

# NIH CHILD CARE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**April 19, 2007**

Building 45-Conference Room C

**Members in Attendance:** Valerie Durrant, Christie Baxter-Espinoza, Jayne Lura-Brown, Angela Magliozzi, Richard Morris, Susan Persons, Kim Plascjak, Henry Primas, Lisa Strauss, Tracy Waldeck, Thomas Hayden, Lynn Hudson, Charlie O'Hanlon, Matthew Kohn, Mary Ellen Savarese, Nadine Butler

**Voting Members Absent:** Hillary Fitis, Monica Ellerbe-Scott

**Center Liaisons Attending:** POPI: Paulina Alvarado, ECDC: Anne Schmitz, ChildKind: Amy Cliber

## **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Board Chair Valerie Durrant called the meeting to order and welcomed all members. She noted that Hillary Fitis and Monica Ellerbe-Scott were absent due to maternity leave-congratulations to both!

## **II. Approval of March Minutes**

Dr. Durrant called for approval of the Minutes of the March 1, 2007 Board meeting. The minutes were approved.

## **III. Chair's Report**

Dr. Durrant reported that the final Child Care Subsidy Report was forwarded to Drs. Zerhouni and Kington in February and the proposal to make this pilot program into an ongoing program is in the budget approval process. We are waiting for a final decision on this which is anticipated in June. Reports from both Tom Hayden and Susan Persons suggest that early indications look promising that this pilot period will be converted to an ongoing program. Both reported that child care issues have the attention of the NIH leaders particularly as it relates to issues of recruitment and retention.

The Board recognized those involved in the 2005-2006 Annual Report on NIH Child Care which was awarded an NIH Plain Language Award in the Excellent Category. Members of the Board who attended the award ceremony on April 17<sup>th</sup> said that the report was highly praised for its professionalism.

The Board has not yet received a response to its letter to Dr. Alfred Johnson, Director ORS, regarding additional facilities for NIH child care. It was suggested that he is working on a response and it appears that plans for a new child care center are currently on the FY10 capital budget plan and may be bumped up to FY09. The Board's efforts to push for this appear to have had an impact in getting this bumped up from the FY11 plan to the FY10 plan and the

Board hopes to continue to assert the strong need for additional facilities to keep this at the top of the NIH agenda.

Mary Ellen Savarese announced that the LifeWork Strategies has just delivered their most recent quarterly report of the waitlist data. As she just received this last evening, she gave only a brief overview of the document noting that it appeared that they had tried to add the additional data the Board had asked to be included in the report. Also of note, the number of children on the waitlist has continued to steadily increase. Ms. Savarese plans to distribute this report to the board members.

Mary Ellen Savarese also announced that Patty Brandt's office continues to work on the legislative proposal the Board has put forward which has the goal of advocating for changes to the Federal legislation to permit NIH and other Federal Agencies to explore creative solutions to the extraordinary demand for agency sponsored child care programs. This effort is ongoing and continues to be a priority.

#### **IV. Parenting Festival Committee Report**

Jayne Lura-Brown reported that all appears on track for the Festival planned for May 9, 2007 in Building 50. Several important tasks have been completed (giveaways ordered, tables ordered). Members of the committee will meet with a potential presenter later this week and the program will be finalized. Festival flyers have been made and will be distributed to Board members to post in their work areas. Larger posters will also be printed and posted. A sign-up sheet for Board volunteers to cover the event was again circulated and Board members are strongly encouraged to attend.

- V. Board Priorities and Recommendations for Annual Report:** Board members brainstormed a list of priorities and recommendations for the annual report. (See attachment). These will be finalized and prepared in a matrix format by Susan Persons and Lynn Hudson for discussion and approval at the June Board meeting. Richard Morris recommended that the Board think to the future and formulate strategic goals to address the needs of NIH's changing workforce and scientific mission.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2006**

# 2008 CCB Work Plan Development

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Working DRAFT 4/19/2007

- Subsidy Implementation
  - Implement permanent program
  - Evaluate increasing use and need
- Facilities
  - Push plans for NW Child Care Center
  - Partnerships with other Federal Agencies
  - Explore other NIH locations and need for services
  - Back up and sick child care options
- Support NIH WLC
  - Bring WL activities back in the public eye—where has it gone?
  - Solicit more support from leadership for WLC
  - Partner (share resources) with WLC to get more resources for Parenting and Child Care related issues necessary to support NIH employees
  - Develop new programs & resources on current and future uses
- Future Trends and Workforce Change
  - Telecommuting
  - Changing workforce (younger employees with children—increasing need for additional child care resources)
  - NIH off campus locations expanding
  - Emergency preparedness – 1<sup>st</sup> responders
  - Policy
    - Campus child care facilities for telecommuters
    - Leadership development)
- Expansion of Parenting/Child Care Resources
  - More “current issue” resources available in more places
    - Childhood obesity
    - Programs similar to PEP
    - Family management
  - Special needs parents, caregivers and children
- Exploring Additional Avenues to Meeting Child Care Needs of Diverse Employee Population
  - Diverse working situations (telecommuters, emergency preparedness, back-up care)
- Create Executive Briefing on what the Board does to solicit support from Leadership
  - Scenarios – What if’s
  - Demographics
  - Wait List Data
  - Survey data (women)