

The logo for the Transition Advisory Group features the text "TRANSITION ADVISORY GROUP" in a dark blue, sans-serif font. The text is enclosed within a light blue L-shaped frame that consists of a vertical line on the left, a horizontal line at the top, and a horizontal line at the bottom, with the right side of the frame being an open corner.

**TRANSITION
ADVISORY
GROUP**

**Innovative Data, Technology,
Evaluation, and Accountability
Subgroup
Meeting 5
September 1, 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

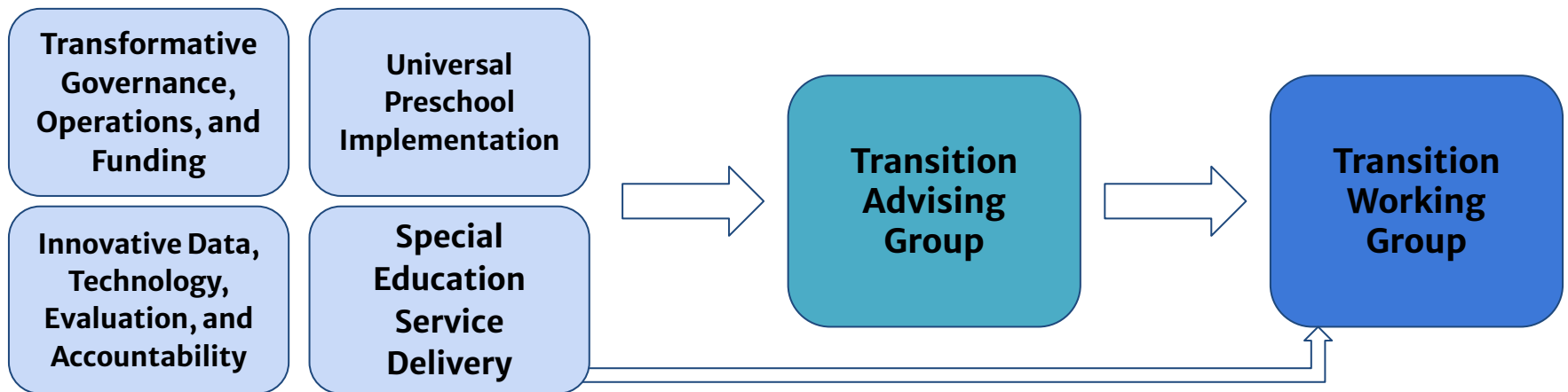
Background

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.



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 - **Completed** 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.

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: Additional data needed to continually improve the state's early childhood system over time.

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

M8: Additional topics



Today's meeting

**Meeting 4 Recap. How can the evaluation and accountability systems/tools/regs better support families?
Better support providers?**

In what ways might the new department use data/evaluation/accountability to ensure ongoing/improved alignment with Kindergarten and beyond?

Successful Outcomes for Children, Families, and Programs in a Well-Aligned System

Focused on the whole child, supporting each of the domains of learning and development – linked to Early Learning and Development Guidelines.

All families have access to high quality early education to contribute to success in their child's full education.

Families are confident in understanding and addressing the needs of children.

- Supports are available in a family's home language.
- Family's interests are valued re: child development goals.

Improved social-emotional intelligence.

Appropriate emerging self-regulation skills.

Families have choices that meet their needs/wants.

Successful identification of children with increased service/resources/program needs (early identification).

Infant care through kindergarten serve children and families fluidly with as little transition/provider changes as possible.

Professionals are treated and valued as important educators.

- Staff are educated accordingly.
- Teachers who have degrees are compensated fairly.

Ready school vs. ready children (meeting children where they are).

How New Agency Can Use Data/Tech/Accountability to Support Alignment

Help public preschools reduce multiple and duplicative accountability systems - allow the Office of Early Childhood education to set the accountability standards and allow public preschools and ECE programs to be held accountable by CDE.

- One accountability system – not many.

Child assessment:

- Establish, or support each program to set, clear internal procedures for child assessment.
- Comprehensive, research-based child assessment tools used by K-3 teachers to measure child outcomes that are aligned with those approved for preschool programs.
- Anyone involved in administering developmental screening or ongoing child assessment, or anyone involved in interpreting results must receive training in the chosen tools.

Reduce siloing - varied data systems.

Add more capacity at the state level for data analysis and insights.

The grantee establishes a system of expectations, with timeframes for program-level and regional data analysis meetings, that aligns with developmental screening and ongoing, authentic child assessment.

Communicate in many languages for families.

Parents want and expect support on child development issues. Families can benefit when programs learn how to use the screening process as an opportunity to encourage participation in activities which strengthen communication skills, decision-making skills, and advocacy for their children.

Improving the transparency of why data is being collected and how it is used.

Unique identifier system linking all data systems including Head Start, childcare, preschool, and K-12 beginning from birth that is available from birth and utilized as the child enters publicly funded education and/or services.

