



Early Ages Healthy Stages Coalition December Meeting Minutes

Date: December, 16, 2016

Time: 9:00 am- 11:00 am

Location: Cuyahoga County Board of Health

I. Welcome and Introductions	
Discussion Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We took time to celebrate how far we've come, and to help strengthen our relationships with one another. • Thank you to Cleveland Bagel Company and Phoenix Coffee for the treats! • Coalition members in attendance got into pairs and spent time getting to know one another. Each pair introduced their partner to the group and shared a little bit about who they are and why early childhood health matters to them.
Conclusion/Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was very valuable spending time to introduce one another and learn more about all of the inspiring people that make up the coalition. We will continue to do exercises like this as new members join.

II. Community Update: The Cleveland Kid's Book Bank	
Discussion Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judy Payne, co-founder and executive Director of the Cleveland Kid's Book Bank spoke to the group about opportunities to expand literacy in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County. • The mission of the Book Bank is, "To foster improved literacy and a love of reading by providing free books to children in need." • Their goal is to make sure that all children in Cuyahoga County have 4 books in their home that they own. They also give adult books and sponsor books for Little Free Libraries. • Child Care providers who serve low income children can register on their website to pick up a box of 60-80 age-appropriate books for children to have in their home. Currently, providers must go and pick up the books

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	<p>once they are ready. You can register for Book Pick Up here: http://www.kidsbookbank.org/request-books.html</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also, the Book Bank is ALWAYS looking for volunteers ages teen and up. If you or your organization is interested in giving back to our young children by sorting books, you can register for multiple opportunities here: http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a4cabaf2ca0f58-book
Conclusion/Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camille will work with Judy to create a plan to distribute books through Ohio Healthy Programs technical assistance. • Jodi Mitchell mentioned that students at Cleveland State are looking for volunteer hours and might be able to sort health-specific books on an ongoing basis that could compliment Ohio Healthy Programs. Camille/Jodi will follow up with CSU! • If you have a program or initiative that you would like to be featured in the provider/organization spotlight, contact Camille at cverbosky@ccbh.net

III. Issues in Early Childhood Health: Lead Safe Cuyahoga	
Discussion Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathy Schoch from the Cuyahoga County Board of Health presented on the Lead Safe Cuyahoga initiative going on county-wide. • Lead poisoning has been an increasingly important and popular topic at meetings and events. Since we work in early childhood health, it is important that we recognize this issue and try to work together to find achievable solutions. • 50% of Ohio's lead poisoning cases occur in Cuyahoga County, most in Cleveland and the inner ring suburbs. • Children who have a blood lead level of more than 5 get reported to the County to make sure that their homes and habits are safe. Children are not considered poisoned at a level that would require medical attention until their BLL reached 45. There are plenty of opportunities to intervene and prevent future poisoning if children are routinely getting screened. • Our pediatricians noted that they often have difficulty getting parents to follow through on screenings, since most kids with high BLL don't show symptoms. • Our ECE providers see the importance of getting screenings, and are there with parents to encourage them to get screenings. Some of our providers even take the kids in their care to get screenings themselves and are willing to continue to provide ongoing support for families. • Kathy gave out information about Lead Safe Cuyahoga, money for income-eligible families to improve their home and remove lead hazards. Families can receive between 8 and 10 thousand dollars, and rental properties are eligible too! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For more information on this program, call La'Keisha James at 216-201-2001 ext. 1527.

Conclusion/Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our discussion was so passionate that we had to cut it off for the sake of time! • It was clear that between our health care providers knowledge, ECE providers experience, and organizational resources, we can work together to make a difference in the lead crisis in our communities. • We will continue to brainstorm and possibly form a lead working group within the coalition. Please stay tuned for our March meeting! • In the meantime, Camille and Alison will print brochures about simple steps that families can take to keep their kids Lead Safe. Flyers should be ready for the March meeting. Let Camille know how many you want and we will get them to you! • Camille will pilot a Lead Safe parent information session with Robbie Willis and Cassandra Thompson. We will follow up with feedback in February. • Kathy’s presentation and electronic copies of the handout are included in the attachments.
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IV. Strategic Planning Group Processing: Describing Local Conditions	
Discussion Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Cuyahoga County, we believe that early childhood environments are healthy if... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are opportunities to eat healthy, ○ There are opportunities for active play, ○ Health care is accessible, ○ Social and emotional needs are met, ○ Early care and education providers are supported, ○ Families are engaged. • Root causes are Big picture factors that create the issue at hand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Also known as, “risk and protective factors” • Local conditions are Specific, identifiable, and actionable factors that Give us a PICTURE of what the root cause actually looks like in our community • Coalitions change pictures NOT perceptions
Conclusion/Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coalition members worked in groups to choose root causes and describe local conditions • Because of a time crunch, we will continue this process at our January meeting.

V. Next Meeting	
Discussion Points	<p style="text-align: center;">Please save the date for the next meeting of the EAHS Coalition: January 13, 2016 (Friday) 9:30 am- 11:00 am Warrensville Heights Public Library</p>

Minutes Prepared by: Camille Verbofsky