



IEIC Region 8 Meeting Minutes
Pizza Ranch Slayton, MN
9/26/23
12:00 – 2:00 pm

Members Present: Kelly Konechne, Michelle Niehus, Cody Rofshus, Karen DeBoer, Shari Dean, Hollie Pater, Channing VanOverBeke, Katie Rigge, Jackie Hiebert

Agenda Approval: M- VanOverBeck/S- Dean /P- All in Favor. No changes or additions.

Minutes Approval from 4-25-2023: M- VanOverBeck/S- Dean /P- All in Favor. No changes or discussions.

Member Introductions and Sharing: Welcome to the new members and subs. Hiebert is covering for Sarah Krause who is out. Rigge discussed the October screenings that will be held in Marshall, VanOverBeke discussed the upcoming screenings that will be held, DeBoer discussed the career fairs that were held recently, as well as the scholarships they offer. The scholarships have a requirement the child be screened prior to age 4 so they have had many requests. Dean discussed the screenings that are held over year.

State Updates:

July Meeting of the Minds (MOM) 2023 – “Keeping you in the Cycle of Action” Why we stay in the work we do- to advocate, the difference you make, overcoming, the people. We also spent time discussing the work plan format and everyone agreed the format was much better and they liked being able to roll it over from year to year to see the changes. We spoke about building relationships and how to keep people engaged in the meetings being so many are online now. It is important to build a community, a team, and collaboration in person. It was also noted the new catalog will be coming out.

August Meeting of the Minds (MOM) 2023 – Cancelled per Tamminga.

September Meeting of the Minds (MOM) 2023 – The topic was the new Department of Children, Youth and Family. Anita Fineday and Elizabeth Bote were on the call from the Equity and Engagement Transition Team to discuss the legislation that passed, their roles, and how it will be implemented. The new department is slated to be in full effect as of July 1, 2025. Ultimately they are tasked with combining all of these departments under one roof to keep the complexity behind the scenes for families, while offering once access point. There were many questions and concerns brought up about Part C. From what they could explain and know as of now, Part C will still be held by the districts and locally administered. They did not have many answers yet, as they were just in the beginning phases of looking at it all.

Equity Training for State IEIC's – DeBoer, who is the Region 8 representative for this training, presented on what has been done the past few months. They are now currently meeting once a month to discuss the 5 levels of Equity Work. DeBoer gave each of us a course outline and is excited for the upcoming discussions she'll be part of as they will relate more to the community and systemic pieces.

Old Business:

1. Operating Procedures were discussed and noted we needed a signature on the last approved procedures from April 2023 Meeting.
2. HMG Materials were distributed last Spring and a new order will be placed per the new work plan after approved.
3. Discussion on the Worthington International Festival in July. Feedback was received. The bubbles were a hit, especially the bubble machine to gain attraction. The location of the booth could be better, but we don't have much say that. Elvie was an interpreter that was on site and was extremely helpful as she is familiar with the HMG program. The team definitely wants her to come back. It was also noted more books, primarily in Spanish would be great for the event. Thank you to all who helped!

New Business:

1. New Member Reach Out: Members broke into groups to discuss who we could reach out to and build our roster. A template email and list will be sent out in the coming weeks. Everyone is encouraged to bring a new member to the next meeting.
2. Referral Tracking: We discussed the template and ideas on making it easier to fill out and get more schools to send back. Although it is required only about 60-70% get sent back. Konechne will send individual emails and follow up calls to improve data feedback.
3. ACES Trainings: Discussion on dates, times, and locations. The trainer is available in the Spring. It was decided to host one training in Marshall and one in Worthington from 3-5:30pm in the Spring. We will open it up to all groups as it is a popular requested training. Konechne will work details for setting the trainings up.
4. Bags for Food Shelves: It was discussed to purchase as many bags as possible as the food shelves go through many people. Konechne will order, purchase, and then distribute at the next meeting. We will need all members to help with the distribution.
5. HMG Materials: An order form will be sent out in October for distribution prior to the next meeting in November.
6. Digital Advertising: The Daily Globe sent quotes. They will create digital advertisements with "impressions" that we pay for with the HMG logo. We will include the link to the HMG website and QR code. It was decided to move forward with the 3 month campaign. Konechne will work with the Globe to get the ads put together and feedback will be assessed in the Spring to decide if we continue using digital media in our work plan.
7. Chair Person: VanOverBeke and Rigge volunteered to be Chairpersons which is a 2 year term. We were in need of 2 more because Konechne is now the facilitator and there was 1 open position remaining from the Spring.
8. Facilitator Review Year: Konechne requested a yearly review be given by the Chairpersons for the facilitator position.

9. Work Plan: The 2023-2024 workplace was went through. M- Dean /S- VanOverBeke /P- All in Favor. No changes.
10. Next meeting will be held at the Slayton Pizza Ranch on November 28, 2023 from 12:00pm-2:00pm

Adjourn: M- Pater /S- Rigge /P- All in Favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Konechne, Facilitator