

**Illinois Early Learning Council**  
**Family and Community Engagement**  
**All Families Served Subcommittee**

**October 13, 2015 • 12pm– 2pm**

Minutes

- Attendance: Leah Pouw, Carie Bires, Renee Tetrick, Vicki Hodges, Madelyn James, Fiona Anderson, Christine Nicpon, Janice Moenster, Trish Rooney, Bryan Stokes, Cerathal Burnett, Mayumi Grigsby, Donna Emmons, Karen Berman, Gail Nelson, Julie Zhu, Sandy DeLeon, Cindy Zumwalt, Reyna Hernandez
- Meeting minutes were not approved for 8/18/15 due to administrative transition of the subcommittee. Minutes will be revisited at the next meeting.
- Updates—State, Federal, ELC, Innovation Zones, work groups
  - OECD
    - Preschool Expansion is up and running; 80% enrolled
    - RTT is winding down, looking at scopes of work and making use of remaining dollars
  - Federal
    - Continuing resolution, budget dollars flowing
  - ELC
    - Created action plan for mental health for state, shared and next steps are being considered
  - Innovation Zones
    - New cohort of Innovation Zones just completed a 4 part orientation
    - New Innovation Zones include: Austin, Altgeld-Riverdale, Elgin, Englewood
    - Interviewing for new hires that will work as implementation coaches in a field-based role with IZs on their strategy implementation
    - The next all-IZ meeting is November 5 in Bloomington
    - IZs are collecting local level program data on enrollment and quality; October 15, 2015 is the point-in-time date to capture enrollment numbers (totals and priority population enrollment) and data is due November 20
    - North Lawndale is working closely with home visiting programs to enroll children
    - Aurora is working on a shared intake process
    - GESTL is moving forward despite impacts from the state budget. 52% of programs have a bronze rating or higher, 17% are gold rated. On October 19, there is a meeting to better align Part B and C.
  - Work groups
    - Homeless— doing background research. Meets next on October 21.
    - Child welfare work group - focusing on statewide provider database. Meets next on October 21.

- Poverty/deep poverty – Reviewing data and discussing strategy plan. Next meeting TBA
  
- Early Childhood Block Grant FY17 and 18 Planning
  - Reviewed ECBG FY17 Planning document
    - Block grant was competitively bid in 2012 for 5 years
    - Rebid would happen in FY2017. Question of when to rebid.
  - Discussed key decision tree
    - Decision to delay the re-compete until FY18 was made at last ELC executive committee meeting; pending board approval
    - For any additional funds in FY17, idea to have current programs apply for enhanced spots for instructional leaders, comprehensive services, moving from half day to full day
    - Additional funds would also be used to meet PEG commitments
    - If more funds are available, capacity grants could be made available to support programs in preparing to apply in FY18
  - Reviewed framework for early learning service delivery – draft, skeleton framework for consideration and discussion (feedback needed within 2 months)
    - Discussed how to define most at risk, high risk, and at risk children and the essential services needed
    - Different ways to grow the system – important to clarify and understand how best to prioritize
    - Questions to consider by meeting participants:
      - Are these the right categories?
      - High need community vs. high need population?
      - Do we need a blended strategy?
      - Do we want only high risk kids in one classroom?
      - How do we weigh priorities?
      - How will types of slots be informed by this work?
      - Who are the children being served?
      - What types of services should be provided?
      - How best to support birth to 3 years old and a continuum of services?
      - If there is additional funding, how should it be allocated?
      - How do we set priorities on what should be funded first/
    - Multiple risk factors are important and necessary considerations
    - Will look at clustering data to help make decisions
    - Need to consider the demographics of communities and local needs – communities to set goals and targets depending on need
    - Will review-Preschool Expansion weighted criteria
      - PEG & IZ could be starting point to understand experience of working with priority populations

- Ex. GESTL IZ piloted PEG weighted form and sought input on additional local categories. Were able to be intentional and focused, allowed to refine the process and further define categories for clarity.
  - Discussed risk profiles and understanding how risk level maps onto services
  - Discussed 0-3 services and providing a continuum of services
  - Mixed level classrooms is another consideration
  - Important to consider weighted criteria and also access
    - What should slots look like?
    - Ex. GESTL considered transportation needs.
    - Ex. Aurora IZ looked at GIS maps to see where poverty was concentrated and where centers were located, now conversations about where to move slots and more targeted recruitment designed for the user.
  - In determining who, the group discussed using PEG weighted eligibility (will review together on an upcoming call) and local determination
  - Discussed reviewing existing data from PEG, GESTL research, IZ
    - Important to acknowledge that there are limitations to this data in terms of accuracy and reliability
    - Will get a sense of whether weighted eligibility helped to target children for programs. Did it change the way you do things?
- Next Steps
  - PEG, PI, and PFA documents to be shared
  - Will seek feedback from PEG, IZ, and others to help inform the process
  - Conference call to discuss who and what services (doodle poll to be sent)
    - Will provide feedback/guidance on who and what services, as well as guidance on how this grows
  - Next AFS meeting: December 8, 2015 from 10am-12pm