

## LIAISON REPORT

AGENCY: \_\_University and Community Childcare\_\_ LIAISON: \_\_Seth Carter & Jacob Zerkelbach\_\_

**1. Need for Program.** Describe who the target population is and whether their numbers are increasing or decreasing. Indicate the source of this information. Also, indicate how the program/service is different and how it is similar to others and what would happen if the program/service ceased to exist. List the priorities established by ASSET Funders, which the programming addresses.

The target population for UCC is all the community of Ames. Due to their high rating with Federal and State facility reviews, UCC has a high demand for their services. They continue to serve at maximum capacity. This service differs from other day-care services because they offer discounts to Iowa State Students on Child-Care costs. If this service were to be canceled many family's lives would be put on hold while they try to locate new day care services. Also, considering how they offer discounts to ISU students, many students could be impacted financially as well.

**2. Program Strengths.** Pick two to four factors that contribute most importantly to the program/service outcomes. Do not list everything that is satisfactory. We will assume that things not mentioned are okay. For each strength describe some supporting evidence.

- Excellent ratings in Federal and State reviews of facility and staff
- Partnership with ISU

Iowa State's close proximity and elementary education program has a large amount of students seeking experience in the childcare area. Many of these students receive work study benefits and this helps UCC keep wage costs down without loss of quality of care.

**3. Program Weaknesses.** Select factors that detract most from the program/service achieving its outcomes. Present details as described above. Recommendations for reducing these weaknesses should follow the discussion of each weakness.

- Capacity limits – Waiting List of 346 (majority infant care)
- Lack of funding
- Demographic of Board

UCC is not able to serve all those requesting services due to lack of capacity. They also watch the number of hours worked by all employees very closely as they use all of the hours of labor that they can afford. The Board has recognized their members almost all use UCC services. This issue has prevented the board from a timely response to events in the past and may still do so again in the future.

**4. Financial Outlook.** Current funding concerns should be described. In addition, the assessment of the program's plan to cope with shrinking resources should be given.

UCC is confident that operations will continue if current financial agreements continue as expected. They do recognize that they would like to pay their staff a fair wage and are unable to do so at current funding levels. UCC does seek considerable funding from other sources. Although, ASSET is still a notable percent of the funding they do receive.

**5. Internal Management Practices.** Summarize your assessment of the management of the agency, and the role of the Board. If there are deficiencies, details should be provided. Conclude with recommendations when appropriate.

The Boards Chair uses UCCs services, his wife also serves on the board. The board gets a lot of insight from an administrator who has a large number of years and experience in the operations of UCC. This administrator is

going to retire by mid 2018 and has begun discussions on how to break up her duties. It is predicted that the Admin's position will be broken up into two positions. Again, it's worth noting the board lacks members who do not use UCC services.

**6. Agency Suggestions/Comments.** Make note of any suggestions, comments or questions agencies may have with regard to the ASSET process, budget forms and or anything else that relates to the process.

We will likely be working with someone from UCC next FY who is unfamiliar with our process. We should be sure to send someone who has experience with ASSET.

**GENERAL ASSESSMENT: Very Positive. Clean facility, happy and healthy staff/clients. (Cute too) And UCC has a stable financial position.**