TRANSITION ADVISORY GROUP

Innovative Data, Technology, Evaluation, and Accountability Subgroup
Meeting 3
August 11, 2021

Agenda

- Welcome

- Introduction

- Subgroup topics and summary

- Discuss logistics – Breakout format and GroupMap

- Group discussion and next steps

* This meeting will be recorded via Zoom. Please prepare to mute your microphone if you are not actively speaking.
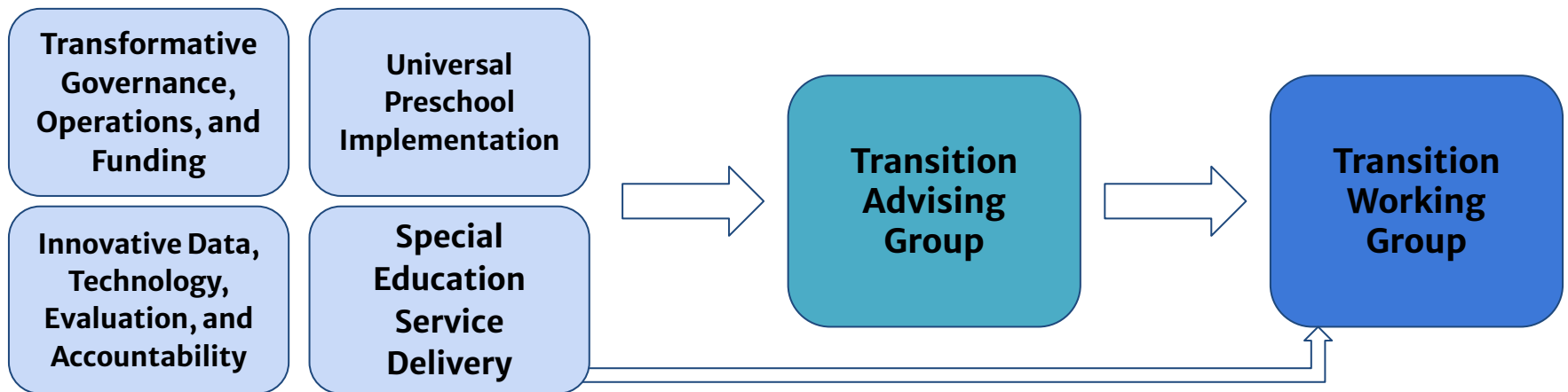
Introduction

Background

HB21-1304 was passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor in June 2021. The law requires:

- The creation of a new unified Colorado Department of Early Childhood on July 1, 2022.
    - *To create the new department, the bill requires a transition plan, written by the Transition Working Group (TWG), be submitted by November 1, 2021. The ECLC is to approve the transition plan within 14 days after receiving the plan from the Office of the Governor.*

- A planning process for Colorado's new universal, voluntary preschool program, which will be overseen by the new unified Department of Early Childhood. This new Colorado Department of Early Childhood will also be charged with the implementation of this program, beginning July 2023.

SUBGROUP STRUCTURE

The ECLC Transition Advisory Group is convening subgroups to offer insights that will guide the creation of a transition plan to the new unified department of early childhood. Each group will offer recommendations from their perspectives or in their areas of expertise.

Transformative Governance, Operations, and Funding	Universal Preschool Implementation
Innovative Data, Technology, Evaluation, and Accountability	Special Education Service Delivery

→ **Transition Advising Group** → **Transition Working Group**

Stipends may be available for parents and members of the early childhood workforce to participate fully in the meetings – please reach out to Kristina.Heyl@state.co.us for more information.

Listening Sessions

In addition to the TAG and its subgroups, the ECLC is also convening the following interactive user-centered listening sessions to ensure that the new department will meet the needs of those who are involved in and/or experience Colorado's current early childhood system.

- Provider Experience - **Completed** on 08/03/2021
- Children and Family Experience - Upcoming on 8/24/2021
- Workforce Experience - Upcoming on 09/21/2021

These listening sessions will offer critical insight into the user experience of existing programs and systems. They will be working in tandem with the subgroups to offer insight to the TAG.

* Additional information will be available soon!

Other Ways to Engage

Stakeholder engagement is a critical component to this process. To offer updated information and gather feedback the ECLC will be managing the following resources for the public:

Updates
- Monthly Transition Plan [Newsletter](#)
- Monthly Town Halls
- Transition [Website](#)

Opportunities to provide input
- Feedback [Form](#)
- Statewide Listening Tour (to be scheduled**)

Additionally, a human centered design project will be conducted with design sessions and prototype creations for what the future system should look like.

