



Attendees

Katie Herron, John Peirce, Amy Heaton, Lanissa Maggert, Amanda Zimmerman, Shannon Garrity, Beth Barrett, Emily Rupchock, Maria Gonzalez-Blacketer, Olanda Lewis, Shawn Jones, Raven Hill, Emily Rupchock

On the Phone: Don Jantzi, Patrick Jackson, Amanda Lopez

Key Topics Discussed

ELAC Updates

- The Project Support Team (PST) shared that State employees no longer have access to Glip, the technology platform being tested by this workgroup as a replacement for Wiggio. The PST and FSSA's technology team are meeting to discuss the clearance options. Members that have access should continue to use Glip.

Family Engagement Peer Learning

- FSSA has a phone call scheduled after the meeting with the National Team to further discuss family engagement initiatives in Indiana and ways they can be highlighted.

Brighter Futures Website and Blog

- Amy shared ELI is planning to give a demo of the website at the September workgroup meeting for feedback. They are working to finalize the content outline but will share with the workgroup when available;
- The ELAC Child Development and Well-Being workgroup is interested in contributing early brain development content as they work to fulfill the Call to Action from Dr. Judy Cameron from the 2016 Coalition Summit;
- Members discussed the next blog topic and decided on item three from the toolkit: Communicating Accomplishments and Concerns. Amanda L. offered to write the first draft; Shannon offered to review and edit.

Family Engagement Prize Competition [Winners](#)

- As part of Lily Endowment funds, programs across the state were invited to apply for funding to support family engagement initiatives already in place. Applicants submitted portfolios of their initiatives, including a completed FE self-assessment. All programs that applied received a gift card to celebrate their efforts!



- Next steps include analyzing the data from all applicants' self-assessments; create a program or system/training/support/curriculum to help remove barriers to family engagement that were shared in the application process;
- **Question:** Will there be a comprehensive summary of the family engagement initiatives in place from the winners that can be shared with programs across the state? That is not developed at this time, but ELI is open to ideas, which members brainstormed:
 - Host a panel of the winners that had exemplary practices to share their process.
 - Have the workgroup assist with the supports/training, etc. aimed at combating the barriers discovered in the application process.

Evaluation Workgroup Collaboration

- John and Katie are working with the ELAC [Evaluation of Child and Family Outcomes](#) workgroup to support their conversations and initial planning to gather data on family outcomes. The workgroup is just beginning to create a data wish list;
- At the last meeting, they reviewed the process and barriers this workgroup discovered in 2016 when working to gather family engagement data/indicators.

Family Engagement Toolkit Revisions

- Earlier in July, Katie presented the minor revisions the workgroup outlined to ELAC and recommended they be approved and integrated into the Toolkit.
 - The Committee asked some clarifying questions about the toolkit's use overall, any implications these revisions would have on data already collected, and the timeline for a revised toolkit due to it being in the On My Way Pre-K legislation. The minor edits were approved under the conditions that Committee members had additional time outside of the meeting to review the edits and the workgroup creates a communication plan.
 - The Committee suggested the workgroup revisit their priority focus areas to consider how to expand the knowledge and use of the toolkit for programs and families, outside of revisions.
- The workgroup members reviewed a draft communication plan and agreed that the current draft would be better suited for the major revisions and will be saved for future



use. John offered to rework the draft to better fit a plan for the minor edits before August's workgroup meeting.

Workgroup Priority Focus

- As a reflection from the Committee, workgroup members discussed how to meet the charge they revisit their priority focus areas to consider how to expand the knowledge and use of the toolkit for programs and families, outside of the revisions.
- Suggestions included:
 - Scan current supports for family engagement (CCR&Rs, College level courses on family engagement, etc.) and research what other states are doing.
 - Assess the professional development system for what trainings and supports are being offered around the Toolkit. Identify gaps with the current version and areas of growth for the future revisions.
 - Can use the workforce survey already created by the ELAC Workforce and Professional Development workgroup and tweak for a family engagement focus.
 - Develop a resource guide to help programs
 - Use the information on barriers to family engagement from the Prize Competition application to:
 - Create a list of questions to have coaches ask programs
 - Tie family engagement to coaches and any programs' key outcomes
 - After the discussion, the workgroup categorized the suggestions into two focus areas:
 - 1 – Develop/assist with additional supports for those that use the toolkit, including the On My Way Pre-K programs
 - 2 – Expand the knowledge and use of the toolkit outside of On My Way Pre-K and any other programs already using it.

Action Items

1. **Amy** offered to share an outline of the Brighter futures website and the toolkit action plan.
2. **Amanda L.** offered to draft this month's blog; **Shannon** offered to edit.
3. **John** offered to update the communication plan related to the minor revisions.

Next Meeting

August 18, 2017 | Early Learning Indiana | 12:00 – 2:00pm EST