



Attendees

Kim Hodge, Sarah Mihich, John Peirce, Ann Puckett-Harpold, Sara Gropp, Amanda Lopez, Melissa Wall

Key Topics Discussed

A. Updates

1. At the May ELAC meeting, Nicole will discuss new Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning (OECOSL) programs as well as the new dashboard.
2. John: Can the workgroup provide any guidance to counties receiving American Rescue Act funding? To help them build the case for why some of the funding should be devoted to the child care sector (e.g., child care earnings, child care deserts). We're in the beginning stages of this (in his community). We don't want to duplicate what Nicole and the Office is doing.
 - i. Kim: If the new dashboard doesn't answer the questions they're looking for, I am willing to be a conduit to those other partners.
 - ii. John: Identifying child care deserts would be helpful.
 - a. Kim: That is still the work of Early Learning Indiana (ELI). The plan was to keep that child care desert information updated, but I'm not sure if that has changed.
3. OECOSL Dashboard
 - i. Most accurate data Kim has seen come through the system in the last six years. This is as real time as she has ever seen it. They have had really great participation to the survey. It will be sent out regularly to update. The dashboard includes information on staffing.
 - ii. How can this replace and/or add to the work of the ELAC dashboard?
 - a. There are some differences but also a lot of good information. Perhaps we can receive the data to filter down (from all children 0-13) and present to ELAC on young children.
 - iii. Sara: I've heard this is only child care development fund (CCDF) providers. Will people visiting this dashboard understand that? This is only reflective of providers taking CCDF or are eligible to receive CCDF vouchers.
 - iv. School-age population has been added to this dashboard.

B. ELAC Annual Report

1. COVID ELAC Dashboard
 - i. Wanted to look at closures due to COVID versus other reasons
 - a. This wasn't too easy, but we did a keyword search to try to help.
 - ii. Added capacity information



- iii. A concern with the dashboard is that the capacity may look pretty different compared to the new FSSA dashboard.
 - iv. Kim: Is this dashboard still helpful, or is it time to retire this?
 - a. John: For the purpose of the funding I was discussing earlier, I'm not sure the historic COVID data will be relevant. The funding is looking at crises exacerbated by the crisis, but also looking at solutions and sustainability moving forward.
 - b. Kim: I think the system has taken a turn, and that we're responding, recovering, etc.
 - v. Is there anything to bring over from the COVID dashboard to the ELAC dashboard, or is much of it covered by the new FSSA dashboard?
 - a. There are questions about closures (for example, impact of Paths to QUALITY). It is something that Nicole has brought up as well.
2. Survey
- i. Presented findings from the survey to solicit feedback on the annual report, county profiles and dashboard. We received 49 responses. The survey asked respondents about areas of focus, length of report and how they used the report and/or dashboard.
 - ii. Kim: Not too much is surprising with the results.
 - iii. With the suggestion for county snapshots that are consistent – we can't do that with all of the data system changes. We should be very transparent about the limitations and changes.
 - iv. Sarah: Maybe create a frequently asked questions (FAQ) for the dashboard including the changes and instructions on how to use it (both technical and how to use the information).
 - a. Kim: Likes the idea of a system of supports when rolling out something.
 - b. Sara: Possibly a tutorial/video or a blog summary.
3. Outline
- i. Kim believes the cost of care data will be available this year.
 - ii. Learning loss might be a future focus (too early to have access to data). Same thing with social emotional learning (SEL) and available data.
 - a. Kim: It's something the workgroup could do some research on, and perhaps still write a highlight about it.
 - iii. John: Will Purdue have a report coming out on On My Way Pre-K (OMWPK) 4th grade results? Should that be included in this report?
 - iv. Business of child care and SEL may be new focus areas or highlights. Everything else fits under other parts.
 - v. Sarah: Does kindergarten readiness tie to access to pre-K?



- vi. Kim: Maybe rename/rework the kindergarten readiness section to catch the other things?
 - a. John: Maybe child development to capture social emotional, mental health, etc.
 - i. John: Was there a survey sent out by OECOSL to ask child care providers what they're using to assess SEL?
 - vii. Discussion on the suggestion to provide updates on the recommendations made in the report.
 - a. John: We make recommendations and never discuss what happened to them. I would like to see that.
 - viii. Recommendations
 - a. We scaled back the number for the COVID report. Last year's recommendations were also a little more realistic.
 - ix. John: The number of county-level coalitions has grown, so there may be a growing interest in that data.
4. Timeline
- i. Move "finalize data to be collected" to June, and shift everything from that. July, we would be sending out data requests. Ideally data would be analyzed in August and September.
 - ii. Still looking to get the report out by late fall.
 - a. John: It may not be as urgent this year to get it out in November since it is not a budget year.
 - iii. Sara: We want to make sure we're clear on what we're asking for and from whom so data requests wouldn't be ready until at least June.
 - iv. John: What do we want legislators to dig into?
 - a. Kim: It seems like this is a good challenge to try and get our data and reports out sooner, so it doesn't feel out of date? Since people are asking for more real-time data. To be more responsive to legislators and community members who are looking at this data.
 - b. John: Perhaps we could separate out what data would be valuable to have on a quarterly basis versus an annual basis. I assume quarterly data would help drive action. I like the idea of quarterly updates or reports. Would it be helpful to have separate reports, so people don't have to digest it all in one bite?
 - c. Kim: Charlie had shared what other early learning advisory committees were doing, and those that did that felt easier to digest.
 - v. Ann: How do we get the right people the right information at the right time?
 - a. Kim: Maybe start with accessibility, high quality and affordability because we have that information now.
 - b. John: COVID has highlighted issues with women reentering the workforce because the lack of child care (who are also struggling to staff up). We don't



pay enough to attract people into the profession, and we don't retain them because it's stressful. What if we determine what we would need to pay to have enough high-quality child care providers to get the access that is needed? Cost to achieve parity for pay to early childhood providers versus kindergarten teachers. He thinks we need to share the magnitude of the solution.

- i. Kim: I love it. We just keep on highlighting the discrepancies but not discussing a solution. It is interesting to see other places blazing a trail.
- ii. John: Would like to see this as part of a standalone report on the business of child care or workforce development.
- iii. Ann: Indiana Department of Education could provide data on kindergarten teacher salary, but what about the child care provider salary?
- iv. Kim: Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children (IAEYC) has done the workforce study, but I don't believe they have done one since 2016. There's some TEACH data and DWD data. Maybe IAEYC is working on an update. Kim would like to get a member from IAEYC onto the workgroup.
- v. John: A comparison of salaries with other industries could be interesting as well. He had seen a report that did this but doesn't remember what it was. It would be great to add in some stories as well.
- vi. John: Is curious about a summary of the funds that came through and what it was used for.
 1. Kim: I really loved that section in the COVID report.

Action Items

1. Confirm outline and timeline at the May ELAC meeting.

Next Meeting

TBD