

**Illinois Early Learning Council**  
**Family and Community Engagement Meeting**  
**July 30, 2014 1 pm – 3pm**  
**Illinois Action for Children**  
**4753 N Broadway, Chicago, IL 60604**

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Committee and Subcommittee co-chairs:

**Maria Whelan** (IAFC), **George Davis** (City of Rockford Human Services), **Carie Bires** (Ounce), **Leah Pouw** (IAFC), **Granada Williams** (CEDA), **Choua Vue** (IAFC), **Elisa Westapher** (National Association of Charter School Authorizers)

Meeting Participants:

Maria Whelan, Christine Nicpon, TeeNeka Jones-Gueye, Kim Collins, Fiona Anderson, Choua Vue, Beth Berendsen, Elisa Westapher, Kathy Stohr, Veronica Mercado, Kathy Ile, Kelly Rauscher, Nubia Rodriguez, Sergio Hernandez, Aminah Wyatt-Jones, Bob Cammarata, Reyna Hernandez, Christy Serrano

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**I. Welcome and Introductions**

- a. Approved minutes from March 26, 2014

**II. Presentation**

- a. Blending, Braiding, and Sustainable Funding (Samantha Aigner-Treworgy, Ounce of Prevention)
  - i. About 250 people attended Blending, Braiding, and Sustainable Funding (BBSF) roundtables
  - ii. Participants requested that information be presented in different ways (ex: charts, grouped by agencies, identify “quick wins”, denote longer investments)
  - iii. Roundtable participants requested regional summaries, and cost implications
  - iv. Overall, BBSF roundtables were important process, provided a feedback loop. FCE members requested staying informed of next action steps
- b. FCE member feedback
  - i. Discussion of how to better connect with existing resources (ex: CSD, DRE, etc)
    - BBSF not necessarily set up to take this on, but potential for another group to embrace
  - ii. Would appreciate city-specific and region-specific recommendations
  - iii. All kids need access to high quality EC, but not only full day/weekday—some need evenings, weekends, non-traditional hours
  - iv. Lots of factors that drive BBSF are different outside of Chicago. Many opportunities disappear downstate, less density, more collaboration challenges

**III. Early Learning Council Updates**

- a. ELC Exec meeting on April 7th

**IV. State Agency Updates**

- a. Governor’s Office Early Childhood Development (OECD)
  - i. EH/CCP gearing up

- ii. April 10<sup>th</sup> hosting Birth to 3 Symposium
  - iii. Excelerate moving forward
  - iv. Awards of Excellence supports RFP released
  - v. Pre-K instructional excellence RFP released
- b. Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)
  - i. Waiting to hear budget
  - ii. ISBE distributed FCE Survey on Preschool for All transportation issues
  - iii. Two new positions in Early Childhood Division (KIDS assessment work, ELCG work)
- c. Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)
  - i. CCMS roll-out continuing. Much potential when system is complete
  - ii. CC/EHS partnerships approaching
  - iii. Acknowledged Gina Ruther retiring

## V. Local Agency Updates

- a. Chicago Public Schools (CPS)
  - i. In first round of enrollment, ends April. Will look at data and make adjustments. May 27<sup>th</sup> the system opens for another month.

## VI. FCE Subcommittee Reports

- a. Principles and Practices
 

*Choua Vue & Granada Williams*

  - i. Parent—provider focus groups occurring. Erikson conducting groups. Will be completed by end of April and compile report over the summer. Still need parents for Aurora, Springfield, Cook groups.
  - ii. Subcommittee has finished bulk of work plan
- b. All Families Served
 

*Carie Bires & Leah Pouw*

  - i. Discussion on CC/EHS Partnerships and role of AFS Subcommittee, particularly regarding advocating for priority populations
  - ii. Updates on family vulnerability work, have chance to access technical assistance from OECD, will allow more sophisticated framework to be developed
- c. Capital/Infrastructure
 

*Elisa Westapher*

  - i. Acknowledged Martin Torres' leadership.
  - ii. No capital projects are on deck, however transportation work will continue as an ad hoc work group of All Families Served.

- iii. PFA survey was sent to 465 grantees: 412 started survey, 313 completed survey, for a 67.3% response rate
- iv. Planning for the final transportation survey (Child care transportation) is beginning now.

**VII. Next Steps/ Upcoming Meetings**

- May 14, 2014...9 AM-12 PM @ IAFC, 1340 S. Damen, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
- Co-chair pre-meeting conference calls will resume