

Child Care Advisory Council Meeting  
10/29/2020

Call to Order..... Sarah Vanover

The meeting of the Child Care Advisory Council duly called by Division of Child Care Director, Sarah Vanover and held virtually via Zoom.

In Attendance

Bill Buchanan, Twylynn Edwards, Jason Glass, Amy Hood, Amy Neal, Kim Smart, Zachary Smith, Rebecca Thomas, Sarah Vanover, Sandra Woodall

Review of Minutes..... Open Discussion

Meeting minutes from July 2020 were approved.

DCC Updates..... Sarah Vanover

On August 31, a new version of the emergency regulation (922 KAR 2:405E) went into effect. The new version increased group capacity to 15, and allows for after-hour tours.

There is currently a stipend available for new Registered/Certified in home childcare providers. As of today, twenty-two stipends have been approved. The stipend requires providers to care for children in Kentucky for a consecutive 12 months; however, they can operate on a school schedule.

DCC has released a final CARES Act stipend. This stipend is \$130 per child and based on the number of children the center is approved to care for. Registered Providers will receive the stipend based on the number of children enrolled.

Market Rate/Workforce Study ..... Joanne Rojas

Every three years, DCC contracts with the University of Kentucky to complete a Market Rate Study. The Market Rate Study gathers data from providers on the rates they are charging families. In addition, every two years, a Workforce Study is completed. The Workforce Study gathers data on salaries and benefits. This year, they both fall within the same cycle, and therefore, are both required this year. DCC uses results from these studies to determine how Child Care and Development Funds are utilized.

Joanna Rojas shared a PowerPoint concerning combining the Workforce and Market Rate Study this year. Since COVID-19 continues to have an impact on child care centers, questions surrounding the pandemic will be included. All child care providers will receive a link to complete the Market Rate and Workforce survey. The link will go out to all child care center directors and

family child care homes by the second week of November, with a response required by the second week of December.

Sandra Woodall asked if partners could share the survey link to social media pages to get the word out. Joanna Rojas stated each child care provider would receive a different link that is unique to their identity, but partners can share information concerning the upcoming survey and its importance. Joanna Rojas did state if there is a low amount of surveys returned, then one link will be created and can be shared, but the provider will have to enter in more information concerning identification. Sandra Woodall and others discussed the importance of ensuring providers fill out the survey, and the obstacle of providers experiencing survey fatigue.

Sarah Vanover informed members the results of the surveys are made available to the public. The results, after sensitized by UK, are shared on CCA and DCC's websites.  
<https://www.childcareawareky.org/kentucky-market-rate-study/>.

922 KAR 2:120 Health and Safety Regulations .....Sarah Vanover

The health and safety regulation for licensed child care programs (922 KAR 2:120), is filed and in open comment. Open comment will last until the end of December. This regulation has changed based on Senate Bill 45 and CCAC/ECAC formal recommendations.

Sarah Vanover shared the filed copy of 922 KAR 2:120 (<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/kar/TITLE922.HTM> ). She informed members when looking at any regulation, the underlined text is what changed.

The screen time requirements, food/meal requirements, and outdoor playtime are modified to align with SB 45 and formal recommendations. In addition, lockdown drills have been added as a mandatory quarterly drill. The need for lockdown drills was mentioned to several times during our federal monitoring visit. DCC will be releasing education materials for providers implementing the lockdown drills.

The regulation has also aligned with the American Academy of Pediatrics, concerning safe infant sleep standards. No bedding is allowed in a crib other than a tight fitted sheet around a firm mattress.

The food requirements have changed the most, in order to align with the federal food program requirements. They are separated by centers who provide meals and those who do not provide meals. Sarah noted one change is centers shall not serve flavored milk, such as chocolate or strawberry. The milk must be pasteurized and unflavored. In addition, juice must be 100%, with no added sugar. At meals times, all children shall be served and offered the same food components.

DCC will be creating a training for providers to understand and implement all the new meal requirements.

Trainer Credential Discussion ..... Sarah Vanover

Sarah Vanover presented a PowerPoint concerning the upcoming changes to the Trainer Credential regulation (922 KAR 2:240.)

New definitions will be added to address the different types of online training. These definitions are; asynchronous learning, which is instruction that occurs at different times and places, and synchronous learning, which is instruction that occurs at the same time, but not in the same place. Within the regulation, we have stated, synchronous learning must contain interactive modes to demonstrate participants are engaged. Asynchronous learning must also include a method to gauge participation.

Trainers, who want to conduct online training, will need to take a cabinet approved online development course. This new training will allow individuals to become proficient in conducting online training and learn best practices.

A Specialty Level Kentucky Early Care and Education Trainer will no longer will able to provide training on general topics of early care and education.

Trainees will not be allowed to repeat online training courses, unless five years have passed, or as part of a plan of correction.

In order for trainees to renew their credential, verification will include a training coach observing the trainer for coaching purposes.

Sarah noted independent studies have been a controversial topic. A potential change in this regulation would be independent studies will need to be preapproved by the cabinet, if the presenter does not hold a Kentucky Trainer Credential.

Lastly, the regulation will outline the application for Cabinet Approved Training Agency.

Sarah informed everyone this regulation, is not an emergency regulation, and so therefore is open for changes.

Community Updates..... Open Discussion

Amy Neal provided an update about GOEC.

GOEC recently presented with DCC and the Department for Public Health to the Tobacco Oversight committee.

GOEC finished the fiscal mapping work, which began under the PDF. This allowed tracking of all early care funds in the state.

The next Early Childhood Institute is June 16-18, 2021.

Thirty employers have expressed interest in the youth apprenticeship program.

Bill Buchanan provided an update about the Department of Education.

Bill acknowledged the new commissioner of KDE, Dr. Glass was attending.

KDE continues to focus on educating and feeding students in all districts, in addition to supporting the health and safety plans of each school.

Preschool students should follow masking requirements as outlined by 922 KAR 2:405E, if they are a licensed center. If they are a state funded preschool, they should follow KDE's guidance. For any questions, individuals can email [covid19@education.ky.gov](mailto:covid19@education.ky.gov)

New instructional resources and parent resources are now on KDE's website.

A survey has been released (link in the chat box) surrounding what education can look like after the pandemic. The survey closes November 20.

Sarah inquired if anyone else would like to share an update.

Sandy Woodall expressed a concern about students not being able to complete their CDA observations due to limitations on visitors because of the pandemic. Sarah stated we are not the only state experiencing this issue. KY and other states are coming together to advocate for virtual observations.

The end of year report is due. Sarah asked for volunteers to draft the report. Sandra Woodall and Rebecca Thomas volunteered to assist.

Adjourn

Sarah Vanover made a call to adjourn the Child Care Advisory Council meeting.