



# Norwich Children First Initiative

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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  
July 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:** Peter Schultheis, Jackie Jamrock, Duncan Profitt, Patricia Kornacki, Jodi Rubino, Alana Jones and Sherry Filiatreault

**There will be no meeting in August due to vacations. Subcommittee meeting(s) will be held.**

**Child Care providers:** The three childcare centers that are involved in the *Eat Smart, Grow Healthy* grant have received information on nutrition and have begun the evaluation process. A toolbox is being developed with the collected information.

**Membership/Recruitment Meeting:** A subcommittee meeting will be held on July 27<sup>th</sup> at Norwich Human Services at 11:00. A meeting with The ADD Agency was held to discuss ways to bring the business community into CFI.

**Legislative Forum Committee:** This committee will be holding a meeting in August. Contact Sherry if you'd like to be a part of this committee.

**Norwich School Readiness Council Report:** A School Readiness Liaison will be hired by the first week of August. SR sites are determining other potential SR sites.

**Greater Norwich Community Leadership Team:** Parent graduates are hard at work with the Anti-Bullying Coalition. All programs are wrapped up for

— DISCOVERY —

the year, and focusing on next year. They plan to work with NFA on the Teen Leadership Program.

**Strategic Community 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"). Committee members showed the group the materials that are being considered for use in our regional strategic communication plan. [www.bornlearning.org](http://www.bornlearning.org)

The three communities chose Five Key Ideas For New Parents and Kid Basics as items to use. A subcommittee was formed to determine which ones were the most affordable to print, where we'll be sending the information, and how we'd like to track all three communities. We are also looking to produce a logo for all three communities and compile contact information for each.

**Newsletter/Website articles:** The newsletter will be available within the next few weeks. Please call Sherry at 823-3782, or e-mail her at [sherryf@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:sherryf@cityofnorwich.org) if you have information to contribute.

**Website** is up and running! The web address is [www.norwichcfi.org](http://www.norwichcfi.org). It's not fully complete, but a work in progress. Please let me know if you see something that is incorrect, or would like to see added.

**Family Day 2005:** Family Day meetings are now held every month to prepare for the big day. The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 at the Rose City Senior Center. Anyone interested in joining the planning committee should contact Sherry.

**GMF** will hold a learning circle on Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at the Rose City Senior Center from 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm. The topic of discussion is Community Mobilization. Please contact Sherry if you'd like to attend, as dinner will be served.

**Financial:** On hold

**Logo:** We'd like to create a CFI logo through idea submissions, or perhaps a contest. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please contact Sherry.

**Committees:** Committees were reviewed, and people signed up for what they were interested in. I will be bring the sign-up sheet to the CFI meetings. Please let me know if there is a particular committee you would like to be on.

### Norwich Children First Initiative Committees

#### Executive Committee:

##### Financial/Resources

*\*Meets 4 times a year*

Beverly Goulet

Chuck Seemen

UCFS/ Kim Gumbs

Peter Schultheis  
Sherry Filiatreault  
Superintendent  
Mayor  
Regional Activities

Strategic Community Plan:

*\*Meets once a month*

Sherry Filiatreault

Eat Smart Grow Health

*\*Meets once a month*

Norwich School Readiness Council:

Peter Schultheis  
Anne Krodel  
Debbi Poirier

Greater Norwich Community Leadership Team:

*\*Meets 4 times a year*

Kay Eyberse  
Nancy Gentes  
Sherry Filiatreault  
Lurena Clarke  
Debbie Kievits  
Angelo Callis

Membership/Recruitment:

*\*Meets once a month*

Laura Olenick  
Debbie Kievits  
Sherry Filiatreault

Child Care Providers Time /Training:

Peter Schultheis  
Veronica Granger (POOH Corner)  
Patricia Kounacki (POOH Corner)  
Debbi Poirier  
Jackie Jamrock

Family Day

*Meets 1 time a month, or as needed*

Safe Communities will be holding a car seat clinic at the Norwich Fire Department on the first Friday of each month from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. You can call 442-0733 for information.

At the September meeting, we will be looking over our work plan - where we are, what we've done, and where we'll go next.

*Next meeting is at the Dime Bank at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>*

**Hope to see you there!**