

Minutes

(Digitally recorded)

RECC Chair Annual Meeting / June 25th & 26th, 2015

SpringHill Suites by Marriott, 424 E Parkcenter Blvd, Boise, Idaho 83706

Attendees:

Members: Holly Whitworth, Deb Allen, Cathie Johnson, Laura Thomas, Brandi Shaffer, Emily Petersen (for Rosanna Campbell), Christine Zacharias, Kathy Eld, Georgina Dingman, Katie Simmons, Danielle Scott

Excused: Rosanna Campbell, Monica Chapman

Guests: Beth Oppenheimer, Deborah Drain, Sherry Iverson, Natasha Kempthorne

Staff: Sue Harpold, Katie Stoneberg

Meeting Called to Order at 11:02am

Chair Holly Whitworth opened the meeting and welcomed her successor as Representative Elect to EC3, Cathie Johnson. Remaining members were introduced with identifying titles and agencies. Meeting evaluations were handed out and attendees were asked to fill out the evaluation throughout each day and turn in to Sue or Katie at the end of the day.

Sue Harpold – Early Childhood Coordinating Council (EC3) Overview: Executive Order, structure, past accomplishments, and current updates. (Presented by PowerPoint – a handout of the PowerPoint was provided to each attendee)

A history of EC3 was provided along with the mission and responsibilities of the Council. Sue provided information on the composition of EC3 and Regional Early Childhood Coordinating Committees. Previous EC3 initiatives were discussed. The Crying Plan had been translated into Spanish and each regional representative was given some copies to take back to their regions. Sue discussed current EC3 activities. EC3 is putting a lot of focus into the mitigation of toxic stress in young children. Last week data on toxic stress in Idaho was received for the first time. EC3 is currently working on a survey around Adverse Childhood Experiences. –This will be discussed in more detail on day 2 (June 26, 2015) of the RECC annual meeting. EC3 is working together with Idaho Association of Infant Mental Health to promote a new endorsement for Infant Mental Health Providers. EC3 is working to possibly get Medicaid reimbursement for Infant Mental Health services.

EC3 hosts the Early Childhood Information Clearinghouse www.earlychildhood.dhw.idaho.gov. The Clearinghouse contains Council minutes, RECC meeting minutes, and newsletters. There are several resources available to Council/Committee members and parents through the Clearinghouse as well as a link to EC3's Facebook page. Sue is currently working on revamping the Clearinghouse making it more up to date and user friendly.

Regional Early Childhood Coordinating Committees have been formed in each of the 7 regions in Idaho. Sue will send a copy of the Idaho Regional Map to each attendee. Each Committee has a charter and By-Laws. The structure of RECC is designed to mirror EC3. RECCs will receive a copy of the PowerPoint used in this presentation for the committees to use for new member training orientations and current member review.

Sue is working with an advertising company to design a logo for RECC. She will receive 3 designs that will be forwarded to the RECC Chairs for feedback before a decision is made.

Holly Whitworth – Lunch and Networking

Beth Oppenheimer – Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children – Messaging and Advocacy for Young Children. (Presented by PowerPoint – a handout of the Idaho AEYC Advocacy Toolkit and a copy of the PowerPoint was provided to each attendee)

RECC committee members are encouraged to get the word out about early childhood education by using the following strategies:

Legislative Advocacy:

- Write or call your legislator
- Testify
- Meet in person with staff or legislator
- Invite legislators to a program meeting

Media Advocacy:

- Write Letters to the editor
- Contact local reporters, radio , television
- Meet with local editorial boards
- Identify families and ask them to write letters or emails
- Share local media coverage with elected officials from your community

Idaho AEYC has samples of letters and helpful information to assist in advocacy as well as the information on who to contact in your community.

When framing the issue, it is important to keep it simple. Do not use jargon and acronyms.. Keep in mind what you do, how you do it, why it matters, and why they should care.

In addition, when communicating with elected officials, it is important to remember that they are there to represent you and our community. You can go to www.idahogov.org to find out who your elected officials are and how you can get in touch with them. Start building relationships with your elected officials; this will help get your program's information out there. Your elected officials want to know how your programs affect your community and how it solves an issue.

