

**Conference Call Information**

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**Program Quality and Alignment Subcommittee  
Minutes**

**November 17, 2017 ~ 9:00-11:00 am**

**Chambers Family Fund, 44 Cook Street, Suite 240, Denver 80206**

**Meeting Objectives:**

- Approve the meeting minutes from May 19, 2017
- Discuss current alignment across systems – successes and opportunities
- Hear Legislative updates from the group
- Hear updates from the subcommittee Working Groups
- Allow an opportunity for updates, new business and public comment

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Attendees: Bill Jaeger, Letty Bass, Evie Hudak, Susan Steele, Christina Walker, Lauren Freemire, Emily Bustos, Heather Craiglow, Anna Jo Haynes, Heidi McCaslin, Melissa Colman (phone), Kristina Heyl

**Welcome and Introductions**

- Anna Jo Haynes welcomed and asked everyone to review the meeting objectives.
- The group reviewed the minutes from May 19, 2017. Letty Bass moved to approve the minutes. Heather Craiglow seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Updates from Working Groups**

- Young Child Wellness Council – Kristina Heyl shared updates on behalf of the Young Child Wellness Council co-chairs. The Council recently changed co-chairs, and is now lead by two parents representatives and a professional in the child well-being field. The Council has been working to support the new co-chairs with coaching, provided by Civic Canopy and supported by Early Milestones Colorado. Princess Mack and Ann Bruce have been invited to be part of a national leadership team to develop a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Family Engagement Network. The group is also applying for carryover funds to continue to support family members, and will be supporting five family members to participate in the Collective Impact Summit in November. PQA members talked about the sustainability of the YCWC after the Project LAUNCH funds expire; Kristina suggested we have a conversation with the co-chairs of the YCWC at a future meeting to learn about what they are putting in place for sustainability and what the plans are for moving forward once the grant is complete.
- *Framework* Working Group – Letty Bass discussed the progress on the Early Childhood Colorado Framework website project. There have been several delays to the project, but things are on track and the website should be ready to go in early 2018. One lesson learned was to include the website developer early in the project, as there were some setbacks based on what is realistic from a development perspective. The group discussed the idea of having policy options and strategies as a separate section on the website and how to link the policy strategies to programs and organizations as they fill out their profiles. Susan shared that the Data Subcommittee is meeting Monday and will work to develop the tags or identifiers for the reports and resources, possibly aligned with the shortened outcomes that will be used by programs and organizations as they enter their work on the website.
- ECPD Advisory Working Group – Heather Craiglow shared that 23 of the 24 seats on the re-seated Early Childhood Professional Development Advisory Working Group are filled, and the group plans to have their first meeting on Dec 8, 2017. The first meeting will be used to share history of the previous plan, as well as

work that has happened thus far to develop the new plan. Diana Schack will be there to present the research from the Workforce Survey collected over the past year as well. From there, the ECPD Advisory will presumably work in smaller groups to address the goals outlined in the EC Workforce 2020 Plan. Heather also shared that the ECLC is hosting a working session for state agency leadership to learn about the plan and research and identify ways that they can support the ongoing efforts in their agencies.

### **Legislative Updates**

- Bill Jaeger from the Colorado Children’s Campaign provided an overview of early childhood aspects in the Governor’s proposed budget as well as potential legislation for the upcoming session. He mentioned the following:
  - 4 Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission bills moving forward
    - Substitute Placement Agency
    - Alignment of Colorado Shines Programs and Eligibility
    - Reauthorize ECSRLC for 5 years
    - ECARE Eligibility for Kindergarten matched to CPP Eligibility
  - Several early childhood items were included in the Governor’s proposed budget:
    - Community-based providers to receive a 1% increase
    - \$340 raise in per pupil funding for districts
    - \$11M for HB17-1003 Teacher Shortages Strategic Plan strategies
      - This includes \$1M called out specifically for early care and education
    - Incredible Years funding that would serve an additional 2,000 families
  - Other possible legislation:
    - Child Care Contribution Tax Credit Reauthorization
    - Suspensions and Expulsions
    - Child Care Expenses Tax Credits

### **Reflecting on Progress in Colorado**

- Anna Jo discussed that over the past several years, much has happened to align and streamline services and supports in early childhood in Colorado. She asked Kristina to lead a discussion on the following 3 questions:
  1. In what areas has Colorado made strides in connecting and aligning services, supports, and policies?
  2. In what areas does Colorado need to continue to work to connect and align services, supports, and policies?
  3. Are there specific examples of services, supports and policies that are not aligned that you believe should be prioritized throughout the next year?
- Notes from this discussion are available in a separate document that will be shared with PQA Subcommittee members and brought to the ECLC for discussion and guidance.

### **Public Comment, New Business and Next Steps**

- There was no public comment. Letty asked if the January 19, 2018 date will work and suggested that staff sends a poll to all of the members to get a date locked in for January.
- Letty moved to adjourn, seconded by Susan, all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

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