



To: All JFCAC Head Start Staff and JFCAC Policy Council Members

From: Stephanie Kerth

Subject: Weekly Memo Update

Date: Week of 10.19.15

Following is the update for this past week. I hope you find the information useful!!

Mandatory Meetings:

- Thank you to all those who are able to make it to the Mandatory Meetings that are scheduled throughout the next couple months. We as a Leadership Team look forward to our time together. This time will allow for both the training on newly updated Policies and Procedures as well as a time for the Leadership Team to hear feedback about our program.

Mindfulness Training Update:

- Throughout next week (11.02.15-11.06.15), the Head Start Leadership Staff, along with other members of Leadership within JFCAC, will attend Mindfulness Training with Dr. Singh. We are looking forward to learning more about mindfulness, including how to practice it ourselves, so that we can be an example of how mindfulness is to translate into working with children and families in the classroom setting.

If assistance is needed during this week, please contact Robin Bradford, Program Secretary, at rbradford@jfcac.org or 636.789.3563.

Grantee Assessment Meeting:

- On Wednesday 10.28.15, our program is scheduled for a Grantee Assessment Meeting (GAM). Jill Lombardo (CEO), Paulette Hensely (CPO), Kristin Firley (CFO) Julia Hampton (Board Chair) and I (Interim HS Director) will travel to our Regional Office in Kansas City, MO to meet with our Regional Team.

This meeting is a meeting that every grantee attends once a year. The meeting provides an opportunity for our program to discuss with our Program Specialist, Grant Specialist and Program Manager our program's strengths, challenges, and areas for growth.

Please stay tuned for an update on how the meeting went!! ☺



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Director's Caucus:

- During this past week, I had the opportunity to attend the Region VII Director's Caucus in Kansas City, MO. The keynote speaker of the caucus was Maurice Sykes and he spoke about "Leadership Resiliency." Mr. Sykes has penned a book entitled "Doing the Right Thing for Children: Eight Qualities of Leadership" which aligns well with our program's goal to aid in the building of resiliency in the children and families we serve at JFCAC.

Those in attendance at the caucus also had the opportunity to hear Clarence Small, Regional Program Manager for Region VII, give an in-depth update on Region VII. We were provided useful information on grant updates, the Aligned Monitoring System, as well as changes in the Head Start Enterprise System.

Finally, the caucus provided a time for Head Start Directors, and other Leadership Staff, to network with others in similar positions. This networking provides the opportunity to learn about the trends in other Head Start Programs which helps to identify growth opportunity within JFCAC!!

Family Advocate Assignments:

- Recently, there has been a reassignment of Family Advocates. Some centers may have the same Family Advocate as in the past, but others may have a newly assigned advocate. This reassignment was completed to ensure the best caseload distribution to each Family Advocate as well as to assure the best service provision to all centers.

If you have any questions or comments related to the new Family Advocate assignments, please contact Shannon Mast as smast@jfcac.org.

Shout Out!!!:

- Shout Out to **FENTON** for a job well done!! The teachers have done an amazing job with engaging students, having positive interactions through small group time, as well as ensuring tooth brushing activity was fun and engaging. Overall, great job with creating a positive learning environment for all students! Thanks for creating a great center atmosphere!
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Thank you for taking the time to read and review this week's memo update. Please feel free to contact your immediate supervisor, any management staff, or myself with any questions and/or concerns.

Stephanie Kerth