Idaho AEYC has been working on:

- Pilot Pre-K Bill 2014 & 2015 – Partnering with the State Department of Education and communities allowing 5 school districts throughout the state to develop their own Pre-K Program in order to gather data.
- Boise Child Care Licensing – working with the City of Boise, Central District Health, Blue Cross, and many other organizations to incorporate healthy initiatives in children. Put on the first *Lets Move Child Care* workshop in Idaho. This workshop was provided free to child care providers in Boise only. After

feedback from providers there were changes made to the policy and it was passed in October of 2014. Now, all child care directors are required to take the *Lets Move Child Care* training course.

- Electoral Advocacy – In 2014 Idaho AEYC did a “Get Out and Vote” call where each AEYC member was called and informed that the election was coming up. In addition, they were informed of early childhood education and early care and learning issues affecting the field as well as information on how and where to vote. Beth asked that if members attend an event where issues are being debated, that they ask a question around early learning. Sample questions were provided.
- Legislative Day 2015 – Idaho AEYC partnered with the Head Start Association to put on the first Early Learning Advocacy Day. Appointments were set up for all participants to meet with their legislators. Information packets were provided. This allowed legislators and their constituents to discuss early care and learning.
- Early Childhood Summit 2015 – In May 2015 the McClure and Andrus Centers partnered to host a “living room discussion” around early care and learning. People from different states including Rachel Canter (Mississippi First) were invited to provide information on successes and challenges they have faced regarding early learning in their states. Ms. Canter described a local community collaborative model that has been successful in Mississippi.
- Current legislative work – Beth reported that a small group of individuals have been working on a legislative approach for Idaho. This group spent time mapping out past efforts, discussed models and possible opportunities for Idaho families to access resources for early care and learning their young children? The Mississippi model was discussed: This model would have to follow Idaho early learning standards that have been developed through the Early Childhood Coordinating Council (EC3) and would be managed by the State Department of Education. This model would allow local communities to develop what works for them.

Beth provided the following information on Idaho AEYC memberships: members will have direct access to E-news (monthly), Early Learning News (monthly), Children’s Champions, and the Idaho AEYC Newsletter (quarterly), Discounts on conferences at the state and national level.

- Student – receive all national benefits and access to NAEYC student forum \$40.00
- Regular – receive all national benefits \$50.00
- Comprehensive – receive all national benefits and 6 newly published periodicals throughout the year \$90.00
- Community Member – starts at \$25.00

Idaho AEYC will be hosting a statewide conference on September 10-12, 2015 in Boise. This has been sponsored in part by the Early Childhood Coordinating Council. Attendance has been limited to 100 people. Information on this can be found at www.idahoaeyc.org.

RECC members can also go to the IAEYC website to find out who their local affiliate is.

Sue Harpold – RECC By-Laws (By-Laws from regions 4 and 6 as well as the RECC Charter were provided.)

By-laws for Regions IV and VII were reviewed with the RECC Charter. In reviewing them, the group discussed how the Charter spells out what the RECC membership should be and each set of regional By-Laws indicate local implementation. The goal is that all of the RECC Charter minimum requirements that are met in each region’s by-

laws. Each region can choose whether they want to meet monthly or quarterly however there needs to be some form of uniformity throughout all regions to ensure that the By-Laws are meeting the standards that they need to meet.

Sue suggested an ad hoc committee be formed in order to review and revise the By-Laws in 2015 and have then ready to implement in 2016. A motion to revise the By-Laws was made by Sue and seconded by Gina Dingman. This motion was voted on and was passed unanimously. Kathy Eld and Gina Dingman volunteered to head this committee. The committee will meet via conference call to collaborate and revise the By-Laws.

Emily suggested that By-Law ad hoc committees be formed to review the By-Laws in each region and that the Vice Chair would be the Chair over this committee. Sue added that it would be beneficial for job descriptions be developed for the different positions within the RECC Committee.

Katie will send an electronic copy of the RECC Charter to RECC Chairs.

Sherry Iverson – Conflict of Interest Statements, EC3 Updates and Plans.

Sherry encouraged RECC chairs to meet with the Home Visiting or Parents as Teachers Programs in their regions. EC3 has their quarterly meeting in September and Sherry requested that Holly Whitworth report back to EC3 with information on which regions have Home Visiting or Parents as Teachers members on their committee.

EC3 has been continuing to work to distribute The Crying Plan. EC3 will be joining the Children's Trust Fund and the Idaho American Academy of Pediatrics at the Babypalooza Maternity Fair on July 25, 2015 at Expo Idaho. They will be distributing the four parts of The Crying Plan at that time in a gift basket. The Crying Plan will be presented in a raffle basket which will include:

- Diapers and wipes – representing the physical needs of the baby.
- Swaddling blanket – representing calming baby.
- A box of chocolates and bubble bath – representing calm yourself.
- Address book – representing call a friend.

