

TOBACCO SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FUND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 7th Meeting of the 2018 Interim

November 16, 2018

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 7th meeting of the Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee was held on Friday, November 16, 2018, at 10:00 AM, in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Myron Dossett, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Representative Myron Dossett, Co-Chair; Senator Dennis Parrett; Representatives Phillip Pratt, Rick Rand, and Brandon Reed.

Guests: Linda Hampton, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Early Childhood (GOEC); Melissa Banks, Interim Assistant Director, Division of Childcare, Department for Community Based Services, Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS); Paula Goff, Department for Public Health, CHFS; and Erin Mitchell, Communications Director, GOEC.

LRC Staff: Nathan Smith, Kelly Ludwig, Tanya Monsanto, and Rachel Hartley.

Early Childhood Development

Linda Hampton stated GOEC received \$24,516,100 in tobacco settlement funds for Fiscal Year 2018. The majority of the funds are used for the Child Care Program and Health Access Nurturing Development Services (HANDS).

GOEC partnered with First Lady Glenna Bevin, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the Kentucky Association of Food Banks, and Lakeshore Learning to develop the book *Kids of Kentucky, What Do You Want to Be?* to support Kentucky Proud products, the No Kid Hungry campaign, and to promote quality efforts that advance the most critical years of a child's life.

GOEC also partnered with First Lady Glenna Bevin and Lakeshore Learning to develop the book *Kids of Kentucky, Who Is In Your Family?* to raise awareness regarding foster care, adoption, and the diversity of families in Kentucky.

The Early Childhood Institute was held in June of 2017 and the theme was “Leading the Way for Kids of Kentucky.” There were 146 professional development sessions with over 25,000 hours of child care training.

Community Early Childhood Councils mobilize local community members to build innovative, collaborative partnerships to help Kentucky improve kindergarten readiness. A total of \$1,238,573.64 was awarded to 72 councils during the 2018-2019 grant cycle.

Kentucky All Stars is Kentucky’s expanded five-star quality rating and improvement system serving all early care and education programs that receive public funding.

Melissa Banks stated the Division of Child Care has a budget allotment of \$8,718,144.42, and the majority of the funds go directly to providers through quality incentives with Kentucky All Stars. Stars For Kids Now was replaced with Kentucky All Stars in April of 2018.

Paula Goff stated Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH) receives \$1,000,000 annually from the tobacco settlement funds. The services include consultations, trainings, evaluations, and therapeutic services for children from birth to five years old. ECMH served over 4,000 children and provided training to over 1,000 education staff in Head Start, childcare, and state-funded preschool.

Health Access Nurturing Development Services (HANDS) is a statewide home visitation program. In Fiscal Year 2018 HANDS served over 5,000 families. The program is designed to assist overburdened parents during the prenatal period until the child’s third birthday.

Connect the Dots is a joint collaboration between multiple early education and mental health specialists in Kentucky. It highlights four easy to remember steps to address challenging behaviors, and trainings are available to anyone who works with children ages two to five years old.

The Healing Empowering Actively Recovering Together (HEART) program serves pregnant and parenting women with opioid use disorder and babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome. The program is a weekly support group experience.

In response to a question from Representative Dossett, Ms. Goff stated HANDS is a voluntary program, but there are referrals from doctors and health departments. The HEART program began in September 2018.

Documents distributed during the meeting are available in the LRC Library and at www.lrc.ky.gov.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.