

August 4, 2021 Meeting Notes

Welcome

ECLC Co-Chair Pamela Harris opened the meeting and introduced Brenda Natt, an educator with Hope Center, who offered her perspective as a provider and some key issues for the group to consider.

Introductions

Members of TAG who were unable to attend the last meeting, as well as the 5 new TAG members introduced themselves. Our new members who are parents shared their experience with the early childhood system and what they are excited about seeing from this process.

Logistics

Jessica Baghian, the meeting facilitator, offered an overview of upcoming TAG meetings and reviewed meeting norms.

Review of the Mission, Vision, Values, and Guiding Principles

Susan Steele, an ECLC CoChair, reviewed the mission, vision, values, and guiding principles that were discussed in the last meeting and then approved by the Transition Working Group.

Review of Prior Engagement

Melissa Mares from the Children's Campaign shared about the stakeholder engagement process that was conducted alongside the Preschool Policy Leadership Committee and Preschool Policy Advisory Group. She also elevated the key themes and messages that were heard through the community input sessions, which involved more than 800 voices from throughout the state. See the <u>Community Voices brief</u> as well as the <u>CO Preschool Policy Development Process Policy Themes and Progress Report/Overview</u> for more information.

Discussion of Program Movement

After a review of the current structure of programs and systems, TAG members went into 5 breakout sessions to engage in small group discussions around considerations for program movement to the new department. A representative from each breakout room then offered a brief summary of their discussion. After the share out, TAG members looked at organizational charts from other states and then rejoined their breakout groups to discuss

considerations for the structure of the new department. Summaries of this breakout session were also shared out by a member of the group.

Next Steps

- A preview was given of upcoming TAG meetings
- An announcement was made about the next round of subgroups which will occur the weeks of August 9th and August 16th.
- A follow-up form was sent out to TAG members to capture any additional thoughts.

Public Comment

Aaron Leavy from the Colorado Home Visiting Coalition shared that the desire of this coalition of programs is to be moved to the new department of early childhood as soon as possible to prevent disruption of programs. More detail can be found in this letter published by the Colorado Home Visiting Coalition.