

Visioneering Wichita Birth-K Leadership/Grant Writing Team

Date, time: 8:30 a.m. August 25, 2008, Wichita Community Foundation

Attendees: Glenda Wilcox, Kandi Miller, Sue Sommers Barrientos, Chris Johnston, Cornelia Stevens, Janice Smith, Shirley Theurer, Chelie Nelson, Debbie Mai, Walter Thiessen, Cayla Wasson, Tom Kohmetscher, Lorraine Dold, James Garrett, Anne Maack, Vicky Roper, Luella Sanders, Michele Spainhower, Nancy Rasmussen, Melody Miller

Today's Agenda

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Review Agreement from Previous Meeting

Group reviewed previous agreements and updated accordingly as indicated below.

3. Matching Strategies

Several matching strategies are under development, including:

- A. Convene community foundations, United Ways, and others about this opportunity to provide matching support. Need to have 3-4 key representatives (no more than 6) of B-K Alliance attend meeting to answer technical questions. Those representatives would be the group that was convened by KHF for frameworks for both Newton & Wichita area – this includes representatives as well as several business leaders. Need to create a power point that outlines the history and the grant request opportunity.
- B. Submit letter of inquiry to WCF grants committee to review the opportunity. Need to be as specific as possible.
- C. Need to meet with United Way of Plains regarding how they may be supportive in light of blackout period.

4. Evaluator

Jim met with Larry & Randy at WSU. They expressed an interest in being involved. They have some experience in being involved with early childhood initiatives, research. May need to be some translation in what is being proposed & "academic" evaluation. They see cost as 5-10%. Jim is using "ballpark" of 5%. \$137,000-\$176,000. They are interested in the evaluation plan & then doing the analysis...but not the data entry or collecting of data.

Possibility - There are several different program components – need to evaluate each of these program components & an overall evaluation of the initiative. As move forward will know more about the details of what we ask Larry & Randy to do (and associated costs) and what we can do ourselves. If using a shared database, would need the associated costs for individual organizations/programs. Also, make sure that is consistent with the evaluation needs of the Children’s Cabinet.

5. Program Activities

Several different aspects of program activities were discussed, including:

- A. Allocations Across Communities. See Handout from Jim regarding estimates of funding – overall and per community. Other possibility for calculation – a base amount of funds for each community as a starting point, and in addition to the community’s population. Group decided to go forward w/ working with each of the communities regarding budgets based on what we find out from Children’s Cabinet

- B. Meetings with each Community. Communities provided an abstract regarding what they would like to get supported within the guidelines based on the previous plan, including childcare, mental health services, and parent support services (but able to customize to local community needs). Childcare needs can largely be defined by the needs of each of the communities, including both slots, but also specific programs that may need to be improved or created in a specific community. See the Children’s Cabinet definition of quality as a base standard. Staff development, while a need for many agencies, needs to be blended throughout the three priority areas (ie., Staff development as it pertains to the three priority areas). Overall, need a consistent message from the four counties for the proposal itself and also related to the evaluation.

- C. Elements/Questions to “make the case” from each community:
 - Is what is being proposed evidence based?
 - Does it meet at least one of the three areas above?
 - What is the short-term and long-term potential of what is being proposed? (Sustainability?)
 - Focus on infants and toddlers? (because 1/3 of funds to be used for that)
 - Responsive to the RFP?
 - Fits into the state plans? (Strengthening Families & Early Childhood Comprehensive System Plan)
 - Does it help stabilize the system of services?
 - Already in existence/enhancement or starting something new?

- Is it regional or specific to the community? How collaborate w/ others or applied across the region?
- Connection to early prevention – outreach to those not involved?
- Services are complimentary to each other?

D. Per County Match Are we asking that each county needs to raise their own 10% for their county, or a 10% across the entire region, OR some type of hybrid approach?

Operating Consensus was that we are approaching as a MSA, therefore not specific programs raising their own match, but rather approaching as “one pot of match”, but that each of the communities make their efforts to raise an amount that is near the “targeted amount”. (i.e., Amounts are guidelines).

6. Questions for Children’s Cabinet:

- **Sustainability.** What is likelihood of funds being sustained and need for local funds to be sustained? How should the activities/program approach relate to sustainability?
- **Smart Start.** What is the relationship between this RFP and Smart Start?
- **Data.** What data sources should one consider for calculating the number of children and at-risk children in our geographic area? Do they use a specific federal or state source for those calculations?
- **Timeline.** What is the timeline of the grant itself? – Nov. to Nov. and is the evaluation plan on that same timeframe?
- **Evaluation Questions.**
 - What level of sophistication of analysis is the Children’s Cabinet looking for – is the sophistication of the analysis at the level of a University needed? Appears that they are “kicking it up a notch” in terms of sophistication, but hard to say.
 - What is the purpose of the data – what is the intended use of the data and the reports from that data (who is the audience)? Yes, legislator will be interested and important to make the case across KS about the benefits as there were those who were not supportive of the dollars used in this manner.
 - How does this evaluation relate to the overall evaluation that the Children’s Cabinet is currently doing? Make sure to link to the overall evaluation.

7. Immediate next steps

- Next meeting Dates: September 8th at 8:30 at TBD

<i>Who?</i>	<i>Doing What?</i>	<i>By When?</i>
All	Send list of those to invite to Carol	Thursday
Carol	Work with others to convene a group of those who would be interested in participating	Early September
Jim	Continue to work with WSU on evaluation needs and keep group aware.	Ongoing
Communities	Send Jim abstracts if not already and proposed budgets	ASAP
??	Meet with United Way of the Plains	ASAP
??	Questions for Children's Cabinet	When the time is right