



Provider Advisory Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2021

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Board staff introductions and Baker Ripley staff introductions.

No announcements at this time.

Sarah McConnon from United Way presents on Help Me Grow Program:

- Program called Learn the Signs, Act Early (sponsored by the CDC)—provides resources for children with developmental delays
- Provides tools to help and equip childcare providers on how to talk to parents
- See attached PowerPoint for details
- Questions? Are there resources available now? Yes, the resources are on the way to the United Way office and will be available in the next couple weeks
- Contact Sarah for more information or if you have questions: Sarah.McConnon@uwatx.org

Quinton Buckley and Kristy Smith with Baker Ripley present:

- BR Team and Contacts
- Outreach and Enrollment Update—currently pulling from waitlist. 9 waves of outreach 2,783 children over the past 3 months. Currently received 408 applications for service (from waves 1-8). The waitlist has been exhausted and new families are added and then outreached every 2 weeks. Continues to be a low response rate. Please let families know we are enrolling.
- Recertification Flow Chart (see PowerPoint)
- Connect with WFS to support families—please encourage the families you serve to reach out to our staff at WFS Capital Area to learn more about resources available. Job Search and Training Resources for those experiencing reduction in hours or not meeting requirements.
- CCAA Updates—contract with Conduent ending on March 31, 2021. POS machines will need to be returned. You will be receiving a letter and email with instructions on returning POS machines. There will now be a Monthly Referral Report that you will receive and it will be sent out by the WFS team monthly with a list of all active referrals for your site.
- Attendance Updates and Reminders—week attendance will no longer be collected. You can stop sending those immediately. Beginning on April 1st you are asked to report any child that has 5 consecutive absences, submitted no later than the sixth day. This will be an online process and WFS staff will review these reports and make determination about if they will be excused or unexcused. Families will receive notice after 15 and 30 consecutive unexcused days with a reminder about excessive absences.
- Enhanced Rates Phased Plan—the enhanced rates will be slowly decreasing over the next few months (see PowerPoint)
- Provider Updates and Reminders—please keep WFS informed and continue reviewing payment. Report any discrepancies. There will possibly be an updated DOSS to sign or an addendum due to the CCAA changes.



- Quality Initiatives Update—training opportunities are posted. There are recent TRS changes and ongoing training regarding the changes. WFS did a water distribution after the Winter Storm and passed out 18,000 bottles of water for providers in need. Those that applied for Jeannette Watson will be notified this week. There will be an upcoming PPE distribution on April 23 and 24. Registration link - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wfs-ppe-supply-distribution-tickets-148047587319>. Provider Recognition—Tamitha Black was recently elected as the Texas State Representative for the National Association of Family Child Care and Loretta Johnson was recently selected as the AAEC Teacher of the Year.

****PowerPoint Presentation attached**

Open Discussion:

- Chuck C.—appreciate monthly spreadsheet for active referrals.
- Collin S.—will there be another automated attendance in the future like CCAA? Nicole answered that we will keep you informed as we find out more information about what is coming next.
- Davida C.—are there any updates on providers being able to be involved in the recertification process? This is regarding the recent discussion about providers being able to call on behalf of parents. Quinton's team is working on verbiage to send out about this soon.
- Dawn L.—when will TRS assessments start? We are still waiting to hear from TWC on the date and will let providers know as soon as we find out.
- Elaine S.—I try and take advantage of every opportunity to keep up with change and I have recently updated my parent handbook. Thank you WFS for your support.

Next Meeting: April 29, 2021