

Kids Central Incorporated
Board of Directors Meeting
August 15, 2006

The Board of Directors of Kids Central Incorporated met on August 15, 2006 at the Clinchco Head Start Center. Donald Baker, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.

Board Members present: Donald Baker, Teresa Adkins, Carl Mullins, Jason French, Jim O'Quinn, Jewell Askins, Charles Hay, Shirley Rogers and Ed Hutchinson

Staff present: Darrell Edwards, Lisa Barton, Chris Austin, Kim Addison, Sandra Harvey and Mary Collins

Others present: Sister Bernie Kenny

Minutes:

Donald Baker asked for approval of the minutes from the June 20, 2006 meeting. With no corrections, Ed Hutchinson made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Shirley Rogers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Finance Report:

Lisa Barton stated that our yearly audit was completed on Thursday. One result from the Sarbanes-Oxley Act is that we have to start preparing our own financial report.

We closed out the 2005-2006 fiscal year using some of our program income. To date, we have used 8% of our Head Start funds and 13% of our Early Head Start funds.

We need all the in-kind we can get for this fiscal year. Last year, we had to ask for a waiver because we could not meet the necessary in-kind amount. This year, we will not be able to ask for a waiver. So far, for this fiscal year, we have over \$90,000 in in-kind, but we need much more. If any members of the Board have any ideas on how to increase our in-kind, Lisa would like to hear them.

Policy Council Report:

Jason French gave the Policy Council report from their August 9th meeting. He stated that the Policy Council approved to eliminate PALS (Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening) as our current screening tool, in order to incorporate the Growing Readers Curriculum.

The written plans were presented to the Policy Council in June for review. The Policy Council approved the written plans at the August 9th meeting.

Old Business

1. Written Plans for 2006 – 2007

Chris Austin stated that the written plans for 2006 -2007 were given to the Board of Directors during the June meeting for review. He is asking for approval of the written plans. Jim O'Quinn made a motion to approve the written plans for the 2006 – 2007 fiscal year. Jewell Askins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

1. I Am Moving I Am Learning

Darrell Edwards stated that Kids Central Incorporated sent nine staff members to the I Am Moving I Am Learning training in Galax, VA in August. Kids Central had more staff present than any other program.

I Am Moving I Am Learning is a new approach to health and wellness for children and families aimed at preventing and reducing the incidence of childhood obesity. The techniques used in this program will be easily adapted into our regular curriculum and classroom routines. With this approach, Kids Central will increase the quality and quantity of physical activity for children, work with families and children to reinforce better nutrition choices everyday, and learn about low or no-cost materials and equipment that can be created to support increased physical activity for children.

Kids Central is an advocate for outside play, movement and involvement. We strive to get the children out of the center for at least one (1) hour per day. I Am Moving I Am Learning will add to our program with a focused approach to better health habits being learned by our children and families.

Philadelphia informed us that we could receive \$2,500 to offset expenses from the I Am Moving I Am Learning training for our staff. We need to apply for these funds. Carl Mullins made a motion to approve the application for the I Am Moving I Am Learning training expense grant. Shirley Rogers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. VPI/Head Start Collaboration Project

In June, Head start sent information to us regarding a \$25,000 grant to strengthen the relationship between the VPI programs and Head Start. These funds will be used to hire a part-time person to lead a project that will assist with the collaboration efforts of Head Start and the Virginia Preschool Initiative. These funds will help:

- Create a unified system and protocol within the community for recruitment, selection and enrollment of preschool children;
- Develop and implement compatible but distinct eligibility criteria that allow programs to work together to serve as many children as possible without recruiting the same children;
- Establish a single point of access within the community for applications from parents of preschool children;
- Conduct joint community assessments that identify preschool community needs;
- Engage a wide range of community stakeholders in identifying opportunities to maximize early childhood resources;
- Identify and engage in opportunities for joint training that reinforce cross-program understanding and support effective recruitment, selection and enrollment practices;
- Create a continuous, structured communication system between Head Start, VPI and where applicable, Title I programs; and
- Provide a demonstrable approach for evaluating the outcome of the collaboration

Kids Central enjoys a positive working relationship with both Wise and Dickenson County VPI programs. This grant will ensure that we are all working for the same goal and that the lines of communication are open.

Kids Central has currently received signed agreements from both Wise and Dickenson County Schools to work together on the collaborative project.

After some discussion regarding the project and the relationships with the school systems, Jim O'Quinn made a motion to approve the application for the Head Start/VPI Collaboration Project grant. Charles Hay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. New Roles and Responsibilities Training Grant

At the end of last fiscal year, Kids Central decided to eliminate the Family Workers component and hire two (2) Family Advocates. This proposal was sent to Philadelphia and was approved along with them offering a \$4,000 grant for staff training in their new roles and responsibilities. Kids Central is applying for this \$4,000 grant to offset training expenses for the Family Advocates and the education staff.

4. New Hires/Promotions

The following staff members have been recently hired or promoted by Kids Central:

Lauren Brooks	New Hire	Teacher at Esserville
Ruth Mullins	New Hire	Part-Year Substitute
Sherry Dalton	Promotion	Classroom Assistant at Monte Vista
Peggy Mickens	Promotion	Classroom Assistant/Driver at Longs Fork
Daphney Noble	Promotion	Teacher at Hawthorne
Leslie Graves	Promotion	Education Supervisor

Ed Hutchinson made a motion to approve the above listed new hires and promotions. Jim O'Quinn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

For The Good of Kids Central (Open Comments):

Kim Addison presented her views on the usage of PALS as our screening tool. Kim states that we began using PALS because the school systems wanted us to use it because they use it. We have found that we do not receive the results of the screenings until after the children have left at the end of the year. Kim would like to implement the Growing Readers Curriculum as Kids Central's new screening tool.

A discussion ensued among Board members and staff regarding pros and cons of changing from PALS to Growing Readers. After all discussion was heard, the consensus of the Board was to continue with PALS for one more year, and allowing the implementation of Growing Readers if Kids Central so desired.

Jewell Askins made a motion to stay with the PALS screening tools for one more year and allow Kids Central to implement Growing Readers with PALS is so desired. Jim O'Quinn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Darrell Edwards introduced Sister Bernie Kenny to the Board of Directors. Sister Kenny has long ties with Kids Central and has been asked to become a member of our Board of Directors. Sister Kenny stated she was honored for being asked to become a member of our Board and that she believes in Kids Central and what we stand for. Charles Hay made a motion to accept Sister Bernie Kenny as a new member of the Board of Directors. Jim O'Quinn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jim O'Quinn questioned the procedures for filling vacancies in the classrooms. Mr. O'Quinn stated that there are several families who need our services but are considered over income. If we are fully enrolled, could we possibly take these children and charge parents for daycare services? Parents would have to quit their jobs in order to be eligible for our services and that defeats the purpose of our program. Lisa Barton stated that Head Start will not fund more than 10% of our enrollment for over income families.

Next meeting:

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held September 19, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. at the Kids Central Administration office.

Without objection, Donald Baker, Chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.