

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, May 17, 2024
Time: 8:30 -11:30 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, Rebecca Watson

Guests: Laura Henning, Wildflowers Child Care; Aubrie Hunt, Idaho Department of Health & Welfare, Amber Cleveland, Wonderschool

Called to order at 8:36 AM.

Sarah Griffin, Chair

Welcome

Roll Call – quorum met

Review Agenda

Review April 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Ms. Emily Allen to approve the April 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Martin Balben. Motion carried.

***Requests for Budget Modifications for FY2023 Grantees -**

Amanda Ames

- Bright Stars
 - Scope of work (SOW) modified to include a flooring purchase and install, installation of childcare compliant side door
 - SOW to include personnel and fringe costs
- Treasure Valley YMCA
 - SOW modification to include shifting funds from construction to purchasing
 - SOW modification to include reduction in number of seats by 11

- Indoor square footage reduced to provide 2000 square footage outdoor play area
- 85 new seats versus 96. All new seats created are still well under the maximum amount per seat for the award.

Motion by Mr. Ben Davidson to approve the FY23 budget modifications as presented for both Bright Stars and Treasure Valley YMCA as presented. Second by Ms. Anna Almerico. Motion carried.

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

- Jeremy Potter – Early Explorers Childcare Center
 - Partner: Mountain Health Care Systems
 - Request \$180,000
 - 4th Quartile
 - 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:
 - Business not yet registered
 - Legal entity associated with application EIN is unclear
 - Childcare for in care patients – no security
 - No internet presence for contractor, not registered with state
 - No confidence in application, premise is good
 - Intention to serve women in care is commendable, perhaps partner with YES
 - Mountain Health Care is registered, some internet presence, appears to not be currently operating possibly in transition
 - Can not go forward at this time, concerned with safety and protocols, former issues with fraud
- Magic Stars Spanish Preschool
 - Partner: Migerik Construction LLC, Alright Bud
 - Request \$180,000
 - 3rd Quartile
 - Current slots 12, new 12
 - Cost per slot \$15,000
 - Starting wage \$12, market \$15.30
 - Benefits – one month PTO/sick, child care discount
 - Hours M-F 7-4, 4-5 post expansion
 - Discussion:
 - FY23 Award, did not move forward for family issues
 - 5 infant slots
 - Level 4 Steps to Quality
 - Additional support for application this year
 - High Quality facility
 - Owners are core staff, may not take salaries
- Treasure Valley Waldorf LLC
 - Partner: Encore Creative Center, TV Waldorf

- Request \$180,000
- 4th Quartile
- Current slots 12, new 12
- Cost per slot \$15,000
- Starting wage \$10/\$18, market \$15.30
- Benefits – paid vacation, holidays, flex time and sick days, staff development
- Hours M-F 8:30 – 4, 8:30 – 6 if needed
- Discussion:
 - Provider appears to be offering more than partner
 - Ages 1 – Pre-K
 - Good quality model, all teachers are certified
 - Hours below typical work day
- Lilypad Childcare LLC
 - Partner: Pease Family Chiropractic
 - Request \$160,000
 - 3rd Quartile
 - Current slots 0, new 12
 - Cost per slot \$13,333
 - Starting wage \$15, market \$15.30
 - Benefits – child care discount
 - Hours M-F 6 – 6, weekends if needed
 - Discussion:
 - Limited information provided on barriers and needs
 - All levels of care
 - Health and safety questions with chicken raising
 - Light on details around quality
 - Staff seems light for hours
- Sabine Wilson – Mountain Sky Daycare
 - Partner: Construction West
 - Request \$126,725
 - 4th Quartile
 - Current slots 0, new 12
 - Cost per slot \$10,824
 - Starting wage \$16, market \$14.80
 - Benefits – paid time off
 - Hours M-F 7-6
 - Discussion:
 - No clarification on monetary involvement of partner
 - Ages 3 – Pre-K
 - Interim financing, concern on funds for match, who is the partner for line of credit and is there a formal business agreement and does she have control of the property
 - Can do up to 50% upfront disbursement in increments
 - Revenue is usually inflated for year 1
 - No funds showing for upgrades or modifications

