PDG B5 4.1
Local Collaboratives

Community Systems to Support Families and Young Children

PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT
BIRTH THROUGH FIVE

IDAHO ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children
Community Systems to Support Families and Young Children

Local Collaborative Grants

As we all know, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on communities, including systems that support families and young children. The current conditions remind us that services for children and families are essential and that it is important to understand challenges while also preparing for the needs of the future. The Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children is in a unique position to support communities in identifying local systems and supports that will be essential in the coming months and years.

Throughout 2020, IDAEYC will be working to support the efforts of local collaboratives, modeled by the Preschool the Idaho Way Project, to bring stakeholders together to assess early learning systems and resources for families in various communities throughout the state. With funding available through Idaho’s Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five, communities are encouraged to assess their current situation by establishing a local Early Learning Advisory Committee to determine services currently in place and, subsequently, develop a local strategic action plan to guide future efforts.

GOOD NEWS! Your community is eligible to receive funding to participate in the Idaho Early Childhood Local Collaborative Grant Project from May through December 2020.

To receive this funding, local community collaboratives will commit to the following:

1. Establish a local Early Learning Advisory Committee (ELAC) governance structure.
2. Conduct a local Early Learning Needs Assessment to determine current systems/resources in place.
4. Identify and promote best practices to support transitions between early childhood and K-12 schools.
5. Identify a match through monetary and/or in-kind donations.
   Please Note: The match request is not intended to be a barrier to participating in this project.

Local collaboratives will have access to the following support:

- Resources and support throughout the process, including a collaborative guidebook.
- Support from Idaho AEYC and Advocacy & Communication Solutions, LLC.
  ACS is a national communication, advocacy and strategy development consulting firm that helps agencies and organizations successfully share their messages about target issues with key audiences, advocate for policy change, and position themselves as leaders in their respective fields.
- Engagement in meetings with ACS, virtually or in-person (if pandemic conditions allow).

Support from Idaho AEYC and Advocacy & Communication Solutions will be provided for each local collaborative to ACHIEVE SUCCESS in establishing an Early Learning Advisory Committee and assessing community needs.
Local Early Learning Advisory Committee governance structures will meet the following (minimum) expectations:

1. Include a lead fiscal agency/organization.
2. Include a lead project manager.
3. Include at least three community participants.
4. Include participants interested in services and resources for families with young children (infants through age five) from a mix of public, private, and nonprofit entities – such as child care/preschool programs, Head Start/Early Head Start, schools, libraries, community foundations, businesses, tribal organizations, faith-based organizations, child welfare, civic organizations, community action centers, health care, mental health, early intervention, local government, parents, and other invested agencies/individuals.
5. Include at least one early childhood educator working in a regulated early learning program.
6. Include at least one member from the K-12 school system.
7. Meet at least four times from June through October 2020 (meetings can be in-person or virtual).
8. Develop operational expectations related to roles and participation. Bylaws are not required, however, something in writing related to how the committee will make decisions and conduct their work is necessary.
9. Maintain a record (written or recorded) of all meetings, decisions, and actions taken by the ELAC.

To ensure success, each collaborative is asked to commit to the following:

1. Develop a meeting schedule for the members of the ELAC, including a minimum of four meetings from June through October 2020. Meetings can be in-person or virtual (through technology).
2. At least three key ELAC partners will participate in each virtual and/or in-person meeting with ACS.
5. Identify ways to meet the requested match (up to 30% of grant award) through monetary or in-kind donations. In-kind donations are considered time contributed, space, equipment, supplies, donated items, products, educational materials, outreach efforts, mileage for travel, and similar contributions.

Grant funds may be used for:

- Compensation for the fiscal agency managing the grant funds.
- Compensation for community leadership of local collaboratives.
- Stipends for members of the Early Learning Advisory Committee.
- Materials and supplies needed to conduct the business of the ELAC such as office supplies, resource books, and similar items.
- Other expenses as such as printing, travel, or similar costs.
  Please Note: Food and beverages are not allowable expenses with collaborative grant funds.

If a local collaborative has a question about allowable expenses, please contact Idaho AEYC for clarification: collaborate@IdahoAEYC.org