



## Attendees

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Lenore Friedly, Krystal Robinson, John Peirce, Katie Herron, Margaret Smith; *On the phone:* Emily Rupchock, Natalie Pugh, Don Jantzi

## Key Topics Discussed

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### A. Updates

1. Additional agenda items for today
  - a. Krystal shared that the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) recently released early learning guidance on Mathematics and English Language Arts via IDOE's [Early Learning website](#).
    - i. This guidance is intended to be a resource for early educators to support daily practice and enhance children's learning and development while using the Foundations, Indiana's early learning development framework.
    - ii. Each foundation section includes a short family engagement section that details what providers should encourage families to do at home to support their child's learning and development.
    - iii. Subsequent guidance on other content areas will be released throughout 2019.
    - iv. IDOE is also working on developing a list of best practices for academic transitions, with some focus on the transition to Kindergarten. This work is currently on hold as they wait to learn more about the [Preschool Development Grant](#) and how its activities may also focus on this topic.
2. ELAC Updates
  - a. ELAC has not met since January.
  - b. The Committee is still working to schedule 2019 meetings. Workgroup members will be notified when these meetings are schedule.
  - c. The 2019 Annual Report is still under internal review and has not yet been made public.
3. Local and National News
  - a. Krystal shared that the Aspen Institute recently held an informative [webinar](#) that discussed how early childhood and health leaders have come together to promote health and positive family outcomes.
  - b. John shared that Representative Bob Behning introduced House Bill 1628 which aims to streamline and increase eligibility for On My Way Pre-K. This bill will be voted on by the House next week. View more information and follow the progress of this bill [here](#).



- c. Lenore shared that Early Learning Indiana (ELI) has created a number of family engagement fact sheets that will be released to the public soon.
  - i. The committee who created these sheets used the Family Engagement Toolkit during the development.
  - ii. These fact sheets are intended for a wide audience of anyone who is working with families (providers, coalitions, etc.).
  - iii. TCG will share these fact sheets on Glip once they are released.

### B. 2019 Workgroup Priorities

- 1. Family-Friendly Blogs
  - a. ELI is still reviewing the blogs.
    - 1. TCG will follow up with ELI contact on progress.
- 2. Family Voices: Project with the Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning (OECOSL)
  - a. Reviewed OECOSL answers to workgroup questions.
    - 1. A list of questions was shared with Carrie Gray regarding the CCDF enrollment process and data shared.
    - 2. The workgroup talked through the responses Carrie shared, which can be found on Glip.
    - 3. Additional topics that were discussed during the review of these questions include:
      - a. Brightpoint: John reached out to a contact at Brightpoint, a CCDF intake agency in Fort Wayne. They are one of the intakes with the highest throughput rate.
        - i. Brightpoint has contracts to do more than just CCDF enrollment, so they can provide more assistance and meet other needs families might be experiencing. This may be contributing to their high throughput rate.
        - ii. Some of their offices are open five days a week until 7:00 pm. Some of their rural counties are open less frequently.
      - b. In a recent [report](#) from the Bipartisan Policy Center, Indiana was ranked 14th among states for integration of its early childhood system. Part of the reason for this ranking was because many ECE programs (Head Start, CCDF, state pre-K programs) were housed within the same agency at the state level. It may improve throughput to have some of these programs housed in the same agencies at the local level as well.
      - c. The [ECHO Project](#) is a good model of how to problem solve challenges faced by vulnerable families. This model consists of a partnership between Indiana University medical professionals and a variety of local providers.



They have four upcoming webinars scheduled with First Steps staff to discuss case studies. It may be beneficial for CCDF intake agencies to review case studies and barriers faced by families using a similar model.

- b. Identified potential solutions, next steps, and broad recommendations
  1. The workgroup identified several broad recommendations and proposed next steps to share with OECOSL and ELAC. The workgroup's recommendations focused on four main areas:
    - a. Changes to the intake agencies' cover letters and the enrollment packet to make these documents more family-friendly.
    - b. Possible partnerships or collaborations that could potentially help the CCDF throughput rate.
    - c. Procedural recommendations to improve the enrollment process.
    - d. Additional information gathering activities that are beyond the workgroup's current capacity and/or scope.
  2. TCG will work with co-chairs to draft a document detailing the workgroup's recommendations. This document will be shared electronically with the full workgroup to solicit additional feedback and/or edits.
    - a. Once reviewed by the workgroup, this recommendation document will be shared with OECOSL and presented at the next ELAC meeting.

### Next Steps

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1. TCG will follow up with ELI on the review of the family-friendly blogs.
2. TCG will draft a recommendation document and will share with the workgroup for feedback.
3. Workgroup members will review the recommendations and provide feedback and suggestions.
4. Once approved by the workgroup, TCG will share the recommendations with OECOSL and ELAC.
5. Co-chairs will present the recommendations at the next ELAC meeting.

### C. Next Meeting

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**To be determined.** With the creation of broad recommendations related to the CCDF enrollment process, the workgroup has wrapped up its current work. The workgroup will not meet until they receive further direction from ELAC.