

East Haven Early Childhood Collaborative Meeting
Tuesday, October 13, 2009
Summary of Actions Taken

Thank you to the following members for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend today's meeting:

Bob Petrucelli, Catherine Bradshaw, Alice Torres, Cathy Finkle, Karen Schmidt and Paul Perrelli.

1. Graustein Memorial Fund 2010 Funding Application

- The coming year will look different for communities in terms of GMF funding. Three options are being offered to communities. The first two are tied to the implementation of or the development of an early childhood community plan. East Haven is not ready nor prepared to apply for funding in these categories. The third option is designed for communities that need to spend more time on developing parent engagement programs and community outreach. Traditionally, the East Haven Early Childhood Collaborative has had to carry over funds from one grant year to the next. This year is no exception. Alice Torres, our collaborative agent, has completed a thorough accounting of our expenditures.

We closely figure the carry forward into 2010 to be \$19,200.00. Due to the large carry forward and the change in the Graustein funding parameters, Bob, Paul and Catherine will be meeting with Carmen Siberon at GMF on Thursday morning to discuss the proposed East Haven budget for 2010. Plans call for funding for another PEP (parent training) Program, Week of the Young Child event, Transition to Kindergarten meetings, early childhood health meetings and the usual monthly expenditures.

2. Graustein Memorial Fund Survey

- EHECC members were asked to fill out a community survey as part of the 2010 application. The community survey is being conducted by Discovery evaluators at the Center for Assessment and Policy Development (CAPD).

It is due October 15, 2009. The Graustein Memorial Fund periodically reviews the progress made by its communities and encourages those communities to focus on future plans. Individual community information will not be shared though answers will be used as part of summary reports. The survey has been forwarded to Sam Stephens at CAPD and he has confirmed its receipt.

3. Updated Website Information.

- The primary reason to expend funds on a website is to get information out to the public about our accomplishments and current initiatives. All member organizations who are partners with the EHECC are encouraged to submit to Fran Foley new initiatives, current events or updates about what is happening in our community as it pertains to early childhood health, education and welfare. Please send Fran current news and information at fcfoley1@comcast.net. Updates will keep parents coming back to our site for information they see as helpful. Please keep our website in mind as we end this calendar year and prepare for a new year. One example of this would be our upcoming transition to kindergarten meeting. Another would be our parent honoree at the upcoming Stone Soup Early Education Conference. Thanks.

4. Transition to Kindergarten Evening

- The next transition to kindergarten meeting will be held on Thursday evening, October 29, 6:00-8:00 P.M. at the Old Stone Church Meeting Room. Dinner will be served. Committees will hear a guest speaker from the parent outreach coordinator of the Family Resource Center in Hamden. Work groups will continue to work on preschool to elementary transition issues, community outreach and professional development.

5. School Readiness Report--None given this month.

6. Stone Soup Parent Honoree

- The EHECC is proud to announce our Stone Soup parent leader nominee to be Mary Cofrancesco. Mary came through our first PEP program and has since become an important part of collaborative work. She and her son joined the East Haven Youth Services Commission. She is an officer on the East Haven Academy PTO and she will be honored at the Stone Soup conference at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cromwell, CT on Tuesday, October 20 at 3:00P.M. Congratulations Mary!

I will keep you updated on the results of our meeting with Carmen regarding our proposed budget for 2010. It would be very helpful to hear from you about future meeting times and days. We will try to adapt to meeting dates that can accommodate more of our members.

Thank you
Paul Perrelli Coordinator