

## Help Me Grow- Region 6 Agenda – December 2, 2020

2020-2021: Co-chairs (Yellow Medicine/EC Professionals): Debra Luetmer, Miriam Lindblad, Rhonda Buysse, Jenny Trager, Stacey Steinbach, Cindy Loe, Jackie Saulsbury

Present: Lisa Kraft, Amanda Cardwell, Arielle Natzke, Billy Lindeman, Cindy Kvaal, Connie Fragodt, Debra Luetmer, Jean Wirz, Jenny Trager, Josie Dingman, Julie Schroeder, Kale Weber, Karie Miller, Krista Looft, Mary Kay Sinner, Miriam Lindblad, Rhonda Buysse, Stacey Steinbach, Sue Thomes, Linda Mathiasen

- I. Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m. beginning with introductions and agency updates.
  - Amanda Cardwell: (Ortonville) hybrid model; all preschoolers in school; haven't been receiving many referrals at all
  - Arielle Natzke: visiting student
  - Billy Lindeman: (MACCRAY) currently all distance learning model and includes preschool program too; preschool screening in October and received quite a few referrals; some infant referrals from parents, public health and CARRIS rehab. Many referrals were 3-year old's so they were screened for the first time
  - Cindy Kvaal: (RCW) still in person but grades 5-12 are hybrid. Not a whole lot of referrals and when calling on referrals getting "no's" due to COVID.
  - Connie Fragodt: (Montevideo) early childhood screening was done through mail; lots of paperwork for parents; few referrals; preschool and younger are in-person and everyone else is distance learning; referrals 0-5 is only 1 and that is very unusual. Missing kids that are not being referred and should be. Talking about moving spring screening to March in hopes of doing in-person
  - Debra Luetmer: (Lac qui Parle); number of students completed; Micronesian students moving towards qualifying and other referrals are child protection; 0-3 numbers are down
  - Jean Wirz: (Meeker/Wright Coop-coordinator for Litchfield school district) not as many as in the past; this is continuation from last spring; seeing kids in-person for assessments only
  - Jenny Trager: (Prairie 5) hoping sites in Granite Falls will open back up on Monday; some students choose to do all distance learning and they have that option. Delivering food once per week too. Family advocates report more concerns with families through this. They are seeing more need and mental health concerns no access/limited providers available.
  - Josie Dingmann: (Eden Valley/Watkins) pre-K through 3 in-person, rest hybrid model
  - Julie Schroeder: Multiple districts; A lot of referrals, especially child protection; more CP referrals are qualifying
  - Kale Weber: (Prairie Five) all programs are virtual; focus on supporting providers right now; delivering PPE supplies and COVID bags. Going to offer training; likely virtual
  - Karie Miller (Willmar 0-2); all distance learning with exception of ECFE classroom is still in-person; referrals were down at beginning of pandemic, getting a lot of referrals again. Not as many referrals as normal but from variety of sources.
  - Krista Looft: (0-2 in Litchfield/Dassel) receiving referrals from medical and parents; parents have chosen not to complete or complete but deciding not to receive interventions due to COVID, even if offered distance opportunities
  - Mary Kay Sinner: (Renville PH) moved almost entirely to pandemic response; family home visiting is by zoom or telephone. 3 school districts have moved to distance learning and 2 haven't. Preparing for vaccine responses too.

