

Communities for Kids Table Meeting
April 15, 2009 3:00-4:30
StrongStart, 330 Power St

Present: Brenda Barber, Carrie Reiter, Deb Hardman, Christine Schwarz, Christine Davidson, Michelle Negreiff, Wendy Kenward, Maryland, Fuime, Kelly Moog

1. Brenda chaired, Michelle took minutes. Thanks to both.
2. Karen Brough, Tanya Behardien, Rob Lionello, Christine Schwarz and SCD will meet to discuss how the LAC will unfold in the future.
3. Program Updates:
 - StrongStart SD-still waiting for official notification of 2 additional StrongStart. Queens Park SS had a capacity of 35 children per session, April 14 there were 32. 242 families are registered. There were 2 days for vision screening and there is an upcoming screening day in June with OSNS.
 - CCRR – busy with referrals. Childcare provider training is happening. A Drumming workshop is coming up. The Open House for LNR recruitment was successful.
 - Mental Health – initiating a parent education pilot project to help parents who have children with anxiety disorders. Will be offered Wednesday's, May 26 – June 16, 6:30-8:00. Open to the public and will be held at Queens Park School. A "Friends" group for 8-11 year old for help coping with anxiety is currently running. The Connect Training will be happening in the next month.
 - HUB – A networking meeting of kindergarten and preschool teachers was held recently at Hand in Hand Center. One of the discussion points was how to include families who face multiple barriers. Next meeting October 2009. Summerland ECE/K meeting was held at Montessori- April 27, 3:30-5:00. Christine will begin visiting programs in the South Okanagan.
 - Christine Davidson, parent – quote from Miles Dirksen \$500.00 to set up the pre-natal web page for CFK. She will begin filling out the Sby6 grant application.
 - Public Health, Marijean day – Pre-natal Wellness and Yoga classes at the Community Center. May 5-June 30, 8 classes, \$45.00. Subsidy is available through the Community Center LIFE program. Kindergarten Clinic – April 23/24 at the Health Unit. Nobody's Perfect program is starting at OKB&GC April 20.
 - OSNS – new SLP, Arianne Crossley, and her focus will be early intervention and possibly outreach. A social skills group for 4-5 year olds will be held April 14- June 2. The prevention program 1234 will be held (with Ooknaakene. Summer Fun program for 3-4 year olds July 21 – July 31, there is a fee for this program. Kindergarten Readiness program August 18- 20. Call OSNS for clarification or to register for these programs. Groups are being held to address the needs of the waitlists.

- CFK – Annual Art Event, T-shirt give away. Poster up on the web site or contact Kelly. Annual Parenting Conference will be held Oct 24, 2009 at Parkway School. If you want to set up a display table contact Kelly.
- Safe Kids Event- May 27, 4:00 – 7:00pm. Pizzas, bike helmet checks and give aways. For 2-7 year olds.
- IDP – in Accreditation process
- Call 811 – Marijean will find out more details about this helpline
- SCDP – 51 children enrolled, 16 on waitlist. Currently staff training and include childcare centers. Doing more outreach thru observing children on waitlists. Making the Connection, with IDP, is running April 21 – June 9. Kindergarten transition low number entering K this year. Working/ mentoring with the Aboriginal community in the South Okanagan to provide service to children who may not access service before 5.

4. Barriers:

- There seems to be concern that some parents cannot access support services to travel to Vancouver or Kelowna for appointments or hospital visits. Sunshine Fund, Shriners, Bus, At Home funding are all possibilities as are service clubs. Quota International is often helpful.
- Respite – Dragonfly Pond for families, this is a program to help parents from burn-out. It is not a childcare service

NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, May 20 2009 3:00-4:30

Queens Park StrongStart, 330 Power St