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Norwich Children First Initiative

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GREATER NORWICH
COMMUNITY
LEADERSHIP TEAM

COLLABORATORS:

Norwich Human
Services

Norwich Youth &
Family Services

United Community
and Family Services

Norwich Public
Schools

Thames Valley
Council for
Community Action
Early Care and
Education

Uncas Health District

Pooh Corner
Preschool

Norwich Children First Initiative / Norwich School Readiness Council

Meeting Minutes for
April 20, 2005

Mission Statement

The mission of the Norwich Children First Initiative is to engage our families, schools, and community to improve life outcomes for young children.

The Children First Initiative/School Readiness Council Collaborative is an effort to create an early care and education agenda that fully engages parents, schools, and the community.

Attendees: Debbie Poirier, Beverly Goulet, Deb Kievits, Laura Olenick, Duncan Profitt, Kim Gumbs, and Sherry Filiatreault

Membership/Recruitment Meeting: We will be organizing a meeting with the business community. If you'd like to be on this committee, please contact Sherry at 823-3782.

Norwich School Readiness Council Report: No report yet, but we are working diligently on preparing the new grants.

Greater Norwich Community Leadership Team: The 2005 Voices For Families class will be graduating on Tuesday, May 31st at Three Rivers Community College. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Sherry by Wednesday, May 25th at 823-3782. This year's class project is on bullying and they will be collaborating with the Anti-Bullying Coalition.

People Empowering People (PEP), now in its seventh week, is continuing to do a great job. They are planning a project to beautify the Family Resource Center.

Parent graduates are hard at work with the Anti-Bullying Coalition. On Saturday, May 14th, they will host a community celebration focusing on respect. This will be located at the East Great Plains Fire Department (see flyer for more info).

Strategic Community Plan: This group is currently meeting every 2nd Wednesday of the month to work on a communication plan. United Way of SECT is introducing the national *Born Learning* campaign, a comprehensive learning package for early care and education (tagline: “Everyday moments can be learning moments”). The launch was May 3rd, and a press conference was held at noon at the United Way office. At the United Way’s request, the Strategic Communication Group spoke about its endeavor with the three towns of Norwich, New London, and Groton, and their Discovery groups. This campaign will help the group to move forward with a theme that all three communities can stand behind.

Newsletter/Website articles: We are currently accepting article submissions for the upcoming newsletter. Please call Sherry at 823-3782, or e-mail her at sherryf@cityofnorwich.org. NCFI will soon have our website up and running! Sherry will e-mail the address as soon as it’s available.

Family Day 2005: The first Family Day meeting was held on April 26th. Anyone who would like to join the planning committee should call Sherry.

*Next meeting is at the Dime Bank at 9:00 AM on May 18th
Hope to see you there!*

