

Help Me Grow
Region 8 IEIC Meeting
3-9-22
Virtual – Microsoft Teams
11:00 am to 12:17 pm

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Lisa Peterson at 11:02 am.

Agenda Approval: Hollie Pater made a motion to approve the agenda. Jen Zollner seconded the motion. No new items were added. But a change in order was discussed. Motion carried with change in order. An amended agenda will be sent.

Minutes Approval: A motion was made by Tiffany to approve the meeting minutes of 12-1-12. Kelly seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried.

Members Present: Channing VanOverbeke, Tiffany Teske, Jennifer Zollner, Cody Rofshus, Amber Bruns, Shari Dean, Hollie Pater, Kelly Konechne, Lisa Peterson SMSU students: Paige Harder, Michaela Abels

Introductions: Members introduced themselves by their agency, position, and county. We offered a special welcome to our first time member participating Cody Rofshus from Rock County Public Health of SWHHS and college students Paige and Michaela.

Community events: Members are reminded that we have the Help Me Grow Banner (in both English and Spanish) and a Trifold board to use for any upcoming Early Childhood or community events where we can promote Help Me Grow. There is also a virtual Help Me Grow booth for virtual events that can be used. Please contact Lisa if you could use these resources.

State Updates:

- December state meeting: December meeting notes were sent to members earlier. Please let Lisa know if you need again. Discussion was on plans for EC use of the American Rescue Plan funds. A follow up on the PDG monies to be used for additional help in EC mental health services in SW MN. Hollie discussed the EC Trauma Learning Community for SW MN. It will start in April to December of 2022. They will meet monthly for 2 hours each month. If you are interested please let Hollie know.
- January meeting focused on building intentional relationships. For example, to be able to find a parent of color to speak or join IEIC it may work best through a personal relationship in groups such as Advisory Council or Family Support Group or directly through a service provider. There was brief discussion on the IEIC 22-23 Work Plan coming out earlier than last year's plan. Several of the Regional groups discussed the phone app Talking Points as a great way to communicate with other than English speaking families by translating texts. The website is: <https://talkingpts.org> It does not address every language but most. Tiffany offered that Marshall teachers use this app with success.
- February state meeting's discussion stemmed from watching a Ted Talk by Anthony Jack discussing how students of color admitted to colleges does not

necessarily mean they will automatically be able to navigate the system because they have been given access to college. We extrapolated how this is also true to early intervention and how young children of color qualifying for services does not automatically mean that early intervention will be able to access all the resources available to them. The family may need additional help in understanding the system. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j7w2Gv7ueOc> We also discussed the updated CDC developmental milestones for 50% to now 75% for young children and the impacts on Help Me Grow and the EC system in general. We also discussed briefly the new work plans for 2022-2023 and that tech costs and childcare costs could be a built into the plan.

- The next state meeting will be March 21 at 9:00 by Zoom. All are invited. Please let Lisa know if you would like the link.

Old Business:

Current Budget: We discussed what has been spent so far this year. Of the total \$32,323.43 available to our committee this year, \$21,308.51 remains. Of our various projects that we allotted funds broken down by project: Contacting Medical Facilities - \$1440 remains, Advertising in CE brochures or advertising circulars - \$982 remains, Childcare trainings - \$1400 remains, Region 8 agencies ordering HMG materials - \$747 remains, Library project - \$1210 remains, Cultural Connections - \$2500 remains, Facilitator contract through 1/30/22 - \$11,180 remains. We have \$590 for indirect costs that will not be used, as the estimate was too much. A motion to approve the budget was made by Shari. Seconded by Channing. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

Help Me Grow Ads: Community Education programs not using ads in their brochures and changing staff has made this a challenging project. An additional ad will be placed in Worthington's summer CE brochure, Luverne brochure, and possibly Redwood Falls. A new ad will be placed in the Windom brochure for summer. In Jackson and Pipestone an ad was placed in their advertising circular for one week each. We have not been able to find a vehicle for advertising in Lincoln, Lyon, and Murray counties. There may be a possibility of advertising in Marshall HS Band calendar that goes out to all families. Hollie, Tiffany, and Paige talked about the possibly connecting with ECFE brochures in their communities to advertise Help Me Grow. Paige volunteered to send email contacts for Mountain Lake and Windom ECFE programs. Lisa will follow up on this idea. Tiffany will email Minneota and Lakeview about this.

Library Project: The director of the Plum Creek Library system presented about Help Me Grow and its materials to the individual libraries at their February meeting. Of the 26 libraries, 4 directors (Marshall, Pipestone, Slayton, Fulda) contacted Lisa about obtaining materials for various projects they have planned. Lisa ordered a sample bag for each of the other libraries that did not order specific items. The materials have been distributed. There will be an option for the libraries to reorder later this spring for possible summer projects. A motion was made by Kelly to move extra money from other projects not needing all money allocated, to the library project should there be a need for additional funds. Channing seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.

Community Cultural Relationships: Lisa presented a list of possible questions to ask for a speaker or for a written account to help foster understanding of another culture. It was suggested that ideas for additions or changes would be welcome. It was discussed that having a personal contact with someone of another culture would be helpful to enlist others to be part of this project. Committee members will contact their personal contacts to refer to Lisa to be part of our project. Shari suggested that she may be able to reach out to some contacts.

Kids First Conference: At our last meeting we talked about using a virtual booth to advertise Help Me Grow during the virtual conference. Due to technical issues that idea needed to be scrapped, so we were not able to use the virtual advertising.

New Business:

SWHHS Public Health Project: Cody presented their current childcare licensing project and using Help Me Grow bags, bibs, and brochures as a give away to childcare providers. They will be distributed to 223 home childcare providers as part of their licensing.

Workshop for Childcare Providers: Lisa continues to reach out for a possible speaker. Karen DeBoer shared that a speaker who could be available for their childcare appreciation with an uplifting message after these past couple of trying years would be welcome. Lisa will be contacting Amber Bruns with a possible option for childcare training.

Referral Tracking: The google tracking form will be calculated at the end of March and then mid June for an end of the year tally. We discussed that currently in Region 8 we are gaining information about where referrals are coming from. Lisa shared with the committee the tracking form that Region 11 is currently using that focuses on more on how many referrals are made based on cultural groups. A brief discussion followed with emphasis for Region 8 to continue with tracking as we are currently doing to find out which groups/agencies are making the referrals and where the referral info is coming from.

Help Me Grow Orders: We have \$747 left to order materials for our agencies in Region 8. There may be some monies from other projects not currently being used. Orders will be sent out at the end of April or beginning of May, after our April meeting. Brochure holders are an approved expenditure and may be ordered at the next ordering cycle. Agencies should assess what they need for Help Me Grow materials for the next 6 months before our next meeting.

Future Meeting Dates: **Our next meeting will be April 27, 2022, from 11 to 1.** Due to Covid and the time factor in traveling, some of the members present were in favor of having the meeting to be at least a hybrid option This will depend on finding a suitable location and the safety measures needed at that time of our next meeting date. So stay tuned!

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Channing and seconded by Tiffany. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Peterson, Facilitator - Notes taken by Hollie Pater