



Attendees

Katie Herron, John Peirce, Olanda Lewis, Shawn Jones, Jenni Mohr, Adis Couliaby
On the Phone: John Peirce, Beth Barrett, Amy Heaton, Carrie Terry, Meghan Smith, Patrick Jackson

Key Topics Discussed

New Member

- Michelle Hallmark, United Way of Central Indiana

ELAC Updates

- Kevin Bain, Chairman of ELAC, did not renew his term. The September 8th ELAC meeting was his last meeting;
- The ELAC Annual Report and County Profiles are being developed. The focus on the report this year is social-emotional development. The timeline for releasing the Report is Fall 2017;
- Indiana's ESSA's implementation plan and many other reports will be posted to the ELAC website's [news](#) section;
- Glip has been approved as the replacement communication portal to Wiggio. The Project Management Team will be transitioning all ELAC workgroups to Glip throughout September and October.

Family Engagement Peer Learning

- The framework/wheel is almost complete with the group currently focusing on the workforce and professional development portion of the wheel. The Indiana team plans to summarize the experience and findings once the program is complete.

Brighter Futures Website

- Amy shared they are going through the static content, which is going through ELI and OECOSL for review. The live launch is slated for the first of the year.

MIECHV

- The latest update on the Needs Assessment is it is planned to be released next month due avoid releasing the report at the same time as the ELAC Annual Report;



- The MIECHV funding is set to expire at the end of September. Advocacy efforts are in place around Indiana (contact John Peirce to get connected!).

State / Federal Updates

- The Indiana Department of Education has submitted the final of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Implementation Plan to the Governor, which is set to be shared with the Federal Government on September 18th. The report has been approved to be [posted](#) to the IDOE website.

IYI Parent Engagement Summit

- IYI is hosting a half-day [Parent Engagement Summit](#) later this month that will highlight key family engagement strategies.

Brighter Futures Blog

- Amy shared the IT team reported the best way to integrate the blogs from this workgroup to the Brighter Futures (BF) website is to have them posted to a partner website first (i.e. ELAC, ELI), and then have them featured on the BF website;
- The reason for this is the formal guidelines all BF content must follow before being posted, which might alter the original message of the blogs;
- Until the details are finalized, the workgroup will hold off on drafting new blogs.

Family Engagement Toolkit Revisions Communication Plan

- The workgroup reviewed and made updates to the communication plan [draft](#), which is on-hold to release until the PDF version of the Toolkit is updated on Training Central.

ELI Family Engagement Prize Competition Barriers

- Amy shared common barriers to family engagement listed in the Prize Competition applications (see document posted to Glip). The most common barriers included:
 - Time - of staff to connect with families and time of families to connect
 - Understanding families' needs and how to connect
 - Lack of established relationships – programs didn't know how to connect with families
 - Supporting families as child's first teacher – lack of knowledge/education



- Other – lack of internet access, items very program-specific
- ELI is in the initial stages of planning a training and goal-setting session to help programs overcome the barriers listed in the application.
- Will the Prize Competition be annual? At this time, they are going to offer it one more year but can hopefully continue it, depending on funding.

Planning for 2018

- Members reviewed the [2018 speakers google sheet](#), adding suggestions and planned outreach.

Family Engagement in Early Pre-K Issue Brief

- Members reviewed an issue brief authored by Kent Mitchell, Early Learning Indiana, titled, "[Engaging Families Key to Pre-K Success](#)", focusing mainly on the recommendations listed.

Action Items

1. **PMT** will connect with **Amy** to discuss the protocol for the blogs.
2. **Monica** will reach out to Erin and Karen to talk about ESSA and transitions; issue brief on transitions for November.

Next Meeting

October 20, 2017 | Early Learning Indiana | 12:00 – 2:00pm EST