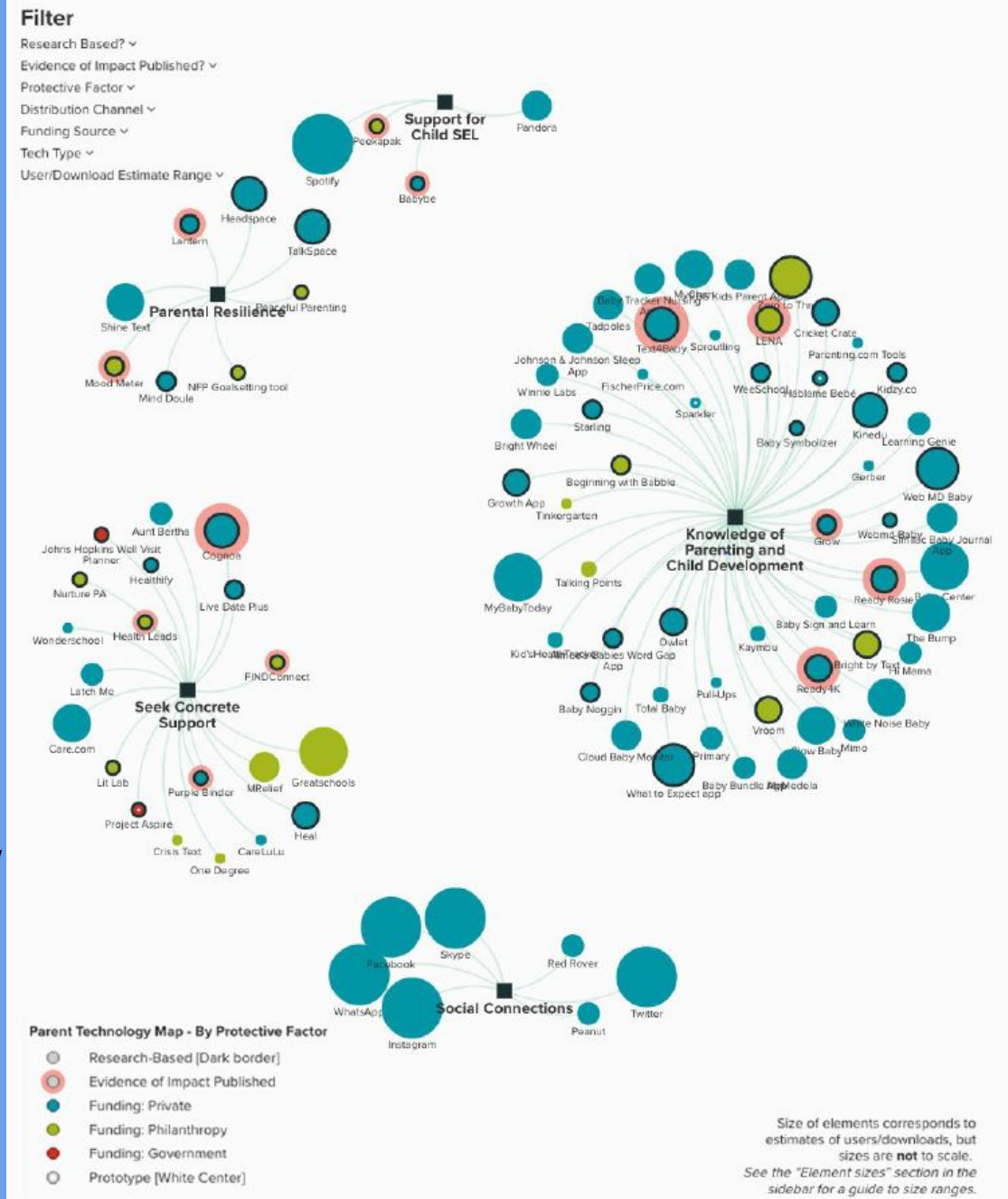
Data sharing agreements and coordination agreements that allow the transfer of child data from preschool to kindergarten.

Meeting 5 Warm-up. Where do families get their information on early childhood services?

NextGen Technology:

Insights and Recommendations to Support the Parents of Children Ages 0–3

<https://earlylearninglab.org/nextgentechreport/>



Favorite tech



Challenges

- **Transportation:** She does not have access to a vehicle, so she is limited to taking the kids out in their stroller.
- **Time to herself:** As a stay-at-home mother with two children, she rarely has time to relax or get a break from caring for her children.
- **Education:** She would like to return to school to become a teacher, but finding the money for school is difficult.

Services used

- Room to Bloom playgroup
- WIC
- Help Me Grow
- Local preschool

Bio

- Annalisa is the mother of two girls, ages 5 and 2.
- She was studying to be a translator when she had her first child, but failed to pass the oral exam and lost her passion for the work. She decided to stay at home to focus on raising her children.
- She lives with the children's father.
- She found her first child easy to parent. Things became much more difficult with her second, thanks to a difficult pregnancy, the different temperament of her younger daughter, her difficulty breastfeeding, food allergies, a lack of routine, and a lack of sleep. She found the Room to Bloom playgroup when her younger child was 10 months old, and she found it incredibly helpful in establishing routines and in connecting with other families and the staff. She has not been able to attend recently, because of transportation and other logistical issues.

Annalisa



Stay-at-home mom

Former student

Self-sacrificing

Parent Profile

Meeting 5 Warm-up. Where do families get their information on early childhood services?

Small Group 1. Current and Awesome Data and Tech to support finding and enrolling in services

Brainstorm Session



Current and Awesome Data and Tech to support finding and enrolling in services

- Brainstorm (15min)

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

Whole Group: Reflect and Rate

Rate

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



**5-minute
break**

Small Group 2. Data and Tech to support parents and families to find and enroll in services

Brainstorm Session



Data and Tech to support parents and families to find and enroll in services

Brainstorm 15min

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

Whole Group: Reflect and Rate

Rate

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

**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.

Upcoming Meetings for Data and Technology

- Meeting 6, September 8
- Meeting 7, September 29
- Meeting 8, October 6

Contact us:

- Marzano Research – carrie.germeroth@marzanoresearch.com
- Early Milestones – sdelap@earlymilestones.org
- ECLC - kristina.hey1@state.co.us