



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD



Connecticut Office of  
Early Childhood

Dannel P. Malloy  
Governor  
Nancy Wyman  
Lt. Governor

Myra Jones-Taylor, Ph.D.  
Commissioner

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**May 11, 2016**  
**10:00 am – 12:00 pm • Rocky Hill**

*Paul Dworkin, Chair*

### ATTENDANCE

**Members present:** Angela Crowley, Ann Gionet, Christina Nelson, Dawn Clavette, Eileen McMurrer, Eva Forrest, Grace Whitney, Heather Spada, Judith Meyers, Julie Bisi, Kareena DuPlessis, Merrill Gay, Mona Scales, Rick Porth, Tanya Barrett  
**Recorder:** Heather Spada

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### **Welcome and Introductions**

- Rick Porth welcomed participants; all members and guests introduced themselves and their respective organizations and roles.
- CHDI's report: Judith Meyers distributed the latest IMPACT publication: *Social Emotional Development and Early Literacy* that looks at strategies that promote the link between social-emotional development and literacy. This publication speaks to the importance of starting early to promote this linkage which has an impact on future successful school outcomes.

### **Update: Community Discussions and Surveys**

- Four meetings are being held this week, in various location spread out in the state. An OEC representative is present with Mhora and Heather at each meeting: Eileen McMurrer, Julie Bisi or Grace Whitney.
- These community discussions involve sharing the results of the ECCS Year 1 needs assessment as summarized within the IMPACT report by CHDI, and its relation to the ECCS Action Plan developed as a result of the input given in the needs assessment. We are highlighting ECCS Activities and obtaining feedback from a variety of early childhood and community stakeholders. A scannable feedback survey is given to the participants to complete at the end of the Discussion.
- On Monday, after these discussions are held, an online survey will be distributed to give individuals a chance to participate if they were unable to attend in person. A 2-page summary of the project and action plan will accompany the survey.
- Mhora will present the findings from the Community Discussions and feedback surveys at our July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Some general feedback from the Discussions so far:
  - Be targeted with messaging
  - Consider Home visitors/home visitation programs part of ECE
  - Involve the Family Resource Centers
  - Connecting ECE educators/providers with pediatricians/health care is key.

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- The Committee discussed existing barriers with pediatricians
  - Angela Crowley suggested more outreach to Pediatric Nurse Practitioners would be a solution
  - Massachusetts has a good model to explore
  - The community plan in New Britain showed that pediatric providers knew about their own practice but not about their community. There is a positive notion of holding up one's own practice to the community to compare - How do we make public information accessible? We currently have a disjointed system that does not track children. Explore further what Rhode Island and Massachusetts are doing – tracking screening information in a linked way. Even though it gives silos-based information about what is happening, it could be refined to be applied in a systematic way. For example: post a color-coded map of CT with percentages of screenings completed per town.
  - Need a targeted effort to bring the AAP and NAPNAP (Nurse Practitioners) together regarding screening.
  - There is a great need for care coordination at pediatrician's offices – as experienced by Project LAUNCH's work in New Haven
  - The CT Health Info Exchange could help with planning of linking ASQ to pediatricians in a systematized way

### **Progress Matrix/Action Plan status**

- Reviewed Progress Matrix's timelines for the action steps. Some groups are completing additional pre-work or steps towards moving parts of the planning forward. Two groups (ASQ online and messaging) are holding a combined meeting in June to see where their work is integrating and how to bring joined efforts to the table.
- The initial work of the subgroups is complete, and some members would continue the work, but need some guidance from the Advisory Committee. This plan is one of the final products/deliverables for the ECCS grant, and anything else we accomplish will be additional achievements.

### **Sample of Narrated Developmental Screenings PowerPoint/Toolkit Update**

- Sample presentation of the narrated Developmental Screenings PowerPoint – this is part of the toolkit that Angela Crowley and the Interagency Subcommittee have been working on.
- The training presentation and its sample documents (sample policy for ECE programs and screening tool chart) will be featured separately – before the toolkit of resources.
- The Toolkit will be housed on ECCS webpage – its own page and organized into 3 areas or tiers of information:
  - Developmental Awareness: resources for promoting healthy development and ways to monitor children's development
  - Developmental Screening and Detection: resources for screening young children, screening protocols and working together with families/parents of young children in screening activities.
  - Early Intervention and Linking to Services: resources to help connect young children and their families to services.
- Heather will email a toolkit sample to help visualize how it will be organized on the ECCS website. She will also request that Advisory Committee members review the content and give suggestions of additional resources.

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- Heather will email the PowerPoint for content feedback. Feedback on the overall design and length were given by the Committee. Suggestions were also given for distributing to as many ECE providers, stakeholders, health consultants, and pediatric practices as possible. This includes School Based Health Centers. Project LAUNCH may have some funding to help with public messaging/promotion.

### Other Business

- Julie Bisi will invite Minakshi Tikoo to attend the next meeting to talk about the Health Information Exchange and the process and potential for HI Exchange connection between the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) / Child Development Infoline and the child's pediatrician.

Final meeting: Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 12:00 at United Way of Connecticut

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