



Attendees

John Pierce, Katie Herron, Jennifer Mohr, Don Jantzi, Patrick Jackson, Kristi Linson, Shannon Garrity, Erin Kissling, Lanissa Maggert, Faiza Serang, Aleisha Sheridan, Lenore Friedly, Emily Rupchock, Wendy Young, Amy Healton, Michelle Hallmark, Olanda Lewis, Amanda Lopez, and Whitley Wynns

Key Topics Discussed

I. ELAC Updates

- a. Amanda shared the new data tab on the [Early Learning Advisory Committee \(ELAC\)](#) website to access annual reports, county profile and the interactive dashboard.
- b. Amanda also shared that all workgroups are finalizing priorities from January planning meetings. An overview will be provided for all workgroups to see the alignment with ELAC's Big Goal 2020 and the priorities of the other workgroups.

II. Help Me Grow

- a. Shannon shared that the state team is currently working on readiness assessments. They are reviewing the questions and seeing what changes can be made to the questions to make the assessment more relevant to Indiana.

III. 2018 Priorities and Work Plan

- a. Workgroup members reviewed the priorities for 2018 and began to create a work plan to get the work done for the year.
- b. Workgroup members determined that Family Voices and Outreach for the Family Engagement Toolkit would be the main priorities for the year.
 - i. The qualitative information that is collected from Family Voices will help guide any work that needs to happen around Family Education. This may be addressed later on in the year.
 - ii. The workgroup will hold off on Provider Education for now as there are other initiatives happening in the state that are focused on providers.
- c. Members began to brainstorm strategies to gather Family Voices and strategies to focus on Outreach efforts for the Family Engagement Toolkit Kit. The workgroup decided to form two subcommittees that would focus on those priorities for the year.
 - i. **Subcommittee 1: Family Voices**



1. Members identified the following key questions to ask families:
 - a. What are the hopes, dreams and goals you have for your child?
 - b. How do you describe your role and your family's role in helping your child achieve those goals?
 - c. Who do you trust in your family, neighborhood and community to give you advice and information about raising your child?
 - i. Why do you trust those people?
 - d. Tell us about some of the successes and challenges you have had in achieving the goals you have for your child.
2. Members discussed potential parent groups to engage:
 - a. Head Start Parent Councils through the Head Start Office of Collaboration;
 - b. Healthy Families participants.
3. Members brainstormed various family demographics in order to incorporate a variety of family voices facing different challenges:
 - a. "Professional" families;
 - b. Stay at home families;
 - c. Families not engaged in the system;
 - d. "At risk" families;
 - e. Families "in middle" who do not meet income requirements to receive vouchers for child care, but do not make enough to go enroll their child in high quality programs.
4. Members brainstormed the following ways to engage parents:
 - a. Direct surveys online through paid media, Facebook and the Brighter Futures website;
 - b. Regional Focus groups through local CCR&Rs and parent cafes;
 - c. Texting (e.g. [Bloom Bright](#));
 - d. Help Me Grow;
 - e. Engage parents through an on-going advisory board role.
5. Members also discussed reaching out to the other ELAC workgroups to see if they have any questions to include that



would provide a voice for families around that workgroup's priorities.

6. Subcommittee members: John Pierce (lead), Olanda Lewis, Amy Heaton, and Michelle Hallmark.

a. The subcommittee would like to add representation for Head Start and Home visiting services.

ii. **Subcommittee 2: Outreach for Family Engagement Toolkit**

1. Members created 3 phases for how to complete outreach for the family engagement toolkit.

a. *Phase 1:* Create fact sheets that will encourage providers to adapt family engagement strategies.

b. *Phase 2:* Create and deliver presentations to Higher Education forums and institutes (e.g. Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children Higher Education forum).

c. *Phase 3:* Explain how to use the toolkit by scaffolding the information to help prepare programs for implementation of family engagement strategies.

2. Members decided to begin working on an outline to have a draft ready in March, with the goal to finalize the content in April.

3. Subcommittee members: Katie Herron (lead), Erin Kissling, Jennifer Mohr, Don Jantzi, Patrick Jackson, Erin Kissling, Lanissa Maggert, Faiza Serang, Aleisha Sheridan, Lenore Friedly, Emily Rupchock, and Wendy Young.

IV. Action Items

1. John volunteered to reach out to the workgroup co-chairs to see if they would like to add questions to gather family voice information.
2. Outreach subcommittee members will research fact sheets that they like to help promote the importance of why family engagement matters

V. Next Meeting

March 16, 2018 | Early Learning Indiana | 12:00 – 2:00pm