



Attendees

Carrie Bale, Carrie Higgins, Mary Delaney, Angela Paxton, Kristi Linson, Shannon Garrity, Kristy Wright, Marta Fetterman, Dr. Katie Swec, Jamie Spears, Megan McKinney- Cooper, Deb Hughes, Vicky Resinsky, Brenda Webster, Connie Young, Stephanie Beverly, Amanda Lopez, Whitley Wynns

Key Topics Discussed

A. ELAC Updates

- a. Indiana's Early Learning Advisory Committee (ELAC) is waiting for an announcement of a new appointed chair.
- b. Dr. Katie Swec has been invited by Early Learning Indiana to speak at the Governor's Mansion during a donor engagement opportunity about the importance of childhood and why it matters. She will utilize parts of the Early Brain slide deck in her presentation.
- c. The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) has submitted a letter of intent in partnership with the Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning (OECOSL) for the [Harnessing Opportunities for Positive, Equitable Early Childhood Development](#) grant. This opportunity would help with the coordination of systems at the local level and the state level over a period of 2 years.
- d. Carrie shared that Delaware County applied for the [EC-LINC Research to Action Project through the Center of the Study of Social Policy](#). This project will work to advance the early childhood systems through actionable research. Delaware County has been invited to interview for the opportunity.
- e. Early Learning Indiana will provide grants to increase physical activity in early childhood programs through money from the Indiana State Department of Health. This grant has few restrictions and will support early childhood programs who are looking to create more physical activity opportunities for the children. Currently, 55 programs have applied.

B. Subcommittees Meet

- a. The Suspension/Expulsion and Early Brain Slide Deck Subcommittees met separately for the first hour of the workgroup meeting to discuss benchmarks for the year.

C. Workgroup Meeting

- a. Help Me Grow (HMG)
 - i. Members reviewed the Help Me Grow Indiana timeline. The goal is to complete the needs assessment by May and start accepting Help Me Grow calls in September.



- ii. Members discussed the feedback loop of Help Me Grow and how to get information from other workgroups and committees in order for the group to make informed recommendations to the state team. Members or staff/colleagues of members sitting on other workgroups will need to understand their role of sharing information.
- iii. Members discussed potential recommendations for individuals who should sit on the four Help Me Grow committees.
 - 1. Child Health Provider Outreach
 - 2. Centralized Telephone Access Workgroup
 - 3. Potential partners
 - 4. Community and Family Outreach Workgroup (ECCS and MIECHV pilot site)
- iv. The Help Me Grow newsletter has received final approval.

D. Future role of ELAC

- i. Members discussed the many barriers facing the early childhood education workforce from compensation to education.
 - 1. Funding for the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential is creating barriers for people to get their education.
- ii. Members shared that ELAC should continue to be the body that informs OECOSL as employees are working on early childhood initiatives. ELAC can help agencies be more thoughtful with policy issues.
- iii. Members discussed the expertise and diversity of the ELAC workgroups. Based on the ability to convene numerous stakeholders, developing resources is a strong point for the workgroups.
 - 1. Better collaboration could occur with vendors to use workgroups as subject matter experts.
- iv. Members mentioned that getting workgroups to unify around one issue could lead to some potential challenges.

Action Items

Co-chairs will share workgroup feedback with ELAC

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 26, 2018 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm | St. Mary's Child Center