For more information or to participate, please reach out to Rebecca Peterson, Gary Community Investments - rpeterson@garycommunity.org

**See ECLC meeting [calendar](#) for updates.

Stakeholder Feedback

The ECLC is committed to ensuring that feedback can be provided in a variety of ways. A feedback form has been created on the ECLC website and will be available throughout the process.

- [Share Feedback Here!](#)

You will receive a link to the feedback that has been received ahead of each meeting as part of the pre-read materials. Please take a few minutes to review and consider the feedback being shared ahead of each meeting.

- [View the Feedback that Has Been Shared Here!](#)

Innovative Data, Technology, Evaluation, and Accountability

The Innovative Data, Technology, Evaluation and Accountability group will focus on the opportunities to enhance the data and technology needed to support a fully aligned early childhood system.

This group will be tasked with discussing the following topics:
- Improving the family experience (technology, program quality, accessibility, affordability)
- Improving the provider experience (technology, enrollment, licensing, payment, quality supports)
- Use of data/evaluation to align with Kindergarten and beyond
- Additional data needed to meet families' needs

Meeting Norms

- Come prepared.
- Mute yourself when not speaking.
- Stay engaged (e.g., actively participate in breakout rooms).
- Be mindful of how much "air time" each member receives.
- Always assume good intent.
- All ideas are valued.

Expectations

Every meeting you should expect the following:

- Via e-mail:
  - Agenda for meeting
  - Suggested pre-reading
  - Online – ECLC transition subgroup webpages

- In meeting:
  - Subgroup Updates
  - Focused discussion around a specific part of the transition plan
  - Closing/next steps

Subgroup Topics and Summary

Data and Technology Subgroup Topics

M1: Improving the family experience (technology, program quality, accessibility, affordability)

M2: Improving the provider experience (technology, enrollment, licensing, payment, quality supports)

M3: Building on meetings 1 and 2 - Improving evaluation and accountability systems to better support families and providers

M4: Use of data/evaluation to align with Kindergarten and beyond

M5: Data/technology needs to support families to find and enroll in services

M6: Continue from previous topics.

M7: Legislation, regulations and budgetary changes needed to support improved data, technology, evaluation and accountability

M8: Additional data needed to continually improve the state's EC strategy over time

Today's meeting

Meeting 1. How is the ECE system serving families well and how do we know?

How is the early childhood system serving <u>families</u> well (technology, program quality, accessibility, affordability), and how do we know? Where are there difficulties/gaps? Where do we lack data to know?

Factors	Working Well	Opportunities	Data Needed (Results)
Program Quality for Families	Head Start and Early Head Start standards include family input on programs.	Understanding what quality looks like for families - what do families want? Location and cost is often more important than what we think of as high quality	Families get what they want where they need it and it is affordable
	Denver Preschool Program as an exemplar- responsive changes to the program to increase quality and make information available to parents and providers	Scaling programs we have that have high fidelity, quality outcomes, etc. but aren't available everywhere (i.e. PAT, NFP, etc. scaled for all families that want them)	Families are able to rank/prioritize aspects of quality that are most important to them and find programs that align with those priorities
Accessibility and Affordability for Families	CCCAP system and legislation to improve system	Helping parents be aware of financial support that is already available	Data disaggregated by race/ethnicity, income, geography; data from waitlists
	DPP, CPP, Head Start, CCCAP, local taxes - some counties have been able to leverage all these funding sources to make care more affordable/accessible.	Understanding barriers for families and thinking through strategic communication to get past those barriers (language, literacy levels, interpretation, etc.)	Market Rate Studies/Surveys in conjunction with Census Data that would inform the affordability of child care compared to median income level (or some other measure)
Technology for Families	CDE ability to link to K-12 outcome data	Access to technology for families - ensuring systems are accessible if families don't have computers at home - multiple platforms (mobile etc.); Coaching and investment in innovation	Results Matter data points that give a starting point for informed improvements
	Providing real time slot availability data and parent demand analytics (e.g., Larimer Child Care Connect)	Leverage technology to decrease the burden of families having to search for information (workflows and interactive websites)	(Track) Number of families using the technology and how usage is changing
Data and Evaluation for Families	DPP data collection that connects preschool and K-12 (could this be scaled or inform the state?)	Invest in centralized data, analytic, evaluation, and research supports. A team of analytic experts helping programs to make data-informed decisions; unique identifiers for children	Kindergarten readiness, including which program(s) students attended before KG
	Head Start model -Robust data and connectivity to programmatic reach, plus some data sharing with state systems	Invest in data capacity to understand enrollment vs. capacity	Have data driven goals on expanding access to early learning opportunities.

