: 9:00 -11:00 AM
Location: Zoom/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: Amanda Ames, Jenny Hay

Guests: Amber Cleveland, Wonderschool; Tiffany Ralston, Wonderschool; Darcy Heath, Wonderschool; Stephanie Potter; Laura Henning; Aubrie Hunt, Idaho Dept. Health & Welfare

Called to order at 9:02 AM.

Sarah Griffin, Chair

Welcome -
Roll Call – Quorum Met

Review Agenda

Review April 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Mr. Ben Davidson to approve the April 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes as written. Second by Mr. Martin Balben. Motion carried.

Childcare Complaint Procedures

Aubrie Hunt, Idaho
Dept. of Health &
Welfare

Ms. Hunt gave the Committee an overview of the Department of Health and Welfare's (DHW) Child Care Complaint Process.

- Complaints submitted to DHW
- Call 211
- Entered into ID Child Care Incident Tracker
- DHW staff reviews complaint
- Complaints submitted health District inspector, investigators, law enforcement

- May be referred to IdahoSTARS
- Only substantiated by visual observation or further investigation through interviews
- 6 – 10 received per week
- Inconsistencies due to differences in response by investigating agency
- Those who request the complaint history receive redacted versions of incidents
 - Both substantiated and unsubstantiated
 - Does it seem legitimate?
 - Severity is considered
 - Did provider respond appropriately?
 - Number of complaints
 - Similar and re-occurring
 - Cleanliness seems to be the most re-occurring
 - If fail to complete, a corrective action plan is put in place by DHW
 - DHW can pull license
 - DHW can terminate operation
 - corrective action plan, very regulatory
- Ms. Hunt recommends that when the Committee is reviewing the complaint history of applicants, to consider at severity, frequency, and response
- Questions and comments:
 - Providers in state are never without free resources. DHW staff is very responsive.
 - DHW staff responds to requests for assistance and resources within 2 days

Wonderschool Services to Small Providers Update

Tiffany Ralston

- 3 deliverables
 - Technical Assistance with Grant Application – since Dec. 2023
 - 170 screened
 - 178 coaching calls
 - 29 apps submitted
 - Wonderschool Academy
 - 54 started
 - 37 graduated
 - 14 enrolled
 - Continued support for 2 years
 - Additional deliverables
 - Recruitment
 - 1:1 coaching
 - Host Events
 - Statewide impact
- Provider Spotlight
 - Maria Belen Guillen Coryell
 - Located in Boise
 - Open 10 years Waldorf style
 - Current applicant
 - Bilingual
- Success is about this partnership and 1:1 coaching

- Opportunities to improve: info sessions, language guide, budget, step-by-steps, automating some processes
- What's next:
 - Cohort launch April 17
 - Recruitment
 - Support providers with grant administration
- Areas of difficulty for applicants
 - Budget spreadsheet
 - Employer partnership
- Wonderschool partnership is great, thank you!

****Small Provider Applications for Scoring***

- Our Future Society LLC
 - Completing from April 5, 2024 meeting
 - Employer partner: Advanced Heating & Cooling
 - Request \$177,100
 - 4th Quartile
 - Current slots 0, new 12
 - Cot per slot \$14,758
 - Starting wage \$10 entry \$15 experienced, market \$15
 - Benefits – childcare discount, may expand
 - Hours 5AM – 10 PM M-Sat, optional Sun.
 - Discussion:
 - Significant hours small employee count
 - Wants to connect with Amazon workers, if full 12 are extended could pose issue
 - Tuition seems low
 - Huge investment in property but also speak to moving within 1 or 2 years
 - Reached out, 3-5 year contract...moving would push out further
- Tiny Haven
 - Employer partner: Barre3
 - Request \$61,399.65
 - 4th Quartile
 - Current slots 0, new 12
 - Cost per slot \$5,116
 - Starting wage \$16, market \$15
 - Benefits – paid sick leave/ holidays, child care discount
 - Hours M-F 8 – 5
 - Discussion:
 - Partnership seems minimal at best
 - Business plan hours say 7 – 6
 - No previous experience with grants or childcare
- Jabbers Kids
 - Employer partner: Yoga 6

- Request \$180,000
- 3rd Quartile
- Current slots 0, new 12
- Cost per slot \$15,000
- Starting wage \$12, market \$15.30
- Benefits – paid sick leave, child care discount
- Hours M-F 9 – 5, to 7 optional & date nights
- Discussion:
 - Clarification – is not “existing” per definition
 - Upfront funding is possible per internal process, background check etc.
 - Partnership seems mostly marketing
 - Reference national framework for high quality care
- Janae Jorgensen - Land of the Littles
 - Employer partner: Fellows Chiropractic
 - Request \$179,999.59
 - 1st Quartile
 - Current slots 0, new 12
 - Cost per slot \$15,000
 - Starting wage \$13, market \$10.90
 - Benefits – paid time off/ holidays, child care discount, paid birthdays
 - Hours M-F 5:30 – 6:30
 - Discussion:
 - Preston is losing child care rapidly
 - Not seeing enough on quality, only intention
 - Steiner influenced curriculum
 - Concern about owner’s distance from facility and multiple businesses
 - Who is designated to operate the business, no indication of salary for manager, leadership
 - Concerns with budget, supplies cost seems high
 - Staffing may be an issue
 - No retention, incomplete considerations on budget
- Dayton Legg – My Little Explorers Child Care Center
 - Employer partner: TJs Super Service
 - Request \$179,992.56
 - 3rd Quartile
 - Current slots 0, new 12
 - Cost per slot \$15,000
 - Starting wage \$16 market \$12
 - Benefits – paid time off/ mental health, child care discount
 - Hours M-F 6 - 6
 - Discussion:
 - TJs is permanently closed
 - Help from family member
 - Application April 1st
 - Commonality with Jeremy Potter
 - As is, does not meet employer partner requirement

- Table until next meeting – Jenny will reach out to get clarification on employer partner.

The following applicants will be scored during the next CCEG.

- Jeremy Potter – Early Explorers Childcare Center
 - Partner Mountain Health Care Systems
 - Request \$180,000
 - Quartile 4
 - Current slots 0, new 12
 - Cost per slot \$15,000
 - Starting wage \$13.50, market \$15.30
 - Benefits – paid time off, prof. development, tuition assistance, child care discount
 - Hours M-Sun 7:30 - 9
 - Discussion:
- Magic Stars Spanish Preschool
- Treasure Valley Waldorf LLC
- Lilypad Childcare LLC
- Sabine Wilson – Mountain Sky Daycare

Committee Discussion

All

Unanimous consent motion to adjourn by Mr. Martin Balben. No objections.

The meeting adjourned at 10:57 AM.