

21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers  
Networking Conference Call  
November 8, 2011

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## Notes

### Welcome

Lorraine welcomed the participants. Lorraine also reminded participants to mute their phones when they are not speaking to help with background noise and feedback.

### Notices/Updates/Reminders

- *High School Networking Conference Call – November 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.*  
It was shared that the high school conference call will be held tomorrow and is specifically designed for site coordinators and project directors of high school sites
- *Federal On-Site Monitoring Visit*  
Michigan has been selected for a federal on-site monitoring visit. The visit will be conducted on April 30 through May 4, 2012. The United States Department of Education (USDOE) has contracted with a monitoring company that will be conducting the site visit. The monitors have already requested some evaluation documentation. Selected programs have been notified regarding the documentation request. If you are one of those sites, please have your documents sent to MDE before Thanksgiving. As soon as MDE has updates regarding sites choice to be visited, we will let the field know.
- *Fall Kick-Off Goals*  
Lorraine reminded participants to review and implement their Fall Kick-Off goals.

### Topic: Sustainability – Accessing Grants

Lynn Malinoff and Maria Mitter from Eastern Michigan University (EMU) presented some information on ways they are working to sustain after-school programming.

EMU shared that because of the 10 percent cut they have thought about how to supplement their programming. They worked to obtain additional funds by writing for small grants. They receive information on grants through listservs, newsletters, and their university contacts. As project directors, they send those grant notices to their site coordinators to see if the grant would match their programming or be of interest to that population of students.

They have applied for 25-30 grants since July. They have been small grants for \$500 to \$1,000. Lynn and Maria shared strategies and techniques that they use for obtaining these grants.

Lynn and Maria have conducted trainings with their staff that are interested in learning how to apply for these grants. The staff then work with Lynn and Maria to write the grant. This process has given staff additional professional development.

Participants were then asked three questions. They were:

- 1. What skills would you like to develop in order to be confident in writing grants?*
- 2. What businesses or foundations are in your area that could support your program?*
- 3. Who can your organization partner with to assist in the grant writing process?*

Discussion that was inspired by the three questions is shared below.

It was shared that there is a Council of Michigan Foundations which provides resources and training in local areas. Their website provides resources for grant seekers.

Maria shared a list of resources to access grant funding on the listserv. The grant resources are:

#### Websites with Current Opportunities

- Education World: <http://www.educationworld.com/maillist.shtml#grants>
- Edutopia: <http://www.edutopia.org/edutopia/enews>

#### Databases

- After-School Alliance: <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/funding.cfm>
- Grant Wrangler: <http://www.grantwrangler.com/default.html>
- TASC Corporation: <http://www.tascorp.org/content/opportunities/>
- Fable Vision Learning (pdf file): [http://www.fablevisionlearning.com/pdfs/fablevision\\_grants\\_doc.pdf](http://www.fablevisionlearning.com/pdfs/fablevision_grants_doc.pdf)
- Foundation Center (private \$, fee for search, may be accessible at your local library or university/community college): <http://foundationcenter.org/>

Lynn also shared she has a grant tip sheet that she will share with the listserv.

SEEDS shared that they have tapped into several local funds for youth advisory grants. SEEDS has formatted grant language that is needed for each grant but then allows staff to be creative on the narrative to specify the need for that community and the initiative they are working on.

It was shared that April and May are the months when most grants become available.

It was shared that it is a good idea to have sample data on your program that can be used in all grant applications. Data that demonstrates programs have the capacity to use the funding that is being requested is a good sample of data to have in applications. There is also a need to have a list of the partners that you are working with for the grant applications.

Clare shared that they worked to write a grant with their students.

It was also shared that there are discretionary funds from intermediate school districts (ISD) funds that could be requested.

Some after-school programs are in areas where there are tribal reservations and because of this, they partner with the tribal organization for additional resources.

Ideas that were shared were to partner with the colleges to help find grants. Also, parents could be partners to help find grant dollars.

Muskegon shared that they work collaboratively with their local WIA program. The WIA program purpose of providing job and life skills is aligned with the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program's purpose. Some students are in both programs and the collaboration with this program has helped with funding.

Collaboration with Title I in the school districts is another way to access additional dollars for the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program. Title III funds could also be used.

Grand Rapids Public Schools shared that they are working with their safety office. The safety office received a grant to provide programming on safety for students. They have come into the after-school program free of charge to provide this program for the students.

Professional development that is offered by the school district or ISDs could be provided to the after-school staff as an in-kind to help with sustainability.

The question was asked, "With the increase in the cost of CPR and blood borne pathogens, how are programs meeting this requirement in a cost-effective way? Conference call participants responded by sharing the website [www.Pro-CPR.org](http://www.Pro-CPR.org), and suggested to check with local paramedic centers or blood centers, instead of the Red Cross.

It was shared that there are youth development organizations around the state where all programs that work with youth are coming together to pool resources and collaborate on professional development. It was also shared that programs could partner with the Michigan AfterSchool Association and the Michigan After-School Partnership to find additional resources.

### **Other**

There were questions on the issue of the waiver. Lorraine shared that there is a federal waiver webinar for 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC staff tomorrow. The 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC MDE staff is working with the Superintendent's Office on clarifying and defining the language of the waiver and how the process of implementing the waiver will be developed and completed. More information will be shared when it becomes available.

### **Next Call**

The next call is scheduled for December 6, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.