Meeting 2. How is the ECE system serving providers well and how do we know?

How is the early childhood system serving <u>providers</u> well (technology, enrollment, licensing, payment, quality supports) and how do we know? Where are there difficulties/gaps? Where do we lack data to know?

Factors	Working Well	Opportunities	Data Needed (Results)
Enrollment, Capacity, and Demand	PDG universal application pilots	Create a centralized place where families can search for local providers and see capacity, waitlist, and info on how to enroll	Automated connections (ex. API) to care (CCCAP); does availability match needs
	Feed supply data into CO Shines search function to find slots more easily	Lessen administrative burden of enrolling families from different programs and tracking ongoing requirements (CACFP, CCCAP, etc.)	Real-time child care demand and supply data automated systems that complement and build on local R and R systems
	PDG unique identifier work will be helpful in tracking children across programs	Align enrollment, capacity, and demand data including at the state level	Availability and visibility for families to be able to access the type of care they desire
Payment, Reimbursement, and Cost of Care	Colorado has good tiers of cost of care but there is an opportunity to relook at those rates especially the base rates	Address needs in tech deserts which are a hard stop in utilizing tech for payment/reimbursement	Partnering with private sector to incentivize quality care (ex. tax credits)
	Circle funding opportunities (will become useful)	Provide technology training to increase tech readiness and address challenges with usability	Shared staffing models and automated services technology investments
	DPP has an exemplar system for providers to get payment fast	Lessen burden on providers to manage multiple solutions of funding	Subsidy reimbursements that are based on enrollment rather than attendance
Licensing and Quality Supports	Research partners are working with state to analyze issues around workforce turnover, workforce preparation pathways, and planning evaluation work for legislative bills focused on improving workforce supports	School age providers cannot get a rating above a level 1 so they are seen as low quality by families	Measure quality based on outcomes – high quality does not always equal high outcomes for families
	Background checks being attached to workforce members will greatly improve licensing process and employing workforce members in a more timely manner	Emphasize quality professional learning for providers and ensure that accountability systems are focused on what is most important - teacher/child interactions, child outcomes	Rate providers more frequently - Providers are only rated every three years, and with high teacher turnover, quality can change day to day
	OEC is working with unlicensed providers to encourage them to get licensed and inform them on how to do that	Invest in ongoing supportive training, supervision, coaching for providers on alternatives to suspending and expelling preschool-age children	Real time, easy access for parent on licensing and quality data on providers

Meeting 3. How can the evaluation and accountability systems/tools/regs better support families? Better support providers?

Warm-up. List a technology and why you love it.

Small Group 1. Building from meeting 1 and 2, innovations to support providers.

Brainstorm Session

Implementing innovative data and technology systems to support providers (capacity, demand, enrollment, licensing, quality)

- Review previous ideas and add new ones (10min)
- Add action steps to the ideas (10min)

1. Guide — Makes sure the group stays on course and support meeting norms

2. Mapper — Captures group ideas on the map

3. Reporter — Shares small group discussion during the whole group debrief

Group Map Demonstration

- Add new ideas to each section (10min)
- Use the "thumbs up" to like an idea
- Add action steps (10min)

Whole Group: Reflect and Rate

Rate

- **How much do you agree with this idea?**
    1 (low) - 10 (high)

Survey Says

Q1 How would you rate the completeness of this map?

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Reminder: Maps stay open for 1 hour past meeting close.

5-minute break

Small Group 2. Building from meeting 1 and 2, innovations to support families.

Brainstorm Session

Implementing innovative data and technology systems to support families (access, affordability, quality)

- Review previous ideas and add new ones (10min)
- Add action steps to the ideas (10min)

1. Guide

Makes sure the group stays on course and support meeting norms

2. Mapper

Captures group ideas on the map

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Group Map Demonstration

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Innovative Data, Technology, Evaluation, Accountability

Survey Says

Q1 How would you rate the completeness of this map?

⭐ ⭐ ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

Reminder: Maps stay open for 1 hour past meeting close.

Closing/
Next Steps

Next Steps

If you would like to receive meeting materials, including meeting dates, emails and agendas, please subscribe to the Newsletter and update your subscription profile to include information on this subgroup.

Participants of each subgroup are **highly encouraged to attend all meetings of that group** and should be prepared to review approximately 1 hour of materials prior to the meetings**.**

Meetings for Data and Technology

- ~~Meeting 1, July 21~~
- ~~Meeting 2, July 28~~
- ~~Meeting 3, August 11~~
- Meeting 4, August 18
- Meeting 5, September 1
- Meeting 6, September 8
- Meeting 7, September 29
- Meeting 8, October 6

Contact us:

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