



Region 19 Workgroup #2 Meeting

Date & Time: October 26, 2023, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Recommendation: A system that supports children from varying levels of development, trauma, and medical complexities through inclusive and adaptive environments.

Notes

Start Time 4:00 pm: Welcome (5 minutes).

Notes:

- Reviewed process for determining workgroup recommendation selection and meeting schedule.

Start Time 4:05 pm: Goal Setting (85 minutes).

Notes:

- Participants were asked to consider the following:
 - What are our goals for achieving the recommendation?
 - Of these which are long term, and which are short term?
 - What can we do immediately to kick off the process of sustainable, systemic change?
- The group determined several main components to addressing the recommendation:
 - Engagement within the healthcare field, with an emphasis on those who are considered the family's first point of contact.
 - Professional development is needed for the Early Childhood Education and Care workforce and community.
 - Caregiver/parent empowerment through education and awareness of resources.
 - A need for mental health supports, not only for the children but family members and Early Childhood professionals as well.

Start Time 5:30 pm: Action Steps (85 minutes).

Notes:

- Participants were asked to consider what is already being done to address the recommendation and what are some ideas that can be implemented to address the recommendation for each of the following sub recommendations:
 - Universal developmental screenings for all children birth to age five, implemented in a child's native language.
 - It was determined that a better understanding of the screening process during a child's wellness checks with their primary physician is needed. Additionally, we need to consider how practices differ between family/general practitioners and pediatricians.



- Parents and caregivers also need to have a better understanding of the “what, why, and how” of developmental screenings without being overwhelmed.
- Expand current early childhood mental health supports, including the employment of additional Infant/Toddler Mental Health Specialists.
 - A major component of additional mental health supports must include services for the entire family, including but not limited to parents and siblings.
- Financial support for existing child care programs to support inclusive environments through physical environment accommodations, the purchase of appropriate classroom materials, and compensation for specialized teaching staff.
 - It is important to assess the impact COVID-19 has had on classroom environments. We need to consider what adaptations were removed due to restrictions and never reinstated and what adaptations used during COVID-19 can be utilized to make accommodations today.
- Professional development for ECEC professionals to increase awareness and knowledge regarding working with children from varying levels of development, trauma, and medical complexities.
 - Again, must also consider education for families and the greater community as well.
- The group also discussed additional considerations on what is needed to move forward with formulating action steps:
 - Look at existing community spaces that already provide adaptive environments (i.e., playgrounds and parks).

Start Time 6:55 pm: Next Steps (5 minutes).

Notes:

- The Jamboard and notes will be shared with the full workgroup.
- Communication will be sent prior to the next meeting to narrow down goals and action steps.

Next meeting:

Workgroup #2: TBD.

Full Action Council: Wednesday, November 1, 2023, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Full Family Council: Thursday, November 2, 2023, 6:00 to 8:00 pm.