



Present:

Kevin Bain

M. Cindy Frey

Lacey Kottkamp

Rhonda Clark (for Nicole Norvell)

Nathan Williamson

I. Call to Order

1. Kevin Bain, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:09pm.

II. February Meeting Minutes

1. Rhonda moved to approve the meeting minutes from February; Lacey seconded; all approved and the minutes were approved.

III. Workgroup Report Outs / 2017 Priorities

1. Kevin shared that the co-chairs have been asked in their report outs to share their 2017 priorities.

IV. Workgroup Report Outs

1. Workforce and Professional Development
 - a. Dianna Wallace, co-chair, reported that the workgroup has added a few new members to the workgroup, and is looking to recruit additional members;
 - b. They are working to identify the current state of the early learning workforce, analyzing case studies on settings that have succeeded in recruiting and retaining a high-quality early learning workforce in Indiana, and will work to pull together all systems supporting the early education field to identify needs.

Question: In looking at the case studies, is there any intention to share and/or scale successful best practices to other programs across Indiana? Dianna responded that there isn't such an intention specifically, however she will take that question back to the workgroup.

2. Provider Participation and Advancement
 - a. Kathryn Raasch, co-chair, reported that the workgroup recently released the self-assessment for coalitions, which is part of the Community Coalition Building Toolkit and will analyze the feedback from the pilot communities, when available;
 - b. They are supporting the planning for the 2017 Indiana Summit for Economic Development via Early Learning Coalitions, scheduled for June 5 at the Monroe County Convention Center in Bloomington.



Question: How has the Community Coalition Building Toolkit been publicized? Kathryn explained that it was only shared with volunteer communities with varying levels of coalition engagement/development to gauge initial feedback on the uses and need of the toolkit.

3. Funding Streams

a. Ted Maple, co-chair, shared that their priorities have shifted to:

- i. Advise a project to partner with a cohort of early childhood providers to develop strategies to layer funding and help them meet financial goals to better serve children;
- ii. Add funding data to county profiles
- iii. Complete a national review of alternative funding strategies for early care and education.

4. Family Engagement

a. John Peirce, co-chair, shared that the workgroup's 2017 priorities are:

- i. Promote the use of the Family Engagement Toolkit and collect/analyze data to inform future revisions. The workgroup will also contribute blogs related to the toolkit to the Early Learning Indiana;
- ii. Develop a case statement for home visiting and support the needs assessment;
- iii. Expand the audience for the Family Engagement Toolkit by translating individual items into blog-style articles for the Brighter Futures website;
- iv. The Office invited the workgroup to assist them with the Peer Learning opportunity

Question: Is the Family Engagement Toolkit available electronically? Early Learning Indiana has created online modules to complete the toolkit and enter self-assessment scores electronically through Training Central.

5. Evaluation of Child and Family Outcomes

a. Kevin Bain, co-chair, reported that the workgroup's 2017 priorities include:

- i. Determine a set of child outcomes and measurement tool that demonstrate kindergarten readiness. The tool would be an Indiana-specific assessment to capture kindergarten readiness;
- ii. Determine a comparable set of family outcomes that demonstrate progress. This will likely be completed in conjunction with the Family Engagement workgroup;
- iii. Work with the Early Education and Matching Grant and On My Way Pre-K Pilot Program evaluators to summarize results and highlight key findings.



6. Data Coordination and System Integration

- a. Matt Hetzel, co-chair, reported that the workgroup met on February 23 and added some new members. Their 2017 priorities include:
 - i. Enhance the data collection process for the ELAC Annual Report;
 - ii. Create a data-driven decision toolkit to assist programs in analyzing and using data to inform decisions. This work will be done via subgroup;
 - iii. Develop a policy on accessing and sharing ELAC data collection, including how the data will be collected and where it will live online.
- b. The March workgroup meeting will focus on the subgroup work and outlining focus areas for the Annual Report to share with ELAC for approval.

Question: Why is it complicated to decide where data lives online? Federal laws such as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) restrict where education / student data can live. Other restrictions might include public records statutes or the source of the data.

7. Child Development and Well-Being

- a. Connie Sherman, co-chair, shared that the workgroup met on February 23 and have decided to breakout into three subcommittees. Their priorities include:
 - i. Create a preschool expulsion policy and T/TA recommendations to inform the early childcare and education workforce on the importance of brain and social-emotional development;
 - ii. Repackage Dr. Cameron's request from the 2016 Coalition Summit to inform communities of brain and social-emotional development resources;
 - iii. Nicolle Norvell, FSSA, spoke at the February meeting and asked the workgroup to help develop an FAQ or decision tree to inform partners about assessing and connecting children and families with health needs.
- b. The March meeting will focus on breaking into subgroups and a scan of workgroup membership.

V. State Pilot Programs

1. Families have until March 31, 2017 to apply for the 2017-2018 programs in the 5 pilot counties. Outreach efforts in the 5 pilot counties is ongoing, with radio ads and texting announcements sharing information about On My Way Pre-K and how to enroll.
2. John Peirce (Allen County) shared that he is assisting some programs with the current RFI and gives applause to FSSA for improving the application process.



VI. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

1. The state is working to develop their implementation plan for [ESSA](#) and has scheduled [community meetings](#), which will be more informational and discussion-based than the first tour. Erin encourages members of the early learning community to attend and provide feedback.

VII. Other Business

1. Any news on the Early Head Start childcare participation? Lacey said they are expecting more information in March. About 13% of applicants nationwide will be awarded, but specific numbers are not available yet.
2. The 2017 Indiana Summit for Economic Development via Early Learning Coalitions is being planned for June 5 in Bloomington. More details will be released as they develop, however it is not too early to reach out to local coalitions!

Connie motioned to adjourn. Cindy seconded. Kevin adjourned the meeting at 2:05pm.

Next Meeting: April 21, 2017* | 1:00 – 3:00pm | Indiana Government Center South

*The meeting was moved back one week due to Good Friday on April 14th