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Child Care Committee
Final Report
May 2, 1996

Members: Dr. Julia Malia, Ms. Debby Schriver, Dr. Maxine Thompson, Dr. Inez Tuck, Ms. Lynn Sterling, Chair

We began the year attempting to address the request of the Chancellor for outsourcing child care before learning that he did not wish for us to pursue that issue. We learned that Dean Jacky DeJonge, Human Ecology, had responded to the Chancellor that the demand for child care had declined, due to "considerable expansion of availability of child care in the greater Knoxville area." We later learned the Chancellor's response was, "Within the current and future financial environment facing the campus, it will not be possible for UTK to invest resources into an expansion of child care services."

Our primary focus then shifted to developing a needs assessment for all dependent care needs on the Knoxville campus. We worked with our ad hoc committee as well as with representatives from Institutional Research to complete a pretest which was mailed on April 26 (copy attached) to 600 faculty and staff to determine the level of interest and needs in order to help us plan the more comprehensive needs assessment.

We have also been investigating funding sources to help with the one dollar per head estimate for a more comprehensive needs assessment. Dr. Johnson and Mr. Fly have given verbal approval for some level of UWA support for this project. Norma Cook presented our Committee's request for financial support for our needs assessment at one dollar per head to Marianne Woodside at their April meeting, who will see that the Chancellor reviews it. Not surprisingly, they have not been able to approve anything recently due to budget constraints.

Action Items for Next Year:

We would like to recommend that members of this year's Child Care Committee's ad hoc committee (Dr. Kathleen Rodgers, Ms. Ann Miller Stott, Ms. Betty Gissel, Ms. Theresa Leadbetter, Ms. Ann Atchley and Ms. Vicki Baldwin) be invited once again to participate, as well as representatives from Institutional Research (Mr. Don Scroggins and Mr. Michael Gilbert). It is recommend that the Committee act on the following:

1. Decide on appropriate name change for the Committee to reflect full spectrum age range instead of child care only.

2. Follow up regarding the Chancellor's response to our request for financial support for the comprehensive needs assessment.

3. Follow up with Dr. Johnson and Mr. Fly regarding the nature and level of UWA's anticipated support for this project.

4. Follow up on any other leads for funding.

5. Meet regularly with representatives from Institutional Research and with the Committee's ad hoc committee to plan and develop the comprehensive needs assessment, based on what is feasible with the current budget crisis.

6. Work towards increased communication with the Chancellor in a, hopefully, more advisory capacity.

7. Continue to work with Ann Miller Stott, our Committee's liaison with the Child Development Labs, on any issues presented by either the Commission for Women or Human Ecology, that would indicate a cooperative effort.

Respectfully submitted,

[redacted]

Lynn Sterling, Chair

Attachment

COMMISSION FOR WOMEN • CAREGIVING SURVEY • THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE

In order for the university to better meet the needs of faculty & staff members, the Commission for Women is trying to identify the proportion of UT employees who either have or anticipate caregiving responsibilities for dependents. Your name was randomly selected for participation in this survey. We encourage you to please spend a few minutes responding to this questionnaire so that the results accurately reflect the views of UT employees. Questionnaires are coded by number for office use only. Your personal information will be held in strict confidence.

1. What is your marital status?

   Single Married Widowed Divorced/Separated

2. How many children do you have at home who are ... *(Please circle the appropriate number.)*

   under age 8? 1 2 3 4 or more
   8-18 years old? 1 2 3 4 or more
   19 or older? 1 2 3 4 or more
   I have no children living at home _____.

3. How satisfied are you with your current child care arrangement?

   Satisfied Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Not Applicable

4. UT Child Development Labs provide limited facilities for child care. What additional services do you think UT could provide? _____

5. How many persons other than underage children (<19) do you have caregiving responsibilities for?

   0 1 2 3 4+

6. Please indicate your relationship to these individuals. (Please circle *all* that apply)

   spouse
   father or mother
   father-in-law or mother-in-law
   brother or sister
   aunt or uncle
   another relative
   friend
   other_____

7. What kind of *new* caregiving responsibilities do you anticipate assuming within the next decade?

   _____

8. How often would you use adult care services (e.g., workshops, flex time, daytime care facilities) if they existed at UT?

   Often Sometimes Never

9. Are you willing to participate in a more detailed study regarding these matters?

   Yes No

Thank you for your assistance.

Please fold and return via campus mail to the Office of Institutional Research.

(over)