

**Carroll County Early Childhood Coalition Meeting Notes**  
**Tuesday, January 26, 2016: 12 noon-1:30pm**  
**Children Unlimited, Conway, NH**

**Attendees:** Emily Benson, Lisa Dubois, Shannon Quinn, Gail Yalenezian, Cassie Rowe, Danielle Koffenberger, Schelley Rondeau, Karen Welford (guest), Nancy Martin, Tara McKenzie.

Emily welcomed everyone and invited folks to introduce themselves and share one success and one challenge in their work:

- Emily reported she has a new position with Granite United Way working as the Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC) Coordinator for Carroll County Coalition for Public Health(C3PH), now an initiative of Granite United Way. She is excited to make the issues of early childhood more visible in the public health arena.
- Gail reported SAU9 conducted another ChildFind Screening at the MWV Children's Museum 1/20. The final one of the year is 3/30. Challenge is conversation about various public/universal preK models in school districts that are part of SAU9.
- Karen Welford(former Director of Lakes Region Family Resource Center) is our guest who is doing a study for SparkNH's Quality Committee regarding early childhood collaborations that are underway throughout NH.
- Cassie of Northern Human Services reports she is very glad to have their new educator Kristina Troon on staff, yet they are already looking to sub-contract for another educator for about 19 hours/week.
- Shannon shared that CCRR is now officially known as ChildCare Aware. Their professional training calendar is available through June 2016 and registration is underway. She also announced a *Bridges out of Poverty* workshop will be held in Plymouth Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>. **To receive information about this workshop and add your name to the CCRR email list contact Shannon at [squinn@snhs.org](mailto:squinn@snhs.org).** The Carroll County Directors' Collaborative is now taking place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8:30pm at TCCAP in Tamworth. A Watch Me Grow Training is being planned for a Director's Collaborative in February or March.
- Lisa reported Wakefield school district special ed preK is full but having staffing challenges. She has not yet conducted a Child Find screening for Wakefield.
- Nancy Martin (formerly of Northern Human Services) is happy to attend for the first time in her new role as TCCAP/Head Start Family Worker for both Conway and Ossipee locations.
- Tara is the Youth Services Librarian at Conway Public Library and would love to have more families in need attend their storytimes. She is happy to report that the 2016 summer reading program theme is "On Your Mark, Get Set, Read", focusing on physical activity.
- Danielle coordinates the *Let's Go* program through Memorial Hospital: <http://www.letsgo.org/>. She has 2 childcare programs already enrolled in the program (Bartlett Community Preschool and Children Unlimited) and is hoping North Conway Daycare and Head Start will join soon. She is excited to connect with ChildCare Aware's Director's Collaborative about *Let's Go*, as well as connecting with Conway Public Library regarding the summer reading program. Memorial Hospital now has a smoothie bike available for events. For more info contact her at [dkoffenberger@memorialhospitalnh.org](mailto:dkoffenberger@memorialhospitalnh.org).

- Schelley is happy to report that she has her first family graduating from the Healthy Families America Program, congratulations!!

**Review shared measurements:**

- Percent of children birth-5 receiving ASQ and ASQ-SE screening once a year
- Percent of children referred for further assessment and treatment, if indicated
  - Emily shared that Watch Me Grow has hired Sue Watson (a former director of Gorham Family Resource Center) as their new coordinator. We look forward to connecting with her to learn ways to increase our screenings in Carroll County.
  - Watch Me Grow is going to provide info brochures to WIC clinics
  - Please contact Emily with any SAU ChildFind screenings that are being planned for the spring.
  - No new Carroll County Watch Me Grow data to report.
- Increase number of families receiving prenatal and postnatal home-based nursing visits to # by 2020 (C3PH/HFA)
  - There was discussion about the total number of families that could use home visiting services in Carroll County could be as many as 300 total. Numbers to date are:
    - Head Start: 45 (19 Ossipee, 16 Conway, 10 home-based)
    - Under HFA: 18 (at capacity)
    - CNVNA: 80-100 total post-partum visits in 2015 (some families receive more than 1)
    - NHS: approx. 60
    - Children Unlimited: NA
    - WMCHC: NA
  - Shelley shared that the *New Life Program* at Memorial Hospital begins in late February, early March: <http://www.memorialhospitalnh.org/news-events/news/post/memorial-hospital-announces-plans-for-a-comprehensive-treatment-program-for-opioid-dependent-prenatal-patients>
  - Cassie mentioned that the biggest challenge facing many of her clients that she has ever seen is addiction. Two resources to share with families are the following:
    - Carroll County Community Resource Directory: [www.carrollcountyresources.weebly.com](http://www.carrollcountyresources.weebly.com)
    - Carroll County Coalition for Public Health: <http://www.c3ph.org/resources> Scroll down to "Treatment Resource Guide" . This guide is also available in paper, let Emily know if you need some copies!

**Karen Welford Presentation:** Karen is working with Spark NH's Quality Committee in connecting with early childhood collaborative partnerships throughout the state to learn more about the successes and challenges they face in their work. The outcome of her work could be a toolkit to support collaboration efforts in the state. Karen asked the group a variety of questions about our work in Carroll County. Emily will share her report with the CCECC when it becomes available.

### **Mutually Reinforcing Activities:**

- Gail reported that preK discussions continue in Jackson and Bartlett as well as on a more SAU9-wide level. She will have more to share following a meeting with the NH DOE that she and Pam Stimpson will be attending regarding the State Systemic Improvement Plan. Emily shared that she was in touch with an early childhood staff member of the Concord School District and they have an early childhood committee as part of their SAU9 which is involved with the following:
  - ASQ's at Kindergarten registration
  - Professional development with EC programs
  - Family center support programs
- SparkNH Community of Practice: Emily continues to bring news of CCECC's work to this monthly meeting of other early childhood hubs. Carol Garhardt is bringing SparkNH's "Bedrock" presentation (<http://sparknh.com/public-awareness-toolkit>) to Childcare Aware's Directors' Collaboratives throughout the state.
- KReady Transition Program: Emily and Tara shared that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Kindergarten Transition Evening will take place at the Conway Public Library on Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. More details coming soon.
- NH Listens Proposal: Emily (see attached info) would like input from coalition members as to ideas on work this proposal could support by Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, as deadline to submit is Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>. Those being considered include:
  - increase awareness about the importance of developmental screening
  - increase collaboration between Carroll County School Administrative Units for professional development for early childhood providers
  - engage in community discussions about a model for universal preK to best serve local children and their families

### **Other Business:**

Emily passed out SparkNH's "Take the Pledge" cards to those present. Please support our NH kids by taking the pledge on-line at <http://sparknh.com/pledge> and spread the word!

***Next meeting: Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at Children Unlimited from noon-1:30. Please bring a bag lunch!***