



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
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## Meeting Minutes - Approved EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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Thursday, December 11, 2014

8:00 AM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 260 (Madison Municipal Building)

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 - Linda E. Benzschawel; Scott Peters; Jennifer Templin; Patricia A. Lasky; Karalyn A. Kratowicz and Muriel Simms  
**Absent:** 2 - Denise DeMarb and Diane B. Adams

Peters called the meeting to order at 8:05 am. He introduced Gloria Reyes to the committee. She is an assistant to the Mayor and will be working with the Community Development Division.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY LASKY, SECONDED BY SIMMS TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 9TH MINUTES. Motion passed by voice vote.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

[36714](#) Public Comment

**Attachments:** [Los Ninos Primero](#)

Arturo Ambriz from Bridge Lakepoint Waunona Center's Los Ninos Primero Program addressed the committee. The program is doing well and meeting its goals. It teaches preschoolers and their parents through play based concepts. Parents become highly involved and this can be seen as the children enter 4K and beyond. Los Ninos also assists parents with GED programs, financial literacy and early childhood education. It works closely with Glendale school to help make the transition to school easier for both parents and children.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. [36517](#) 2015 Statement of Interest Forms

Peters reminded the group to submit their Statement of Interest Forms.

2. [36519](#) Universal Child Care/Development Services System Discussion & Community Program Presentations

Dane County Parent Council  
UW Campus Child Care  
Dane County Economic Assistance & Work Service (WI Shares)  
Dane County Early Childhood Initiative and Zones  
MMSD 4K  
United Way

**Attachments:** [Early Childhood Program Capacities](#)  
[Early Childhood Initiative](#)  
[Early Childhood Zones](#)  
[United Way Born Learning](#)

Peters discussed the expanded efforts for the Community Development Division beyond accreditation and funding and methods to create access to high quality childcare for all residents. There are no new funds available so we must explore other options and how those fit within the ECCEC goals.

Jenny Grether from Dane County Human Services has worked with Early Childhood Initiatives (ECI) for the past 10 years. ECI is a voluntary home visitation program with a social work focus. It is for the primary care giver for children 12 months old or younger as well as pregnant mothers. Education and support for parents is crucial to get employment and to sustain families. An ECI Zone has been in Allied dr. area for 10 years. Others are now identified in the Russet Rd, Sun Prairie and Leopold areas. Grether noted that there are 3 important aspects to helping families:

1. Stability with parents and caregivers in regards to employment and educational opportunities;
2. Healthy relationships;
3. Physical/Mental Health as there is a high rate of depression for those living in poverty. Trauma is also a prevalent issue affecting those living in poverty.

Roxanna Vega from WI Shares (DCHS) discussed the new child care unit which includes 100 support workers for child care and food stamps. Jessie Miller was also present. It is difficult to get Madison numbers as the data is collected for all of Dane County. The best calculation is that there are 1,356 cases within Madison with 2,588 for the entire county. WI Shares is also working with Access to Community Health and DCPC to assist those in need of child care.

The biggest problem with families on WI Shares is that they cannot afford the co-pays and the subsidy does not cover all child care costs. If a family receives WI Shares it can be difficult to cover the copays and receive child care for the times when they are active in the WI Shares program.

Scott Zimmerman, Director of Early and Extended Learning presented information about the MMSD 4K and Play and Learn Programs. Children eligible must be 4 years old on or by September 1st. There are 24 school sites with school teachers (Model 1), Center sites with school teachers (Model 2), and 32 child care center sites with center teacher (Model 3). 4K uses Creative Curriculum along with the WI Model Early Learning Standards. The program is play-based and used the PALS to assess children's growth.

There are currently 582 who do not attend 4K. Some are not economically disadvantaged and have a parent home to watch the child. Others are economically disadvantaged and are still not attending. A big deterrent for participation is transportation. Parents may not want to have their 4 year old

transferred from a school to a center. Others may only be able to receive full time child care and are not able to send their children to the 4K sites. Child care centers can provide full time care. 4K is not a mandatory program; 5K is.

Lauren Martin, United Way provided information about Born Learning. In 2013, 40 community members developed strategies for the Mobilization Plan:

1. Parents as teachers and engaged in children’s lives;
2. Holistic family support;
3. Kids screened for developmental capacity (Ages & Stages);
4. Support practice, case management and resource center for children 0- 5 years.
5. Health care professionals are knowledgeable and can link parents to supports.

United Way provides funding to Center for Families, 4C and other agencies for programs such as Parent/Children Home Visitation Program, Welcome Babies, Kinder Ready, Play and Learn and Los Ninos Primero. Professional development includes Launching Into Literacy and Math and the 4C Latino Project. Books for Babies provides books and gets information to new parents.

Jennifer Dittrich-Templin from Child Care Tuition Assistance Program (CCTAP) at UW Madison discussed the assistance they provide. Just under one million dollars in funding is allocated to UW students for child care. All UW students pay fees which helps to cover those on the child care program. There is also a federal grant for \$165,000. Payments go directly to child care providers and about 300 families receive assistance each year.

Those eligible for the program must make below 350% of the poverty level. Most participants are at the 150% mark or below. About 60-70% of all families in the program fall under 200% of the poverty level with the remainder falling between 200-350%. Payments are calculated per semester and range between \$1,000 and \$3,000 with the average being about \$1,700.

The committee discussed the importance of having a culturally diverse staff for these programs to better represent and assist the needs of the community.

3. [36520](#) Child Care Program Update

Tabled to next meeting.

4. [35727](#) CDD Updates

Tabled to next meeting.

5. [33059](#) CSC Committee Report

There was no formal report. Lasky stated Kratowicz’s interest in becoming the ECCEC rep on the CSC.

**MOTION BY LASKY, SECONDED BY DITTRICH-TEMPLIN TO MAKE KARA KRATOWICZ THE NEW ECCEC REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE IN JANUARY 2015. Motion passed by voice vote.**

6. [36521](#) 2015 ECCEC Meeting Schedule

**Attachments:** [2015 ECCEC Schedule](#)

The next meeting will be January 8th. Benzschawel will not be able to attend.

#### ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY SIMMS, SECONDED BY KRATOWICZ TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:10 AM. Motion passed by voice vote.