Sherry encouraged RECC chairs to get The Crying Plan out into their communities.

EC3 is working to develop a toddler plan. This will provide information to parents on how to handle a meltdown or temper tantrum. This plan will be structured to be similar to The Crying Plan for babies.

EC3 has been working on Early Literacy. St. Luke's Hospital in Boise was approached by The Boise Library Foundation. They have been collaborating on getting Library cards for newborns. EC3 has a baby board book and has contacted the state library and has received two books, one on nursery rhymes and the other is about singing in the car. EC3 received 500 books that were then distributed to all the newborns at the time of discharge. The Library saw great results from this. The mother/baby story hour increased from 18 participants to 75. As a result, The Library Foundation has provided an additional 1000 books. RECC member were encouraged to think about ways to get books into newborn and children's hands.

Sherry stated EC3 is working with Aim Early Idaho to support them in promoting the Infant Mental Health Endorsement for professionals working with infants. EC3 recently purchased an endorsement software system so

that individuals that are working on their Mental Health Endorsement can get enrolled and get their application filled out and submitted. Individuals will also be able to get in contact with their mentors.

EC3 is also working on the ACES survey. RECC members were encouraged to take the ACES Survey and provide input and feedback.

Sherry informed the Chairs that all RECC members will need to sign a Conflict of Interest Statement annually. Each attendee was provided a copy of the Conflict of Interest Statement to sign. A digital copy of the form will be sent to each RECC chair so that all RECC members in their regions can sign it.

Sherry informed the RECCs that the funds that were being held in the Idaho Community Foundation are going to be given to the RECCs. Each region will be receiving their monies after the start of the fiscal year, July 2015. EC3 would like to receive report of what was done with the funds. The funds will need to be spent by the end of the 2016 fiscal year.

Sherry reported that Idaho is lacking skilled car seat technicians that are able to fit children with and install car seats for children with special needs. On October 21st & 22nd, 2015 there will be a training held in Boise. Sherry stated there are funds available through St. Luke's in order to pay for the training. RECCs were informed to let Sherry know if they know of someone that is a car seat technician and would like to receive the training.

Holly Whitworth – EC3 Priorities for RECC for 2015/2016. (Presented by PowerPoint – a handout of the PowerPoint was provided to each attendee)

Holly asked what EC3 can do to help the RECCs. Some ideas were:

- A timeline of what is needed from the RECCs and when.
- RECC chairs coming together to get foundational training on what EC3 is and what is expected of the RECCs.
- Using the EC3 overview PowerPoint presented by Sue to provide new member orientation as well as a refresher training for tenured RECC members.
- Making a “We’ve missed you” post card with both the EC3 and RECC logos on it to let those that have not participated in the meetings know that their absence is noticed and missed.
- Budget:
 - ❖ The budget can be general. If a budget item is over 500.00 there needs to be an asterisk with detailed information.
 - ❖ Budgets need to be somewhat open-ended and flexible as there are changes that are made.
 - ❖ Having an earlier deadline for RECC budget to be submitted.
 - ❖ Make updates to the existing information sheet on budgets and get it out to all RECCs.
- Recruitment:
 - ❖ A standard template for recruitment letters on official letter head. This can be posted on the clearinghouse for easy access.
 - ❖ Recruit through www.linkedin.com and other social media.
 - ❖ Have links from EC3's Facebook page to each RECC page. – This will be put on the EC3 September meeting agenda.
 - ❖ Who to contact for membership recruitment:

- ◆ College graduates.
- ◆ Child care providers.
- ◆ Law enforcement.
- ◆ Judicial
- ◆ School Districts
- ◆ School Psychologists
- ◆ School Teachers
- ◆ Support groups for parents with special needs children.
- ◆ Doctors, physicians, physician's assistants.
- ◆ Members of the Health Department.
- ◆ Librarians
- ◆ Idaho STARS
- ◆ Head Start
- ◆ Idaho Parents Unlimited
- ◆ Parents with children under the age of 13 with disabilities
- ◆ Volunteer Fairs – Suggestion that RECCs should budget for an informational display board. This will be discussed during a RECC chair conference call at some point throughout this year.
- ◆ United Way.
- ◆ Banks that require employees to participate in community service.
- ❖ Create business cards with EC3 and RECC contact information, meeting dates and times and location. RECCs were given post-it notes with Regional Early Childhood Committee and EC3 on them.
- ❖ Attendance sheets for RECC meetings.
- ❖ Annual certificates for members – RECC Chairs will be given printable certificates that can be given to RECC members as a thank you for being a member.

