



## **COLLABORATIVE FOR COLCHESTER'S CHILDREN**

**December 3, 2021**

**Leadership Work Group Meeting  
Cragin Memorial Library & Google Meet  
9:00-10:30am**

**Attendance:** Abigail Dunbar-Willbanks, Regina Brady, Kate Byroade, Cindy Praisner, Laurie Buyniski, Julia Lash, Sharon Wiliniski, Beth Tiezzi, Nicole Sargent, Teresa Meservy

### **Partner Updates -**

Cragin: Overall still a good response to foodie fun, craft kits and recordings. Plan to return to in-person programming in early March and will bring toys back out as well.

CASTLE - Planning 30th anniversary celebration at CASTLE on April 30th, programs are full with a growing waitlist. Looking for staff, need college students during preschool times to help as substitutes.

TVCCA - Looking for staff throughout New London county. Colchester is fully staffed, with a new bi-lingual staff member joining. Programs not fully enrolled, HeadStart (7/15), Early HeadStart (7/10). Looking for support to fill remaining openings, must be fully enrolled by January 2022 in order to maintain the program in Colchester.

**Parent Council Updates** - End of year Parent Council virtual get together planned for 12/10 at 8PM, opportunity to connect socially, ask for feedback on Fall programming and discuss potential fundraising opportunities. Parent Ambassadors attended OEC Meet & Greet, were asked for feedback on what's working/not working in our community as well as reaching out to connect with community partners beyond C3.

Discussed creating impromptu snow day programs, such as sledding, snowman making, snow volcanoes, etc. to have ready to go for a snow day off or weekend.

C. Praisner asked PC members to review and comment on the Strong & Empowered Families section of the Community Plan.

**C3 Updates** - ARPA grant request was passed through initial round, included chromebooks, hybrid meeting equipment. Still have an opportunity to ask for additional funding for programs that would meet the needs of grant application.

Sparkler: CECP & Colchester Co-op are using individual program codes. A community code has been created and will be used by any family not connected with those. Community goal is to screen 450 children through the app and in programs with the Ages and Stages Questionnaire.

Conscious Discipline Monthly: Program has been well attended for November & December workshops, Joy will continue to reach out to participants in between sessions with additional support.

Fall Programs: Joyful Noises and Village Support Group ending in December will begin new sessions in January. Monthly Stroller Walks also continue.

**Budget Update** - C. Praisner reviewed the 21-22 budget. On track for spending, includes Family Place training, marketing materials and spiritwear for the Parent Council.

**Fundraising Team** - Looking for members to assist in creating a plan for fundraising throughout the year; including goals, creating a sustainable plan and making donations easier to give.

**PEP Implementation** - Members discussed plans for offering PEP and determined that an in-person program in the Spring when childcare can be provided is the best option for families.

**Meeting Dates for 2021-2022**

January 21

March 4

May 6

Submitted by:

Laurie Buyniski, Assistant to the Coordinator