



Child Care Taskforce Meeting

November 9th, 2021

Taskforce Members Present:

- Commissioner Clarence Carter (DHS)
- Representative Patsy Hazelwood (virtual)
- Jamie Stitt: Designee for Commissioner Bob Rolfe (DECD)
- Phil Accord
- Pat Sheehy
- Chloe Moore
- Blair Taylor
- Ryan Hughes

Staff Present:

- Trevor Lauri
- Cherrell Campbell-Street
- Jude White
- Gwen Laaser
- Eric Dunn
- Krisann Hodges
- Melisa Hucks
- Michelle Joyner
- Dakota Simpson
- Suzanne Carr

Taskforce Members

Absent:

- Senator Becky Massey
- Commissioner Jeff McCord (DLWD)
- Misty Moody: Designee for Commissioner Penny Schwinn (Education)
- Dr. Tobi Amosun: Designee for Commissioner Lisa Piercey (TDH)
- Jeremy Biggs

1:00 p.m. Welcome and Commissioner's Updates

Commissioner Carter initiated the roll call. Vice-Chair Taylor asked if there needed to be more outreach and engagement before the next meeting to ensure a physical quorum is present. Commissioner Carter answered affirmatively.

1:06 p.m. Child Care Labor Market

Kshitiz Rastogi gave a presentation on the Child Care Labor Market. Deputy Campbell-Street noted that it would be interesting to see the impact of the DHS wage supplement program on the numbers presented during this time. Ryan Hughes noted that many centers don't qualify for the wages program due to various reasons, including some centers being licensed through the Department of Education rather than DHS.

Commissioner Carter noted that the group is currently unable to see the whole picture of the issues facing these centers because some do not register with Labor/Unemployment or with DHS. Vice-Chair Taylor noted that if the Taskforce wants to figure out a better picture of supply, they will also need to tackle demand as well. Commissioner Carter asked for a subcommittee to be formed including at least one vice-chair on this issue.

2:02 p.m. Child Care Professional Supply and Demand

Dr. Jothany Blackwood gave a presentation on Child Care Professional Supply and Demand. Phil Accord noted that this topic might be worth a subcommittee as well. Vice-Chair Taylor agreed and asked for the group to consider a subcommittee on the Child Care Workforce Pipeline.

2:31 p.m. Child Care Talent Development and Retention

Heather Hicks, Andrew Hunt, and Linda Venable gave a presentation on Child Care Talent Development and Retention.

2:59 p.m. Concluding Remarks & Next Steps

Commissioner Carter asked the group to be sure to sign their forms for certification and assurances, as well as turn in their travel vouchers.

3:00 p.m. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The next Child Care Task Force meeting will take place on December 16th, 2021.