

Bristol Early Childhood Alliance

Zoom Meeting Notes

October 7, 2020 (11:00 – 12:00 p.m.)

In attendance: Maureen Eaton, Cecilia Garay, Lauren Kittle, Donna Koser, Mary Alice Petrucelli-Timek, Karen Lombardi, Valerie Pelletier, Shannon Michelson (UW Intern), Donna Osuch, Rebecca Rossi and Mindy Wallace.

Members were invited to introduce themselves and share on through following word cloud; “How are you feeling?”:



Letter of Intent: After a brief discussion on the grant, the OEC Home Visiting grant (prenatal to age 5), that the Parent & Child Program will be applying, all members agreed that BECA will write a letter of support. This is a grant the Parent & Child Center held previously and will be open to all; both self-referred or mandated.

Community Outreach – Donna K. has adopted out several “Adopt a Reading Buddies” funded by the Bristol Rotary. This is a new initiative to encourage reading 20 minutes a day. The committee is looking for outdoor events to participate in. Donna asked everyone to please send a Facebook message, text or email if there is something a program/organization wants shared on the Making Bristol Better Facebook page/website. Donna K. mentioned that the Appetite for Reading committee is concerned about the “Little Free Library” that is located in the old Parent & Child Center garden. After discussion, Lauren will look into putting in a request to have it moved to the new High Street site. Next Outreach meeting will be held on October 22 at 10:00 a.m. Please let me Donna K. at dkoser@uwwestcentralct.org if you are interested in attending.

Collaborating Grants: Donna O. shared that Bristol has applied for an extension of the **Sparkler** grant; for an interactive ages and stages app. The main goal of this application is to have Sparkler imbedded into the community and make it easier on programs to administer ASQ’s. Donna O. will update the group once we know if Bristol has been approved. Donna O. and Donna K. will meet this afternoon to update Kia (Sparkler) on sustainability plans moving forward.

The Funders Collaborative and the OEC have announced their continuation of funding. More information should be forthcoming. Donna O. will reach back out once the RFP process is known.

The United Way has received notice that they will be funded one more year from the Parent Trust Fund to offer the Parent Leadership Training Institute Virtually (PLTI –V). United Way will be looking to all of its partners to help recruit for the next class should they accept the grant.

Subcommittees:

Infant & Toddler has not met. A new chair will be appointed at the 10/7/2020 School Readiness meeting.

Health Committee the next meeting will be held virtually on Zoom on October 13th.

Transition to K. – The committee is waiting on Ivy Drive for Kindergarten surveys. The United Way intern will work on inputting the data. Each entering Kind. Child received a book and families were encouraged to send back the survey. The next meeting will be held on Zoom on October 19th at 3:45 pm.

Community Sharing:

United Way: Donna O. reminded everyone about the Friday Farmers to Families Food Distribution being held on October 16 and October 30, 2020. The event will take place at Lake Compounce from 3:00-5:30 p.m.

Parent & Child Program: A drive through diaper collection will be held on October 24th from 10:00-2:00 p.m.



Parent and Child Program
CARING CLOSET
DRIVE-THROUGH
DONATION DROP-OFF

When: Saturday, October 24th
10 AM - 2 PM

Where: Youth & Community Services Building
51 High Street, Bristol, CT 06010

High Need Items

Formula	Baby Wipes	Diapers	Baby Hygiene Products
Similac	All	Size 3	Baby Lotion
Advance		Size 4	Baby Body Wash
		Size 5	Baby Shampoo
		Size 6	Baby Body and Hair Wash
			Baby Powder



Bristol BOE: Cecelia shared that a new site for Spanish speaking families has been created to share information from the BOE and the community. Donna K. will share the information via email and post on Making Bristol Better.

Head Start: Currently, Head Start is being operated under HRA (previously CDI) and waiting for a site visit so they may re-open. Lake Ave renovations are planned to occur this year.

Next Meeting: *November 4, 2020 (Zoom or in person TBD)*