

## Home Visiting Task Force

Thursday, July 19, 2012

3:00 – 5:00 pm

### Meeting Notes

#### **Members Present:**

##### *Chicago*

Elizabeth Barisik, Carrie Bires, Rebecca Bunn, Lindsay Cochrane, Brooke Fisher, Gaylord Gieseke, Abigail Kerl, Teresa Kelly, Jon Korfmacher, Cynthia Northington, Sally Puleo, Nancy Radner, Diana Rauner, Dhara Thakar, Dawn Thomas, Mark Valentine, Jacob Vigil

##### *Springfield*

Nancie Brown, Donna Edmonds, Roy Harley, Mary Salisbury, Linda Saterfield, Penny Smith, Janelle Weldin-Frisch

##### *Phone*

Anita Berry, Juanona Brewster, Jeanna Capito, Kim Collins, Felicia Fair-Thompson, Susy Gonzalez, Christine Johnson, Colleen Jones, Aissa Norris, Greg O'Donnell, Andrea Palmer, Dianne Scruggs, Cheryl Stroller, Sue Swisher, Alice Wyatt, Cindy Zumwalt

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

Co-chair Diana Rauner welcomed the group and facilitated introductions. The minutes from the March 7, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved.

#### **Updates and Discussion**

##### *State and Federal Legislation and Budget*

Governor Quinn signed the FY 13 budget on June 30, and fortunately the proposed home visiting cuts were rescinded, protecting both DHS programs and those receiving federal funding through MIECHV. However, the budget allowed cuts to the Child Care Assistance Program within DHS, General State Aid and the Early Childhood Block Grant within ISBE, and funding prevention services for intake families and the LAN structure within DCFS. The Executive Committee of the Early Learning Council submitted a recommendation to the Governor, urging him to reopen the DCFS, DHS, and ISBE budgets to reverse the cuts. In a press statement, Governor Quinn opposed the cuts to education and child welfare and said he intends to work with legislators during the fall veto session to reallocate funding to protect children.

At the federal level, on June 28 the Supreme Court announced their decision to uphold the Affordable Care Act, which means that the \$19 million Illinois has already been awarded through MIECHV is secure. However, MIECHV, Head Start, and the Child Care and Development Block Grant will be subject to automatic, across-the-board cuts in January 2013 as a result of sequestration unless Congress acts to prevent them. Illinois will receive flat funding for the third round (FFY12) of MIECHV formula funding, which means expansion into new communities is not possible and we were ineligible for the most recent round of competitive "development" grants for states without established systems of home visiting infrastructure since we had already received the higher level "expansion" grant in FFY11.

##### *Early Learning Council Strategic Planning*

The Early Learning Council strategic planning and reorganization continues and a new leadership structure for standing committees has recently been confirmed. An additional element within this new

structure is that each committee has a government liaison in addition to the two co-chairs to ensure greater connection between the administering agencies and the committees addressing those issues. The leadership of the new committees is as follows:

- Home Visiting Task Force: Gaylord Gieseke, Diana Rauner and Teresa Kelly (OECD)
- Program Standards and Quality: Jeanna Capito, Jan Maruna and Linda Saterfield (DHS)
- Systems Integration and Alignment: Karen Berman, Vanessa Rich and Reyna Hernandez (ISBE)
- Data, Research and Evaluation: Elliot Regenstein, Teri Talan and Dan Harris (DHS)

#### *Workgroup Activity*

Health Connections is meeting regularly and they are considering how to strengthen connections between the maternal child health systems for existing home visiting models and how the home visiting models currently (or may potentially) address the MIECHV health benchmarks. Universal Screening met in May and MIECHV community representatives shared the systems they currently have in place for screening and referring families, including the addition of community systems development and coordinated intake positions funded through MIECHV. The Sustainability co-chairs have met and plan to convene the first meeting of the group in the early fall.

#### *MIECHV*

Teresa Kelly provided an update on the MIECHV grants, with communities awarded formula grants receiving funding for home visitors, coordinated intake and community systems development staff. Programs are currently using a paper data collection tool developed by Peter Mulhall at the Center for Prevention Research and Development at U of I until the Social Solutions database is ready to roll out in August. Progress reports on the formula grants are due September 30 and it is clear that other states are struggling to spend down their money within that timeframe. OECD and DHS staff will attend a HRSA Region V meeting at the end of July, which will address grant management, CQI plans, data systems, care coordination and implementation TA. For the competitive grants, Fussy Baby Network research has begun within pilot communities, the doula RCT has begun at one program site and an implementation study has begun of the home visiting programs newly incorporating doula programs.

Jon Korfmacher updated the Task Force on his successful application with Anne Duggan and researchers from Johns Hopkins to form a research network and develop a national home visiting research agenda. Their grant began on July 1 and will include opportunities for different home visiting stakeholders to participate. Jon also informed the group that Erikson's evaluation of ISBE's Prevention Initiative programs is complete and a report should be released by the end of July.

#### **Home Visiting Task Force Work Plan**

The Task Force reviewed its current work plan keeping in mind its vision for a statewide home visiting system beyond the EBHV and MIECHV grants. The three broad goals (expand access, improve quality, and improve coordination of home visiting programs) have remained consistent since the inception of the Task Force in 2009 and the group now agreed that language should be added to goal three to adequately describe the level of interconnection expected between home visiting and other early childhood and family support programs. A revised version of the work plan will be distributed to members over email so that those unable to attend the meeting can provide feedback electronically.

#### **Wrap Up and Next Steps**

The Home Visiting Task Force will next meet on Tuesday, October 16 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Ounce of Prevention Fund offices in Chicago and Springfield.