- Inmersivo Learning Systems LLC
 - Partner: Emplolink Staffing
 - Request \$146,331
 - 3rd Quartile
 - Current slots 0, new 10
 - Cost per slot \$14,633
 - Starting wage \$9, market \$12
 - Benefits – after 1 year: 2 weeks PTO, lead teacher receives sick time
 - Hours M-F 8-4
 - Discussion:
 - Partner is also owned by applicant, seems to be staffing agency
 - Hoping to assist is challenging arena, language barriers
 - Almost crosses into social services, consolidating services
 - More childcare for migrant workers in the area is needed
 - Child care is free for their employees
 - Donations in year 2 & 3 are subsidies from Emplolink
 - Will be part of ICCP
 - Bilingual
 - Steps to Quality not noted, no curriculum provided
 - Ages 2 – 12
 - Concern about how projected wage line item will cover 2 FT and 2PT employees
 - Upgrade at \$2K seems low
 - Covering director’s housing and travel costs during training months is not allowed
 - Make note and need for further discussion during scoring to review for feasible alternatives

- Wendy Mason DBA Apples and Oranges
 - Partner: Stacked Pizza Company
 - Request \$90,000
 - 4th Quartile
 - Current slots 6, new 6
 - Cost per slot \$15,000
 - Starting wage \$8, market \$15.30
 - Benefits – 2 weeks PTO, federal holidays paid, free meal
 - Hours M-F 6:30 – 4:30
 - Discussion:
 - Approved for VA subsidy
 - Infant – Age 5
 - Not currently enrolled in Steps to Quality, plans to join Nutrition Program – difficult with new program – Nutrition Works is no longer available
 - Food cost may double due to changes in nutrition program with State Dept. of Ed., difficult to participate
 - Concern about staffing with teens, does this leave her alone at any point in the day?
 - Wants to focus on infants but raises concerns on ratio compliance – age of 16 counts towards ratio but must have an adult present
 - Prior experience with business but no outside oversight

- JFT, LLC
 - Partner: BOSH General Services LLC
 - Request \$90,000
 - 4th Quartile
 - Current slots 6, new 6
 - Cost per slot \$15,000
 - Starting wage \$15, market \$15.30
 - Benefits – none
 - Hours Sat – Sun 24 hours
 - Discussion:
 - English is second language
 - Moving from Mountain Home to Boise
 - Never had children enrolled, but was permitted
 - Purchase contingent on usability and ability to get permit
 - Partner details not clear
 - Care at all levels
 - Very little quality information
 - Question about details of 24x7 care, sleeping? Safe sleep training program, protections, and assurances to parents
 - Majority of funds go to down payment, leaves questions to feasibility of completion
 - Idaho Stars but no level indicated, RISE trainings only
- Susana Becera DBA Angel Child Care
 - Partner: Tacos El Patron
 - Request \$180,000
 - 4th Quartile
 - Current slots 0, new 12
 - Cost per slot \$15,000
 - Starting wage \$14, market \$15.30
 - Benefits – paid holidays
 - Hours M-F 7:30 – 5:30
 - Discussion:
 - English is second language
 - Reference to Idaho Stars but not much detail
 - Partnership tangible but weak, very intermittent
 - Ages 2 – 13
 - Monthly cost seems low, no rent or mortgage payment using building on property
- Little Bug's Daycare Inc.
 - Partner: JKB Creatives
 - Request \$86,137
 - 4th Quartile
 - Current slots 6, new 6
 - Cost per slot \$14,356
 - Starting wage \$10, market \$11.80
 - Benefits – shift meals, paid training

- Hours M-F 7 - 7
- Discussion:
 - Partner appears to not be an exchange but a donation
 - All ages
 - STARS Step 1, complaint history but never on corrective action plan
 - Hours flexible
- Huckleberry Montessori LLC
 - Partner: Granary Arts District Business Association
 - Request \$176,635
 - 4th Quartile
 - Current slots 12, new 12
 - Cost per slot \$14,719
 - Starting wage \$15, market \$14.80
 - Benefits – holiday bonuses, discounted childcare
 - Hours M-Th 7:30 – 4 Sept. - June
 - Discussion:
 - Ages 3 - 5
 - 9-month program
 - Good quality information
 - Spouse is accountant
- Armbruster Kids Family Daycare – Scoring pushed to next meeting
 - Partner: Shari Barber, Cut-N-Up and Company
 - Request \$138,547
 - 4th Quartile
 - Current slots 0, new 12
 - Cost per slot \$11,545
 - Starting wage \$20, market \$15.30
 - Benefits – paid sick leave, vacation
 - Hours M-F 5:45 - 6
 - Discussion:
- Brittany Williams DBA Little Gnomies – Scoring pushed to next meeting
 - Partner: JKB Creatives
 - Request \$86,137
 - 4th Quartile
 - Current slots 6, new 6
 - Cost per slot \$14,356
 - Starting wage \$10, market \$11.80
 - Benefits – shift meals, paid training
 - Hours M-F 7-7
 - Discussion:

Motion by Ms. Emily Allen to adjourn. Second by Mr. Martin Balben. No objections.

The meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM.