

DRAFT
Family Enrichment Minutes
August 28, 2007

Present: Red Petrovs, Mike Hackett, Julie Meehan, Jan Stephens, Monica Knight, Christian Orobello, Melissa Kurtz, Tim Johnson, Ray Beck, Katie McFarland
Staff: Jim Geiser

Red opened the meeting and the minutes from the August 9 meeting were approved.

Red gave an update on what has been happening in the initiative since the last meeting. He mentioned that a committee of this group had a discussion with the director of the Safe Families Program and that Athens may become the pilot site in Georgia for this program. A meeting is planned for September 7 to discuss the opportunity in more detail. Red, Christian, Jan, Jeff, and Tim are planning to attend the meeting. A representative from EADC would also be invited.

The group then began discussing the matrix and the partners in the Family Enrichment Center. Some additional partners that were suggested to add to the list include Early Head Start, Family Literacy, EADC, Parent Institute, and Rites of Passage. It was suggested that someone check the 211 list for possible additions.

The group then began discussing the agencies that might be involved in the visioning. The initial suggestions were the conveners of PPA-CCSD, Chamber, Athens Clarke County Government, Family Connections, and UGA. Some other suggestions included Community Connection, CCRR, Athens Tech, DFCS, EADC, and Dept. of Labor. The group then realized that they had actually already done the visioning and the group needed to engage the conveners and others in actually developing implementation strategies.

The specific follow-up for the group included:

1. The strategic plans of the conveners and major organizations would be obtained and we would match the components of our center with how it fits in the strategic plans of the organizations. (Melissa, Monica, Tim and Jim were working on this.) The group hoped to get these plans within a week.
2. We would then go to these organizations, starting with the conveners, to get their support to help implement components that aligned with their strategic plans. Red, Tim, and Jim were going to develop plans to follow-up with conveners.
3. Julie agreed to fill in the chart based on the organizations in the community. She would identify the agency and the role(s) they would play. She thought she could do this by Sept. 10.
4. As the group begins to meet with agencies to get their support it was emphasized that we not only find out what the agencies currently do, but also what they might be willing to do at a family enrichment site.
5. The Safe Families Committee is scheduled to meet Sept. 7.
6. Red and Jim would talk with Winston.

7. The importance of keeping Jim Simms apprised of our activities was emphasized. At this point the group is going to assume that we will be using the H.T. Edwards site
Some additional announcements:

1. Jan mentioned that CCSD would be getting 4 head Start classes, with 2 being at H.T. Edwards.
2. It was mentioned that on October 6 there would be a Family Engagement activity for Latino families from 10:00 to 4:00 and that we might want to have a table and ask families what they would want in a Family Enrichment Center.
3. Mike Hackett mentioned that the Boys and Girls Club was getting involved with a group from Garnett Ridge. It was mentioned that perhaps some of the strategies that we are considering could also be used there.

The next meeting was scheduled for Sept. 18 at 10:00 at H.T. Edwards.