

**CT ECE Finance Project Meeting Notes**  
**December 20, 2004 1-3 p.m. Graustein Memorial Fund (Hamden)**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

January 6, 2005 Graustein Memorial Fund, Hamden 1-3 **RESCHEDULED**  
**January 13, Graustein Memorial Fund, Hamden 1:30-3:30**

**Introductions, Announcements**

- Janice Gruendel (Governor's Office) reported talking with Steve Barnett of the National Institute for Early Education Research ([www.nieer.org](http://www.nieer.org)) in Boston on December 10. Barnett expressed strong interest in testing out the cost-modeling templates. Jeff Asher (CHEFA) will transmit to Barnett.
- Work continues on the Early Childhood Investment 8-page tabloid, with development led by former Hartford Hospital VP Jim Battaglio and a broad-based Editorial Board. The tabloid will reach 400,000 CT households in early February. For more information, contact Battaglio at -- [Jojbat@aol.com](mailto:Jojbat@aol.com). The Governor will appear on the cover with a group of young children and will also write a letter for the Tabloid. The theme of the tabloid will be the "Seven Things Connecticut Needs to Know About Early Childhood." Funds are being raised from a broad group of organizations, largely philanthropic but including as well the CT State Medical Society and the NewAlliance Bank.
- LISC/CIP will release a new report on ECE Capital Development in January. David Wasch (CIP) presented a report, to be transmitted to members electronically. Gruendel reported that she had met a second time with CBIA leadership on early childhood issues and that they have some very good ideas about expanding our thinking re development.
- The Legislative Committee of the CT Early Childhood Alliance met on December 16<sup>th</sup> with 35 individuals in attendance. Jim Horan (CAHS) reported preliminary agreement on seeking additional school readiness funds, additional Care4Kids funds, and fiscal parity for state funded child care centers with school readiness funded centers. The next meeting of the Legislative Committee will be January 13<sup>th</sup>.
- The ECE Finance Project is seeking to receive the following materials: from SDE – The School Readiness Unmet Needs Report; from the Hartford Foundation – the new Hartford Pathways to Success project report; from Sue Wilson/Peg Oliveira – the latest version of the Early Childhood Partners recommendations/report. The ECP report is expected to be released in February 2005.

**Work Update**

Status of ECE Finance Project Report:

Helene Figueroa (soon to be from CAHS) circulated a next draft of the ECE Finance Project report. She asked that any outstanding fiscal grids be submitted to her by the first week in

January, 2005. Jeff Asher and Judy Goldfarb (HACCC) presented several scenarios from the cost modeling template, followed by discussion. Jeff will transmit to all ECE Finance Project members (a) a copy of the working model for members to try out over the holidays, and (b) a set of instructions for use, on which members are asked to comment back to Jeff directly.

#### Report Release:

The group will work to complete the report for the next meeting of the Finance Project, so that final editorial comments can be addressed. It was agreed that the report will be “published” as a technical report, but that a short Executive Summary will be essential prior to release. Re the Executive Summary, Jim Battaglio urged the group to identify its three messages and use that as the basis for the short report.

Jim Battaglio agreed to work with a small group of ECE Finance Project members – Nancy Leonard (GMF), Harry Orlick (Ready, Set, Grow), Kathy Frega (CEA), and Sherbie Worthen, representing the United Ways – to propose a release and marketing strategy for the next meeting. A tentative release target was set for the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week in January. Janice Gruendel reported that about \$3000 has been allocated and is available to cover release costs. Those funds, provided by the Memorial Fund, can be accessed through the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

Darlene Ragozzine reported that she was hoping to bring national ECE expert Anne Mitchell to CT on February 1<sup>st</sup> for a Charts A Course evening event and she wondered if it might be possible to link the release to an a.m. event on February 1<sup>st</sup> with Mitchell. Janice will follow up with Darlene to explore logistics of some kind of same day events.

It was agreed that prerelease briefings were essential to continue, including for:

- Media, with a special briefing for several Hartford reporters
- Legislators: Education Co-Chairs, Majority and minority leadership
- Governor’s Office and OPM
- Provider community
- Commissioners, possibly through the Jobs Cabinet
- Higher Education
- Business Associations
- Philanthropy, possibly through the ECE Funders’ Affinity Group.

#### Events/Meeting Calendar:

- Governor’s State of the State January 5<sup>th</sup>
- Release of CIP Capital Report – date to be determined, early January?
- CT Early Childhood Alliance Legislative Committee meeting – January 13
- CT Early Childhood Alliance full membership meeting – January 24
- Anne Mitchell/Charts a Course event – February 1<sup>st</sup>
- Tabloid release – February 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Governor’s Budget Release and Address – February 9<sup>th</sup>

Scribe:

JM Gruendel, Ph.D.