



Action Plan Workgroups Summary

Action & Family Council Members

December 14, 2023

11:00am & 4:30pm

Attendees

Workgroup members present: Jessica Alvarado, Erin Brown-Powell, Stephanie Burkhardt, Jessica Burrell, Tracy Crump, Jenny Dowsey, Kyle McEwen, Rhonda Hillyer, Michael Levis, David Pagan, Roy Van Meter

Agenda

- I. Group agreements.
 - i. We will seek to understand differing opinions.
 - ii. We will not hesitate to speak up if you have trouble seeing/hearing.
 - iii. We will respect each other's views.
 - iv. We will keep our camera on when possible.
- II. Review recommendations
 - i. Recommendation 1: The following was discussed for each Smart Goal.
 - i. D) Identify information families want/need? Kyle brought up his survey and to see if we can get approval from the State to use it.
 - ii. C) Develop a Media plan that allows for both PASSIVE and DIRECT informational dissemination. Reviewed website examples One-Stop Shop: Maryland, MCbettertogether.org
 - iii. B) Study other Models and Make Recommendations for Adoption. Reviewed other State models for suggestions and discussion.
 - iv. A) Gain Stakeholder Support for creating, contributing to, and maintaining- 1 Universal Source. Generational share, Continual effort in creation.
 - v. *1) By 6/30/24, create and launch a universal resource for families to access Early Childhood Education and Care information. Achieve the goal by 6/30/2024.*
 - vi. There were no replies to the question about formatting.
 - ii. Recommendation 2: The following was discussed for each Smart Goal.
 - i. D) This work group will gather data on the specific needs and challenges of home based providers. Reviewed existing Smart Goals and Sub Goals.



- ii. C) This work group will ensure that providers have multiple platforms to access relevant information and resources by June 2024. Discussion about changing the wording of the Recommendation #2 Goal?
 - 1. Reward Smart Goals
- iii. 1) Within eight months, increase the utilization of information and resources by home-based provider by 10%? **How to track this?**
 - 1. Revised – How we will know when the goal is achieved.
 - 2. Measurement of Goal accomplishment by tracking website usage over 6 month time period: Cookies and the embedded question of “How did you find out about this site?” with checkboxes.
 - 3. How do we make sure the same people are not answering the same survey multiple times? It should be asked only once how they heard about the One-Stop Shop.
- III. How will you know when the recommendation is fully implemented?
- IV. What do you predict will happen if this recommendation is implemented?
 - i. More access to resources.
 - ii. Positive use of resources.
 - iii. More Child Care Providers.
 - iv. Increased workforce.
 - v. Increase in need for child care education.
- V. Is there anything that came up during discussions that doesn't fit into an existing question but is important to note?
- VI. Do any of the SMART Goals/Sub-Goals require a funding source?
 - i. Donations for incentives. Ex. Resource and Referral currently does this.
 - ii. Tracking piece may need funding.
 - iii. Possible marketing funding.
- VII. Is there anything in the SMART goals matrix that needs to be changed/updated based on this discussion?
- VIII. Maryland Family Network discussion. www.marylandfamilynetwork.org
 - i. Parent tab – missing additional languages (only Spanish), rural child care (possibly list by County).
 - ii. Provider tab – Grants and Scholarships available were missing, possibly add a potential Provider Tab for interest in becoming an educator.
 - iii. Advocates – No comments given.
 - iv. Get Involved – No comments given.



- IX. Alliance for Early Success site was shown: <https://earlysuccess.org/resource-centers/state-child-care-policy-roadmap/>
- i. State by State information base about the current efforts going on in each State for ECEC Advocacy, Policy, Funding.
- X. Mercer County Better Together website was visited. <https://www.mcbettertogether.org/>
- XI. Rhonda Hillyer shared the ElginPartnership.org.
- XII. Questions brought to Council:
- i. Who in the community has been especially helpful?
 - ii. It is our hope that our Action Plan will...
- XIII. Do any of the SMART Goals/Sub-Goals require a funding source?
- i. Tracking may need funding.
 - ii. Possible marketing funding.

Before next meeting...

- List any next steps or reminders for Council members here.
- Once the Action Plan is finished, will move to discussing Mental Health data and gathering community feedback on what's going well and the challenges/barriers to accessing mental and behavioral health services for young children.
- Please share the Mental/Behavioral Health survey.
<https://form.jotform.com/tollinois/mental--behavioral-health-survey>.
- Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25th.
- Council members were asked if they would share their photos with us. Our office will be sending you a photo release form if we do not have one on file for you.