Laura stated that the RECC in region 6 budgets money each year for a representative to attend the RECC Annual Meeting. The question of whether it is the RECCs that need to budget for that or if EC3 will be covering the expenses was asked. Sue stated that she is currently seeking clarification on this issue. Sue stated she will look at the budget for the grant to get more clarification. There is a possibility that if EC3 covers the expenses for the RECC Annual Meeting then the RECCs could pay for a member to attend an EC3 quarterly meeting. Cathie will bring this topic up at the EC3 quarterly meeting.

Deborah Drain – Maternal and Infant Early Childhood Program – Home Visiting Partnerships. (Presented by PowerPoint – a handout of the PowerPoint as well as a copy of the Home Visiting Communication Planning Toolkit was provided to each attendee)

Deborah discussed the effort to create effective “messaging” for Home Visiting. The Home Visiting Program does not want to be viewed as a federal program coming telling parents what to do. Instead, to be seen as a community effort that supports families in their efforts to raise their children.

- Domestic Violence Screenings of female care givers have increased from 62% to 81%.
- Developmental Screenings of female care givers have increased from 73% to 89%.
- Child Injury Prevention Education Screenings of female care givers have increased from 89% to 100%.
- Post-Partum Depression Screenings of female care givers have increased from 43% to 71%.

- Tobacco Risk Education Screenings of female care givers have increased from 34% to 82%.

The return on investment for Home Visiting has gone from the standard range with early care and learning of about \$5.00-\$7.00 saved for every dollar spent to \$9.00 saved for every dollar spent.

Idaho's Home Visiting Program has 3 models: Parents as Teachers, Early Head Start, and Nurse-Family Partnership. All 3 models have essentially the same core goals, however they do have different emphases.

- Parents as Teachers' number one philosophy is that the parents are the child's first and most important teacher.
- Early Head Starts' number one priority is school readiness.
- Nurse-Family Partnerships empower first time mothers living in poverty.

There was a statewide assessment of Home Visiting Programs in October of 2014. Deborah discussed the how the results show strengths and needs and what the identified solutions are.

Strengths:

- Program Standards
- Training
- Resources and supports to home visitors
- Transition policies and agreements
- Holistic approach

Needs:

- Effectively engaging media and policy makers
- Recruitment and retention
- Sustainable funding
- Integration with other early childhood services
- Coordination of funding streams

Identified solutions:

- Maintaining contact with media services
- Define outreach goals
- Assess organizational public informational officer priorities, scheduled news releases, use of diverse types of media
- Clear consistent messaging
- Community presence
- Success stories
- Identify champions to increase program efficiencies
- Innovative sources of funding

The Pew Foundation has conducted 2 separate studies 2 years in row and have found through their results is that Home Visiting is the wrong term to use for this program. Results showed that the words Home Visiting caused

people to think of child protection and negative aspects of the Department of Health and Welfare. This could potentially cause parents and caregivers to become defensive and make them unwilling to participate.

Deborah provided examples of Home Visiting Program branding from Oklahoma, Arizona, and Arkansas. None of these states had Home Visiting as the title of their program.

The Home Visiting Communication Planning Toolkit explains what Home Visiting is, what is happening in Home Visiting right now, and how Home Visiting integrates with other early care and learning services. There is a communication feedback section with questions geared towards obtaining information about the communities the Home Visiting Programs serves.

Each RECC will take the Home Visiting Communication Planning Toolkit back to their committee for more feedback and suggestions. The goal is to collect data from the toolkit and compile data to be presented at the Home Visiting Summit in October. Each RECC will need to have the data from the Toolkit by the end of September. The RECCs can send out an email including information on the Toolkit so that members will have time to provide their information at their monthly meeting when the Toolkit will be assessed and data collected. RECCs are encouraged to have their legislators in attendance when the Toolkit data is collected.

RECCs will also provide Program Information Reports and community reports data to Deborah.

The next steps are for the MIECHV Program are:

- Engage all Home Visiting programs in RECC.
- Develop a work plan
- Identify good examples of messaging
- Identify possible common data points
- Host 3 Hub mini-summits to:
 - ❖ Develop a consistent message
 - ❖ Coordinate outreach strategies
 - ❖ Coordinate sustainability planning

Adjourned at 5:30pm

MINUTES

RECC Annual Chair Meeting - DAY 2 – June 26, 2015 7:50 am

Meeting Called to Order at 7:50am

Co-Chair Holly Whitworth called the meeting to order.

