

**WASHINGTON COUNTY EMPOWERMENT
110 N IOWA AVE, SUITE 300
WASHINGTON, IA
319-461-1369
washingtoncountyempowerment.org**

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Minutes

**August 21, 2008
Federation Bank, 5th floor conference room
110 N Iowa Ave
Washington, IA 52353**

Members present: Anna Rich, Delores Carpenter, Jolisa Weidner, and Tasha Beghtol

1. Preschool Scholarships

Members reviewed applications for scholarships. Agreed by consensus to approve 60% tuition paid for applicant #15 (=\$66/mo) and agreed by consensus to approve 80% tuition paid for applicant #18 (=\$228/mo - \$76 per child).

2. Preschool Support carve out – plan for professional development spending

Tasha handed out and reviewed the final FY09 budget that reflects actual carryover and current unallocated funds. The program committee will need to establish a plan for the unallocated funds and present to the full Board within the next couple of months. Anna requested that preschool teachers be invited to the next Program Committee meeting so they may share opinions on the what is needed for preschool support and professional development in the community.

3. Other

Tasha explained to members that a request was brought to her attention for childcare assistance. Teen mother is waiting approval from DHS for childcare assistance and may need some help while waiting for the application to be approved. Tasha will clarify details of what center the child will be enrolled at and the exact cost to present to the full Board at the next meeting. Anna asked if allowing such an expense would open the door for similar requests. Tasha noted that childcare is not something that the Board has done before, but it is allowable and could be further developed as a program.

Tasha shared an update on the WCSD preschool grant and some concerns for transportation budgets. Members noted that it may be helpful to bring transportation representatives together to discuss current plans and possible solutions to any problems. Tasha will facilitate an effort to bring WCSD, Minibus, Empowerment, and Head Start representation to the table for conversation.