



NH Early Childhood Strategy Team 1 – Meeting 2 Notes

Strategic Theme 1: Quality, consistent, equitable access to opportunities and services for all NH families

August 1st, 2022 12:00-2:00pm

GSG Facilitator: Margaret Brackett

GSG Notetaker: Kecia Rouse

Participants:

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|-----------------------|---------------------|
| ❖ Joelle Martin | ❖ Rachel Valladares |
| ❖ Aurelia (Lia) Moran | ❖ Annie Censullo |
| ❖ Shirley Tomlinson | ❖ Robin deAlmeida |
| ❖ Katherine Lewing | ❖ Marianne Barter |
| ❖ Christine Morrissey | |

Summary of team purpose:

The team discussed resources that had been reviewed to inform their brainstorming and development of potential initiatives.

I. Review of Objective Success Definitions:

The team reviewed the definitions of success from Meeting 1 and highlighted key factors that would signal success on each objective.

II. Background/Research about potential initiatives:

Some of the takeaways from the research were discussed including:

Objective 1: Increase early intervention and primary prevention

Lia Moran, Shirley Tomlinson

- Reports from RAND – study released in 2019 → Echoed points of parents/caregiver awareness, home visiting, referrals, programs aren't always universally available; need for early intervention
 - https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB10055.html
 - https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2955.html
- Family resource centers and libraries can be connectors; importance of connecting families to resources
- Home visits (Coos County) – every family gets a home visit → creates a pathway/doorway and the idea that someone in the community cares about them

- Waypoint – some focus on improving cultural confidence of home visitors through multi-lingual staff
- TLC – different strategies to reduce barriers and increase access
- Prenatal care
- Child Care – respecting the childcare field and seeing it as a important place to support early learning
- In early development, life circumstances affect early development → resiliency important for all children
- Families should have access to high-quality cost-effective community programs including intervention
- LAUNCH Manchester is also piloting universal home visiting with their “Welcome Baby” pilot
- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK551489/>

Objective 2: Increase accessible childcare and early learning options

Christine Morrissey, Marianne Barter

- Cannot increase accessible childcare and early learning options until you’ve secured the workforce
- NH Cliff Effect Report
- US Treasury Report
- Economics of Childcare Supply of the United States report
- Universal Pre-K – thinking about where the country’s going and how to implement it
- NH Connections childcare desert map – where we can increase access in areas underserved geographically
- Family daycare homes
- RAND study 2009 in CA – aligning the eligibility process and allocation of children to slots to meet the highest need children; quality rate improvement
 - <https://www.rand.org/capabilities/solutions-improving-access-to-early-childhood-education.html>
- Expanding eligibility for state scholarships as an option for families who can’t afford care; looking at median income; increase eligibility rates
- Article addressing the need for affordable early childhood care and education – universal plan with a sliding scale for families
 - <https://equitablegrowth.org/addressing-the-need-for-affordable-high-quality-early-childhood-care-and-education-for-all-in-the-united-states/>

Objective 3: Increase family awareness, voice, influence, engagement and knowledge

Joelle Martin, Robin deAlmeida

- PDG funded focus group reports state and regional need assessments 2019-2021
- Community level needs assessments from Milford
- PIX systemic family engagement framework – created to make family engagement more systemic across the state
- GAP analysis of NH youth and family engagement practices

- US DHHS/DOE joint policy statement on family engagement in the early years
- Building awareness and distributing information in order to make it easy for parents to find information wherever they are
 - Folder of resources supplied to everyone to reduce the stigma
 - List of community partners for family support and early childhood services
 - Family input on how to build awareness – make family engagement sustainable and scalable throughout the early childhood system and ensure families are informing work at every level
- *This group will send google doc with links*

Objective 4: Enhance quality of early childhood programs and services

Annie Censullo, Richard Lavers (could not attend)

- NH QRIS system – Granite Steps of Quality (recently revised)
 - Looked at ME, VT, and MA and their QRIS systems; ME & MA are more similar to NH; VT uses STARS
 - NH QRIS was a one size fits all but now it's 4 identified program types with specific criteria rubrics – it's more specific
- Offering consulting, coaching, professional development for teachers, more financial incentives, tons of support at no cost
- Child safety and health, continuous professional development, partnerships to support quality – reoccurring themes found in early childhood research
- *Resources to be shared*

III. Next Steps:

- If you have not already, use the background research organization tool to organize resources you are finding of what's working, what research says works, what other states are doing, what is already underway in NH *as related to your objective specifically.*
 - Share links to research you have already found by Tuesday 8/2 morning
 - Share links to other research by COB on Friday
- Communicate with your partner(s) to brainstorm ideas for potential projects that could be implemented in NH that would achieve the Objective.
 - Think about if the project/initiative would achieve success, as defined in our meeting.
- At next Tuesday's meeting, come prepared to share the potential projects with the group, so we can rate and refine them, etc.

IV. Review and Updates:

- The team rescheduled the next meeting, Meeting 3, to Tuesday, August 9th from 12-2pm.
- The team will not be using a Shared Folder system. Instead, each working group will share documents between themselves as needed. As each team member reviews resources related to this strategic theme, they can send those links to Margaret to share with the group. In addition, links to resources may be posted to the Council for Thriving

Children website: <https://councilforthrivingchildren.org/what-the-experts-say>. Meeting notes will also be posted the council's website: <https://councilforthrivingchildren.org/past-meetings>.

- Newest team members were added to working groups for the following objectives:
 - Rachel will work on Objective 1
 - Katherine will work on Objective 2

V. Important Dates:

- August 9th, 12-2pm: next team meeting – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2622399395>
- August 15th 12-2pm: team meeting – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2622399395>
- September 6th, 10am-12pm: Subcommittee Meeting for strategic plan development
- September 7th, 1-2:30pm: team meeting – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2622399395>
- September 13th, 9-11am: Council for Thriving Children meeting (in-person)