- Miriam Lindblad (Countryside PH): Team working with schools and health care facilities with data and support their work; WIC program still by phone through Feb 22, 2021. Decision from federal government will determine if it will remain through May 2021. Impacts how you connect with families and observe needs. Offices are open so they will be seen if they show up at the office. Staff contacting positive cases for 50-year old's and over; that is even overwhelming the system. New and active social media and website.
  - Rhonda Buysse: (Canby) didn't get hardly any referrals. Many families made decision to not come and wait until next year. In person currently.
  - Stacey Steinbach: (Yellow Medicine Child Protection) educational neglect referrals have increased. We had an increase in child protection referrals, but that has slowed in the last couple of weeks likely with the change to distance learning. Seeing a great need with adults and kids and mental health
  - Sue Thomes: (United Community Action Partnership) virtual coaching; no in-person other than delivering PPE. As of yesterday, Renville County has joined a program to increase and retain child care providers. Have grant for social/emotional resource. Lots of child care ending up in quarantine.
  - Lisa Kraft: (SWWC) lots of creativity from wonderful staff on how to support kids/families
- II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes from September 23, 2020 meeting motioned by Miriam Lindblad seconded by Debra Luetmer. Motion carried.
- III. Minutes reviewed and motion to approve by Connie Fragodt; Rhonda Buysse seconded. Motion carried. Continue work around equity and attendees at meetings. Stacey will follow up again with Upper Sioux Community Services to see anybody would want to join the meetings. Linda willing to be part of that meeting.
- IV. MDE and ICC Updates included invitation to statewide interagency workgroup supporting child protection referrals and Parts C/619. Department of Health is beginning a texting program to help with notifying community COVID-19 spread. Resources on Resources on Immigrants and COVID: <https://immigrantcovid.umn.edu/home> and Immigrant Stories: <https://immigrantstories.umn.edu/>
- a. WebEx Trainings on Evaluation, starting in December.
    - i. [December 15, 2020](#) 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (ASQ 3)
    - ii. [December 22, 2020](#) 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (ASQ:SE 2)
    - iii. [February 18, 2021](#) 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (ASQ 3)
    - iv. [February 25, 2021](#) 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (ASQ:SE 2)
  - b. Prenatal to Three Policy Virtual Event. Register here: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ehcctphg1fa1e5d6&llr=7ulo9toab>
  - c. ICC/IEIC Retreat will be a series of three or four 2-hour meetings starting in January. Anyone interested in attending, contact Linda at [ldm@ldmarketinggroup.com](mailto:ldm@ldmarketinggroup.com).
  - d. Statewide IEIC Meetings of the Minds continues its work on Equity Grounding: <https://www.eddiemoorejr.com/21daychallenge>

- V. Membership for 2021 was reviewed. MDE meetings are virtual through the end of school year. We want to continue to encourage BIPOC Participation – Black, Indigenous, People of Color.
- VI. Financial Update for 2020-2021 was shared. At the February meeting, we may want to shift some funds due to the inability for Linda to do in-person presentations and trainings.
- VII. 2021 Work Plan was discussed and what is realistic for 2021. Ideas included virtual trainings, mailing materials, paid publicity and outreach to early childhood professionals/child care providers. Breakout groups had an opportunity to discuss ideas and connect with peers: Family Services Group, Public Health and ECFE/ECSE.

**Reports from each Group:**

- Family & Services Group: Linda doing virtual trainings, Media around Help Me Grow and COVID to share we are still here and how we are safely providing the service. Areas of need are mobile minutes, access to WIFI for families, rewards for kids
- Public Health: Training for clinics (only place actually seeing kids), reach families by providing paper mailings on HMG referral or red flags.
- ECFE: Mailings were discussed but determined difficult to implement due to easy process to obtain mailing addresses; discussed baby bags at hospitals, billboards, new things with HMG logo such as a feeding spoon. Social media was a popular idea and leveraging school pages and websites.

**Assignment for Everyone:** Each school is to send social media person's contact to Linda so she can submit HMG and referral information for inclusion on Facebook/website.

**Assignment for Everyone:** How many people would like to do mailings and what would it look like in your district/office? Who would gather the names in your service area? It wouldn't be sent until March. Bring back which districts want to do this. Preferred target group is 0-2.

**Assignment for Linda:** Put something together with Ages and Stages information on the school websites. Include link to HGM page. Josie has an example and will bring to February's meeting.

**Amanda Cardwell motions to utilize up to \$500 for Facebook media initiative. Stacey seconds that motion. Motion carried.**

**Assignment for Linda:** Coordinate an ad for the schools Facebook page. Linda will use the HGM video (one and two-year old's). She will also clinics to put it on their Facebook.

**Assignment for Linda:** Connect back to clinics and ask what we can do to assist.

**Assignment for Linda:** Conduct Develop/Child Care Development trainings for no charge to providers/early childhood professionals. IEIC expense. Linda will schedule and promote.

**Sleep/Routine Training: (Lynn Herrick)** Linda to request developing/hosting virtual training.

**Motion by Stacey to spend up to \$300 to create a virtual training on sleep and structure; second by Krista second the motion. Motion carried.**

**Assignment for Everyone:** Send Linda links or hot topics for inclusion in the e-newsletter.

- VIII. **FY 2021 Meeting Dates:** Feb. 24th, 2021; April 28th, 2021