

Badlands Head Start: Prenatal to Five Health Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Time: 12:00pm

Date: December 16, 2020

Attending: PC Members: Melissa Carlson, Ariel Grusing, Bailey Richards, Katie Fox, Emily Storm,; Patricia Benson (WIC nurse from Lemmon), Rhonda Fuhrer, Monument Health in Belle Fourche, Genevieve Skogberg (retired school nurse in Belle Fourche); Staff: Misty West, Marcus Bevier, Wanda Dunn and Judy Petera

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Health / Nutrition / Safety Updates

- Health tracking HS/EHS: Normally send paperwork – not able to send this time. The numbers do not look real good right now, as families are not going due to COVID and going to doctor for those reasons. Our dental buses have been cancelled, and most of our kids do utilize the dental buses. Hopefully, we can get everyone in and caught up. We feel clinics are doing a great job to let the families in. WIC have always done a great job getting our hemoglobin's done, but not able to do this year with COVID, so Hemoglobin's are low. Need to get those in and caught up. Behind, but working on completing all.
- COVID-19 – As an agency we are doing a good job to stay on top to do what is best for staff and families. We are doing the following:
 - Requiring wearing masks of adults, but not children; taking temperature checks; asking standard questions; center kids are met outside in their car by staff member to take temp and ask questions, so parents are not coming into centers.
 - Home Based – staff contact families before they go to visit, to ask questions and make sure everything is ok. Once they get there, they take the temps of all people involved in the visit. Wash hands; promote hand hygiene everywhere. BHS has pushed mental health resources for families and staff, these are trying times. Glad we are doing this and informing families.
 - Are staff able to get immunizations soon? Marcus replied that Badlands Head Start is not on the list, or able to do this anytime soon. We have not been notified by federal government regarding this. Not sure if Head Start is listed as essential on the Federal basis, as we are non-profit organization.
 - Rhonda – referring back to the vaccine question, “Where is Monument at regarding the vaccine?” The first doses were used in RC. Not enough to cover all essential workers. Most were used in nursing homes. Not sure when next batches are coming. Front line workers will be top of list. Rhonda could add BHS to list, and inform when they were available. Rhonda unsure of distribution routes; knows they are working on logistics to get transported to other location – worry about freezing/hot temperatures.
- With center staff doing outside temp checks, went through a lot of non-touch thermometers, as they are not great. We want accurate temps, but doing them outside in the cold, not sure we

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are getting accurate temps. Does anyone have an idea of what to try? We will continue to try different ones.

- No further discussion

Wellness Committee

- It has been a year since we started. Staff within agency set up a variety of health courses to send out to all staff. Staff volunteers to participate in. Before COVID 1/3 of our staff has participated in them. When COVID started, a lot more joined up due to the downtime before we came back to the office. Melissa is starting a new wellness pilot as a trial to see how that goes over. It is a great program overall. We also have a private FB page for our staff with topics helping in the health area. If PC members like to join, more than happy to have you. If you want to join, just call or email Misty to join.

Community Health

- Open Discussion:
 - Looking for registered dietician. Our current one in RC has retired. Judy has a lead on local girl to follow up on. If anyone has a person in mind, let Misty know. Contracted position, easy work. The dietician will review menus, attend and train at socials (when we begin having them again), and speak with parents about weight issues
- No further discussion

Next Meeting Date: June 16, 2021