



Friday, February 28, 2020

**Present:** Tara Tinder, Rachelle Elliott, Shirley Baptist (guest from St. Paul's Soup Lunch) Emma Behrens, Erin Conway, Katharine Clark, Regina Dunkin, Debbie Fischer, Jan Knutson, Sarah Millard, Carol Mishler, Ana Montoya, Drew Pennington, Brenda Plakans, Kathy Pohl, Lisa Sandoval, Sue Stein. and Nicole Yost.

### 1) Welcome and Announcements from Tara Tinder, Executive Director, SCF

Response from BIFF screenings of documentary "No Small Matter" was significant, especially from daycares, school districts and 2 community pioneers who attended (Joy Boardman, Children's Creative Center & Jane Fossum, retired pediatrician). Attendees claim it was captivating! Additional SDB board members and reading specialists are eager to view. A few take-aways: daycare providers are leaving early childhood instruction due to insufficient salaries and 71% of military applicants are ineligible due to lack of education. Formative years count! Debbie Fischer of Youth2Youth 4 Change wants to include her teen volunteers. We all need "yellow room" energy to make a difference in the lives of our community children! The ultimate goal is for Rachelle to coach volunteer trainers to assist with extended literacy in the community. New grant cycle runs May 15-June 15. Mark your calendars for your shovel ready ideas!

### 2) Presentation by Rachelle Elliott, Director of Early Literacy, SDB

Rachelle shared a [flyer](#) and showed snippets of a [video](#) from the Wisconsin Department of Children & Families describing info on Wisconsin's Pre-school Development Grant, Birth to Five (PDG B-5). Listening sessions will occur. Goals for 2023 are based on accessibility, affordability, quality and workforce. Structures of support have multiple tiers.

Regular handouts included flyers for waiting room: [Ed extras: Pre-K \(ad your own logo\)](#), [March Calendar \(English\)](#). [Read Aloud is Love](#). A special reference was made to materials supporting the Census: books [Everybody Counts](#), (paired [activity book](#)) and "[We Count](#)"

### 3) Partner Reports

- **Lisa Sandoval (Early Headstart)** Has a total of 8 home visitors, doing work shown in film with different home visit model but same services, trying to reach the parents (whole family, not just the child). CFP meetings occur monthly, parent centered meetings are

for more sensitive subjects (turnout is hit and miss). Infant massage follow-up: 3 parents currently involved, hope to do a fathers class, but still seeking 2 mothers!

- **Nicole Yost (Rec Liaison for City)** Reading times to occur at July free family events.
- **Katharine Clark (BPL)** New literacy toys are coming in! Handouts: [Around the Library](#) for Spring 2020; [Creating an Elevator Speech](#) advocating library services.
- **Ana Montoya (Community Health Center)** Reported phenomenal (100%) statistics for in-house literacy. Celebrating Dr. Seuss day on March 2 (Read Across America).
- **Regina Dunkin (Beloit Health System)** Renovations are nearly complete! Thanks extended to the Foundation for the social media posts of literacy pictures!
- **Sarah Millard & Emma Behrens (City of Beloit)** Good turnouts for events at Culvers, efforts are ongoing to maintain their 6 Little Free Libraries. Also, a splash park will be opening! May 6 is a kickoff event at Merrill Center 5-7 pm, including a book give away. Seeking local photos for e-book and coloring sheets. More activities to occur instead of booths. Storytime to occur with guest readers, Lisa offered to read in Spanish.
- **Erin Conway (UW-Extension)** Clover-Bud curriculum for 4H!
- **Robin Stuht (SDB homeless liaison)** 1st time attendee! Working on a 3-year grant for homeless youth, teaches love & logic to teens, works with Rachelle Elliott.
- **Debbie Fischer (Youth2Youth 4 Change)** 2 Little Free Libraries going up with a grant: Hackett area (Peoples Church) & Brooks Park and 3 signs at parks with history to build pride in their area. Reaching adults is difficult, looking to developing podcasts as there are great stats for adults. Offering student volunteers for events!
- **Jan Knutson (St. Paul Soup Lunch)** Introduced Shirley Baptist, a St. Paul “street mom.” Shirley’s son, Michael, was born with a rare cranial syndrome requiring many head surgeries. Given his special needs, home schooling was necessary and made a difference. As a result, she is passionate about supporting local homeless youth to keep them in school and out of the justice system. She envisions the repurposing of an old building where students can decorate (street art) and have a safe place to socialize and focus after school hours as a perk if they aren’t truant from school. Tara suggested this could be a wonderful community, collaborative effort.
- **Kathy Pohl (St. Paul Soup Lunch)** Hopes to continue working with Shirley, expand upon ideas for working this summer with Debbie’s youth and at Vernon Park.
- **Carol Mishler (Early Headstart)** Working on census with family engagement and sub-committee for trauma taskforce. Encouraging a routine of reading before bedtime! Sarah Millard is also creating Census color pages!

#### 4) Calendar:

a) Next meeting date: Friday, March 27 (Riverside Room)

b) Spring Luncheon: May 7, 2020 at La Casa Grande – Keynote speaker Ann McClain Terrell is confirmed, more information forthcoming.