



Attendees

Amanda Zimmerman, Meghan Smith, Ted Maple, Alecia Nafziger, Krista Rivera, Terry Green, Amanda Lopez, Kyle Wehmann; *On phone:* Andy Goebel, Andrew Cullen, Kim Mulfinger

Key Topics Discussed

A. Updates

- At Guiding Team last Friday, it was asked when the Cost of Preschool Quality (CPQ) Study tool would be presented to ELAC. Goal is August ELAC meeting.

B. Cost of Preschool Quality Study Update

- George Rickus has agreed to do a focused half-day training on the CPQ tool for partner organizations (OECOSL, IDOE and ELI) to expand the capacity of those that can use it. The date is not scheduled yet, most likely end of June or July.
- The CPQ subcommittee has a good sense of what the workgroup wants to see in the different cost scenarios in the next report.
- Ted asked what questions would policymakers want answered from this tool. Some responses included:
 - How many kids are being served and at what quality level? Is that the right threshold?
 - What is the capacity to serve the children over time?
 - What would be the participation or uptick rate over the five-year period?
- Andrew recommended calculating the actual unmet need to really focus on the number of children not currently served with other funding sources (i.e., CCDF, Head Start, Title 1, SPED, etc) and to distinguish the “dosage”. For example, xx kids are served in SPED (special education preschools) but for only 2.5 hours/day (i.e., part-time).

C. First Children’s Finance Presentation: Heidi Schlueter

- First Children’s Finance is an organization out of Minnesota focused specifically on assisting early childhood education programs to have and implement strong business practices. They provide coaching and consultation for early childhood programs that are not typically business-minded.
- First Children’s Finance designs customized action plans to tackle the unique needs of early learning programs. Business planning and financial projections are used to increase sustainability as quality and capacity are increased. First Children’s Finance engages programs in various levels, such as trainings, on-site coaching and intensive consultation.
- First Children’s Finance, through funding from ELI, is piloting an intensive consultation program in Indiana with a small group of diverse providers this year.



- Ted shared that the Funding Streams workgroup has a long-term goal to develop tools for providers to help with the business side of early learning, such as blending and braiding funding streams. He asked Heidi if there was a tool already “out there” for early childhood providers that teaches the key elements of effective business practices and maybe the workgroup could then “Hoosierize” it to share.
- Krista asked how blending and braiding funding happens for different programs? Basically, what kind of blending and braiding needs to happen to maximize effectiveness and efficiency?
 - Heidi shared that this is an area that their organization addresses with training and consultation.
 - Workgroup members agreed that this is an item to include in a toolkit / resource.

Action Items

1. Kyle will re-post the Ounce of Prevention Toolkit for blending and braiding funding that contains examples of what other states have done, as well as highlight other resources already uploaded in Wiggio.
2. Will follow-up with Ounce of Prevention to present at August or September workgroup meeting to explain what they found in their research and the toolkit
 - a. Andrew will reach out to Margie Wallen or Angela Hubbard at Ounce.
 - b. Meghan will ask Rhonda Clark who may also know these contacts.
3. The workgroup will discuss other cost modeling scenarios during July’s meeting, which we hope to present to the full ELAC in August.

Next Meeting

Thursday, July 14th | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm | Conference Call