Natasha Kempthorne – Twiga Foundation - BLOCK Fest Training. (Presented by PowerPoint – a handout of the PowerPoint and Articles detailing BLOCK Fest was provided to each attendee)

RECC members Gina Dingman, Katie Simmons, Danielle Scott, Cathie Johnson, Deb Allen, Laura Thomas, Brandi Shaffer, Emily Petersen, Chris Zacharias, and Kathy Eld received certified host training for BLOCK Fest from 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. This training was provided by Natasha Kempthorne with the Twiga Foundation.

BLOCK Fests can be held once in a day or in sessions throughout the day. It is important to allow time in-between sessions for cleaning the exhibits, regrouping, and to take a break. Natasha suggested that a bin of socks be purchased and kept in a tote for those participants that do not come to the BLOCK Fest with socks on their feet. The socks can then be washed for the next BLOCK Fest or thrown away.

“Mini BLOCK Fests” can be held for children or parents that have special needs. This would make it possible for a smaller amount of participants, in a smaller meeting space that will reduce the amount of noise and allow those with special needs to focus on and enjoy the full experience of BLOCK Fest.

Parent Feedback Cards are given to parents as they cycle through the last stations of a BLOCK Fest Session. The data from this card can be used to better facilitate future BLOCK Fests. These cards all need to be sent to the Twiga Foundation for their data collection purposes. These cards are available in English and Spanish and are provided by the Twiga Foundation. They are available to be printed of on their website at www.Blockfest.org

BLOCK Fest exhibits can be purchased, rented, or borrowed. The cost to purchase a BLOCK Fest is approximately \$10,000.00. The cost to rent a BLOCK Fest exhibit from the Twiga Foundation is \$250.00 and can be kept for a week.

Sue stated that EC3 is discussing the idea of purchasing a BLOCK Fest exhibit that will be used by all regions. The details of how the exhibits will be transferred from region to region will need to be worked out.

Holly Whitworth – Overview of yesterday’s meeting

Home Visiting Communication Planning Toolkit Questions, Comments, and Concerns:

- Chairs feel that there is a lack of knowledge regarding the Home Visiting Program in general. Holly encouraged RECCs to contact their Health Department to get in contact with their Home Visiting representative.
- The questions in the Toolkit were discussed: members expressed that the questions don’t seem to have a lot to do with Home Visiting. Holly stated that the questions are not geared towards Home Visiting. They are designed to gather information on communities. This information can be used to mold the message of Home Visiting throughout the state of Idaho.
- Deborah stated she would create an excel spreadsheet with questions asked in the Home Visiting Communication Planning Toolkit. Sue and Holly will follow up with Deborah and Katie will send the excel sheet out to RECCs once it is received(by the 2nd week in July). Then RECCs will collect data and turn in before the EC3 September meeting.

By-Laws Feedback and Questions:

- RECCs need support from EC3 in revising their By-Laws to ensure they are following the guidelines and mirroring EC3.
- RECCs will send their By-Laws to Sue by the end of July.
- Kathy Eld and Gina Dingman volunteered serve on a committee to discuss revision of by-Laws.
- RECCs will continue to operate on the by-laws they currently have while they are being revised.

Budget:

- In order for the budget timelines to be aligned with the fiscal year, it was proposed to have EC3 and RECCs change the due date for their budgets to be turned in. If the budgets are completed by the end of May and turned in in June this would ensure that all budgets are completed and submitted timely. – This will be brought before EC3 to decide upon.

Sue and Katie are currently working on meeting the timelines to have the call for agenda items, the finalized meeting agendas, and the meeting minutes to be completed and sent out. This will help keep all EC3 and RECC members updated on the Council and Committee's current events.

Cathie provided a printout providing more information on the Aim Early Idaho Endorsement System. More information is also available on Aim Early Idaho's website www.aimearlyidaho.org.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries provided one of their kits on science and math workshops that they do for parents. Booklets and information was provided for the RECCs to take back to their regions.

Holly brought an Early Childhood vision Kit and a 0 – 3 Vision Kit for RECCs to look at. These kits were bought by region 7 with their budget dollars this year.

