



Attendees

Carrie Bale, Gretchen (Carrie's intern), Connie Sherman, Christina Commons, Erin Kissling, Nancy Ward, Shannon Garrity, Marta Fetterman, Gail Thomas Strong, Jamie Le Sesne Spears, Amanda Lopez, Kyle Wehmann; *On phone*: Kresha Warnock, Jill Dunn, John Peirce, Julie Tipton; *Visitor*: Adis Coulibaly

Key Topics Discussed

A. ELAC Updates

- Erin Kissling updated the workgroup on the progress and timeline with submitting the State Plan for ESSA.
- The 2017 ELAC Annual Report and County Profiles were released in December and they are getting a lot of positive feedback so far! The focus of the 2018 Annual Report will be decided by the Guiding Team during their March meeting;
- Good feedback on ELAC Kickoff event! There were approximately 120 members in attendance and partner alignment was a main focus. A one-pager describing the 2017 priorities of all 7 workgroups will be available soon.

B. Review of 2017 Workgroup Priorities (*handout uploaded in Wiggio*)

- Discussed the need to support providers with training and technical assistance (T/TA) to help them implement new policies based on these priorities so the work is sustainable;
- Christina shared that First Steps (Part C) is focused on improving social/emotional outcomes for children, especially low-income/at-risk children and therefore priorities 1 and 2 would intersect with their work;
- Gail suggested using video production (i.e., a 30-second spot on PBS Kids) to help inform families and providers about early brain development;
- Illinois has some data about the later benefits of mental health interventions that Nancy will share on Wiggio and for the ELAC website;
- The workgroup made some final updates to the 2017 workgroup priorities document;
- It was shared that Purdue will begin work on ISTAR-KR 2.0 this summer, with a 2-year roll-out and re-branding. The goal is to improve upon the reporting features and think about the audience; this will become a great tool for transition from pre-K



to Kindergarten. Particularly, the social/emotional domain will be updated with new/better indicators;

- Amanda suggested tapping into National T/TA resources to see what is available to complete our deliverables more efficiently and not duplicate work that may already be happening;
- Carrie asked Nicole if TANF funding could be used for the early brain development framework and information dissemination process. How can we pay for the “products” that come from the work (i.e. toolkit development, staff time, marketing, end-product packaging and roll-out)? Nicole shared that TANF dollars can go towards training that impacts CCDF and offered to look into this further.

C. Subcommittee Assignments

1. **Social/emotional (Preschool Expulsion Policy and Support):** Connie (lead) Nancy, Christina, Jamie, Jan Katz, Joslyn, Julia Tipton, Kristy
2. **Brain research and info dissemination (“Community Brain Toolkit”):** Carrie (lead), Shannon, Kathy, Gail, Erin, Dr. Swec, Nancy, Kresha, John
3. **Accessing health and wellness (“decision tree” resource at CCDF Intake):** Marta (lead), Jill, Julie, Nancy, Shirley, Dr. Sherer

D. Presentation from Nicole Norvell, FSSA Office of Early Care and Out of School Learning (OECOSL), on helping with the new CCDBG rules via Priority #1 and Priority #3.

1. How can we improve upon the intake process to provide the best referrals and resources for families most efficiently? This will support intake agents and help the eligibility process function smoother. The Final Rule is prescriptive about what needs to be provided at intake. ([see slide 8](#))
 - What are the questions we want to ask families at the point of intake?
 - What information do we need to be giving families?
 - What type of tangible product is wanted from this deliverable? Discussed creating a list of questions and a decision tree.
 - This work will help to inform the consumer statement for CCDF parents.
 - Need to include an intake agent in this workgroup!
2. Help develop and recommend a policy regarding suspension and expulsion ([see slide 9](#)).



- Nancy shared that there is a draft policy about suspension/expulsion already written, so we can start there.
- June of 2018 is when the State Plan is due.
- Discussed needing to have T/TA in place once this policy rolls out for implementation and sustainability with providers.

Action Items

1. Since so much of the workgroup's focus this next year will be on brain development, the workgroup suggested spending the first hour of March's meeting as a review of "early brain development 101" to get everyone on the same page. We will also spend a few minutes going through the Coalition Building framework to help guide the subcommittee's work. Then, the group will break into subcommittees for the 2nd hour and discuss who else may need to be at the table to complete the work. It would be especially helpful for members to come **in-person** to this meeting!
2. Nancy Ward shared that Illinois has some data about the later benefits of mental health interventions that she will post on Wiggio, and send to Kyle to post on ELAC website.

Next Meeting

Thursday, March 23rd, 2017 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm | St. Mary's Child Center