

Help Me Grow  
Region 8 IEIC Meeting  
9/22/21  
Virtual – Microsoft Teams  
11:00 am to 12:35 pm

Agenda Approval: Janelle Mickelson made a motion to approve the agenda. Shari Dean seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes Approval: The meeting minutes of 4/21/21 were read with no corrections made. The motion carried.

Members Present: Janelle Mickelson, Channing VanOverbeke, Nikki Traen, Anna Hesse, Angie Frisk, Jessica Froderman, Lori Gunnink, Shari Dean, Nikki Van't Hof, Jennifer Zollner, Jennifer Bozosi, Hollie Pater, Kelly Konechne, Sophie Lingen, Lisa Peterson

Introductions: We welcome Sophie Lingen, to her first meeting with our committee. Sophie works as a counselor/therapist for Adler Counseling in Slayton and Marshall.

Agency Sharing: Jessica F reports that Adrian schools will soon be having preschool screening. Also Jessica and her school speech/language clinician will be presenting at an ECFE session on developmental milestones, with distribution of HMG materials. Pipestone also has Preschool screening coming up soon. Fulda and MCC schools in Murray county, will be starting in-person ECFE classes again this fall. Hollie shared that USD is offering an EC Mental Health webinar series on the 4 Fridays of October. Contact Hollie for enrollment info.

State Updates:

- There was no July meeting
- August Meeting: Each month Cat focuses on an equity issue for consideration by the group. In August we discussed Intersectionality, which is people dealing with more than one discrimination factor. For example being a black woman, could face possible discrimination both as a black person and as a woman. We also discussed the new Help Me Connect website. For information on trainings and demonstrations on using the new site, and for a flyer to distribute or post, see: <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/early/preschgr/hmc/>
- September: meeting: The equity issue was “Measure what Matters” from the state’s ten education commitments to equity. We then discussed data that is available on the Help Me Grow website and what we can and cannot tell from the information that is on the website. One thing to remember is that the Help Me Grow website was designed not to collect data, but to ensure that all families have access to early intervention information. That being said, there are a few things that could be helpful for Regional committees to get from the website.

Orientation to IEIC: We briefly reviewed the purpose of the IEIC Help Me Grow Committees. If anyone is interested in having the power point, please let Lisa know.

Final Tracking Info for 2020-2021: There were 21 of the 30 schools in our Region that provided information. There were a total of 381 referrals of B to 5 years olds made to the reporting school districts. Of that total 161 children qualified for services. Help Me Grow website provided 186 of the total referrals sent to the schools. Most referrals continue to come directly to the school. Medical Staff made the majority of the referrals. This document will be sent with the minutes.

Budget and New Work Plan: The new budget totals \$32,323.43 with this year's allocation and the carryover from last year. The activities included in our plan for this year include the following items. The position of facilitator for the committee will be continued. We will also continue to track referrals. We will be contacting medical facilities, advertising in community education brochures, purchasing HMG materials for the agencies in our region, purchasing books to distribute through local libraries, offering a training for childcare providers, and working toward presentations by members of diverse cultures in our Region to help foster better understanding and to be able to better serve all members of our communities. The current budget will be sent with the minutes.

Help Me Grow Materials: On our new work plan, we have allocated \$2000 for materials needed in our region. An order form will be sent to all members of the committee for Help Me Grow materials. It will be due back to Lisa by October 8. Please share this with those in your agencies in need of additional Help Me Grow Materials.

Community Education Brochures: We have \$2000 dollars budgeted to advertise in the community education brochures in our region. Lisa has contacted several of the larger towns first. Windom, Luverne, Jackson, and Worthington have expressed interest. Marshall community education does not do advertising in their brochure. As money allows more communities will also be contacted.

Workshop for Childcare Providers: As we discussed last spring, we would try to complete the ACEs trainings for Jackson and Pipestone, which had to be cancelled spring of 2020. The presenter is not yet doing in-person or on-line workshops at this time. She may be doing this in the spring. Other options may be considered.

Small Group Break-Outs: We divided into groups to discuss ideas on making a list of questions that can be posed to liaisons or cultural representatives and also to brainstorm people that can be contacted to help in our diversity goal. Anna, Shari, and Hollie had several names of people that could possibly help. Lisa will develop a list of questions for committee approval that could be used.

Future Meeting Dates for 21-22: Lisa suggested the following dates with no disagreement. They are all Wednesdays from 11 to 1. December 1, 2021 - February 16, 2022 - April 27, 2022  
The next meeting will be done virtually, but that will depend on Covid transmission rates.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Channing, seconded by Hollie. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Next Steps:

Write meeting minutes and send to committee members

Send out Help Me Grow order forms, to be returned by October 8

Order and distribute the materials

Get an updated list of ECSE teachers in Region 8 and send out the new google tracking form

Continue to work on outreach ads through Community Ed brochures and online com ed sites

Develop a list of questions for committee approval, to be used when interviewing cultural representatives

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Peterson, Facilitator