Holly Whitworth – Lunch/ Presentation: Adverse Childhood Experiences TED Talk: Dr. Nadine Harris-Burke, How Childhood Experiences Affect Health Across a Lifetime. (A handout on the ACES study was provided to meeting attendees.)

The Chairs watched the Ted Talk Video: Dr. Nadine Harris Burke on how childhood experiences affect health across a lifetime.

Laura stated there is a link on the Idaho STARS website www.idahostars.org to Distance Learning trainings. The training focuses on protective factors in order to strengthen families.

Holly asked the Chairs to think about what can be done at the regional level to help get information on ACES to communities. Ideas generated were:

- Get doctors and physicians to take the ACES survey. Families are more inclined to listen to their doctors if the doctor has taken the survey and can provide support for the family, more families will want to participate.
- Reach out to Medical Home Coordinators with a training and information on the ACES survey.
- Find a champion in each region and invite them to the RECC meetings.

- Host a dinner and discussion with the Medical Home Coordinators. Show the TED talk video and have the attendees take the survey with a follow-up discussion.
- The ACES survey questions have been added to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey in the state of Washington and mapped out by county. The data shows the where the communities are that have the highest ACE scores.

Sue Harpold – Regional Reports.

Gina Dingman & Katie Simmons from Region 1 reported:

- In September the RECCs created “Agency Presentations – Year at a glance.” Every month, an agency chooses to put on a different presentation. The agencies sign up for the month of their choice. The information was then put into a calendar and distributed to the RECCs. This allowed all RECC members to know what each agency does.
- Region 1 has 24 agencies that are represented in their region. An attendance excel spreadsheet was created in order to keep track of who is attending the monthly meetings
- Added an attendance policy to the Region 1 By-Laws.
- In November RECC distributed the screen time brochures, developmental milestones, and other books at the Fall Festival.
- RECC voted to work on the distribution of The Crying Plan this year to child care providers in their communities.
- Held a mini-conference “Being our Best for Babies” in April. There were 44 people in attendance. This was a free conference with giveaway items included. The conference focused on The Crying Plan, Safe Sleep, Adult Self-care and Stress Reducing Techniques, and Baby Soothing Techniques.
- Kids Day in the Park will be held on July 11, 2015. The Crying Plan will be distributed on small business cards for parents to carry with them at all time as well as some magnets and books.

Danielle Scott from Region 2 reported:

- Has been really involved with learning more about BLOCK Fest.
- Is currently working on recruitment and expanding their RECC.
- Sent out a notice of interest for those that would be interested in becoming a BLOCK Fest Host.
- Held “Super Saturday” training for childcare providers, parents, and community members on the importance of providing excellent child care.
- Invested in weighted vests and sensory tools in their inventory for parents.
- Working on making a connection with Idaho STARS and child care providers with The Crying Plan.
- Held a Kindergarten Boot Camp for children that are not quite ready for kindergarten.

Cathie Johnson from Region 3 reported:

- Held the Kids Fair for the third year in a row. Attendance and participation decreased this year so the fair may not be put on again.
- Held Dia De Los Niño’s in April.
- Bought books on death and provided to the libraries.
- Will be distributing a resource guide for parents out of the new fiscal year’s budget.

- RECC has had an increase in member support.

Kathy Eld & Chris Zacharias from Region 4 reported:

- Are currently working on a resource guide for Region 4. This is a resource guide with information available for parents. Children's books will also be given to doctors' offices along with the resource guide for parents to access while in the waiting room.

Emily Petersen from Region 5 reported:

- Held Child's Day Out in April. 200-400 people in attendance. Students from the College of Southern Idaho put on booths and activities for children.
- Currently working on recruitment for parent advocates in the state of Idaho to reach out to legislators in the fall.

Laura Thomas & Brandi Shaffer from Region 6 reported:

- Held a resource swap for families with children with special needs. This was done in collaboration with the Idaho Parents Unlimited (IPUL) conference in Pocatello. There were more than 100 attendees. Humanitarians made weighted blankets that were given away, there was a free psych evaluation given away, and there were children's activities put on by the Idaho State University students.
- Supported the Buddy Walk.

Deb Allen from Region 7 reported:

- Held BLOCK Fest. There were 350 children in attendance.
- Bought vision kits and were trained by a pediatric ophthalmologist on how to use the kits.
- Deb suggested having Madison Cares collaborate with RECC on their events in order to get more information out to their communities on RECC. All regions were in agreement that this would be great for all regions to do. Sue will check into this and make sure this is a possibility.

Adjourned at 2:15pm