

**Region 6 IEIC Meeting Minutes**  
**VIRTUAL via TEAMS**  
**Wednesday, February 26, 2025, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Fiscal Year 2025 Co-chairs: Katie Slagter, Cindy Kvaal, Jamie Sorgatz, Amber Deters,  
Samantha Athmann, Amanda Meierhofer

**Present:** Kari Dorry, Billy Lindeman, Connie Fragodt, Jody Ammerman, Bri Johnson, Jodi Wambeke, Darla Swendzinski, Stephanny Ramos, Angie Young, Cindy Kvaal, Jamie Sorgatz, Amanda Meierhofer, Jenny Trager, Amber Deters, Julie Schroeder, Hannah Hanson, Jennifer Niesen, Linda Mathiasen, Katie Palmreuter (parent), and Jaleesa Stengl (parent)

- I. Meeting began with introductions and agency updates.
- II. February 26's Agenda motioned for approval by Connie Fragodt, seconded by Jaleesa Stengl. Motion carried. Minutes from December 4, 2024, motioned for approval by Kari Dorry, seconded by Jodi Wambeke. Motion carried.
- III. Membership Roster has no changes.
- IV. Financial Update – FY 24 Budget \$30,182.47 with \$887.59 carryover from FY2024. Budget has \$5,875.94 unallocated for new outreach or training endeavors, marketing and material purchasing.
- V. MDE updates – now Help Me Grow has moved to Department of Children, Youth and Family (DCYF) shared: At this time, there are no proposed changes to the IEICs or the IEIC structure, including our work plan process and foci for the next fiscal year (FFY 2025). MACMH on Children and Adolescent Conference is this spring in Duluth. Linda Mathiasen applied for a scholarship and to volunteer to help offset registration fees and participation expenses. Her IEIC contract does include hours for conference continuing education.

DCYF shared a document on “Attentive Parenting” to support work in the field and raise awareness to the developing baby’s brain. Responses shared about the information was the need for communications emphasizing the first three years of life and brain development and agreement that all families are at various levels in understanding the importance of this. We will have a series of Social Media posts for distribution to IEIC members to route to their communications departments, targeting Week of the Young Child (April 5-11, 2025). Working with Region 11, a committee of Linda Mathiasen and Jaleesa Stengl will work to have a series of Social Media posts for distribution to IEIC members to route to their communications departments, targeting Week of the Young Child (April 5-11, 2025). Our goal is to flood social media posts within our organizations for six weeks. QRC codes can be added to provide access to more details—we will need to work with Region 11 to have it available online. IEIC committee members are encouraged to use the full “Attentive Parenting” and share as appropriate with their stakeholders, coworkers and families served. Countryside Public Health Communications contact is Andrea Mills.

- VI. FY2025 Work Plan review had recent activities to outreach targets to counties, clinics, faith-based groups, and child care and partnering with others doing early childhood outreach. A carryover from December was the continued discussion over concerns of redirecting preschool staff resources to respond to the growing trend of children not being toilet independent. Outreach opportunities for Toilet Training Cues for early care and education staff and parents was researched by Kari Dorry and Linda Mathiasen with a proposal from On Track MN, LLC for a two-hour workshop. A motion by Kari Dorry, seconded by Jamie Sorgatz to pilot the training in Willmar and enter a contract with On Track MN, LLC, Christine Hendrickson, for \$500. Motion carried. Jaleesa Stengl is willing to assist with contacting preschools and childcare centers. Discussion included where to hold the pilot session, offering potluck and providing childcare. IEICs are unable to use funds for food. Linda Mathiasen will check with the YMCA to see if they can provide childcare and will arrange with goal of late March or early April session date.

**Ideas for further discussion and research:**

Advertisements for Week of the Young Child – Decided to do Social Media Blitz  
QRC sticky notes partnering with fast food, pizza – Linda Mathiasen  
Region 6’s three videos into more languages: cost \$1200 for doing so in Spanish, Somali and Chuukese.  
Micronesia outreach at WIC and Community Clinics – Hillary Spray to connect with Linda Mathiasen

Micronesian translation (Chuukese) of developmental milestone poster – Jenny Trager with Linda Mathiasen

a. FY2025 Outreach completed or scheduled: Submit ideas to Linda Mathiasen.

- July 11 – Dawson Clinic
- August 2 – Olivia: County Child Protection Regions 6, 4, 8
- August 6 – Montevideo National Night Out: materials drop
- August 6 – Montevideo Clinic: materials drop
- August 8 – Granite Falls: materials drop
- August 16 – Countryside Public Health: virtual
- September 4 – Montevideo Clinic
- October 1 – Child Find Referral Survey to Districts
- October 3 – Parent Life at Youth For Christ
- October 8 – Willmar Fire Station Family Night
- November 19 – MOMs at Living Word in Willmar
- November 20 – Upper Sioux Health Fair in Granite Falls
- December 2: Cultural Liaisons – Spanish & Somali in Willmar
- December 3: Kandiyohi County Child Protection
- January 10: Prairie Five Child Care Aware (virtual)
- February 17: Kandiyohi YMCA Child Care Center Staff Training (DHS- 4hrs)
- April 10: Toilet Training Workshop in Willmar
- April 11: Prairie Five Center Directors
- May 1: Fidgety Fairytales in Willmar
- Talking is Teaching (800 bags): Inserts HMG developmental wheel, Follow Along & Help Me Connect bookmarks with Pact for Families (5) counties' new baby outreach program
- Social Media Blitz: April through May through partners
- Outreach to Bunde Moms, New London WowMoms, Lower Sioux Tribal Nation, Micronesian Community Clinic in Milan and Appleton with Prairie Five Public Health

**I. Fiscal Year 2025 Dates –April 23, 2025 at WEAC, Willmar, 9 a.m. - Noon**