ECLC Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee- Preschool Development Grant Meeting

Friday February 8, 2019 9:00- 11:00 am

Webinar



Welcome from PQA Co-Chairs



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Review meeting agenda and objectives

Approve January 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes



Introductions (All)





Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee (Kristina Heyl)

Overview of PQA Meeting Structure and Membership





Preschool Development Grant Opportunity (Heather Craiglow & Lindsey Dorneman)



Overview of PDG strategies and activities

Role of Program Quality & Alignment

Next Steps

COLORADO SHINES BRIGHTER

PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS BIRTH THROUGH FIVE

Ensuring all Colorado children are ready for school when entering kindergarten.



Celebrate!

- Awarded \$5.8 million Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families
- Funding is made available under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) administered by the U.S.
 Department of Education
- Project period is December 31, 2018, through December 30, 2019



Purpose

- Fund states to conduct a comprehensive statewide birth through five needs assessment followed by in-depth strategic planning, while enhancing parent choice and expanding the current mixed delivery system
- Mixed delivery system: a system of early childhood care and education services that are delivered through a combination of programs, providers, and settings, such as Head Start, licensed family and center-based child care programs, public schools, and other communitybased organizations, that is supported by a combination of public and private funds

Purpose

- Develop a strategic plan based on the needs assessment that facilitates collaboration and coordination among existing programs within the statewide mixed delivery system in order to prepare low-income and disadvantaged infants, toddlers, and young children to enter kindergarten
- More efficiently use existing federal, state, local, and non-governmental resources to align and strengthen the delivery of existing programs; coordinate delivery models and funding streams within the state's mixed delivery system; and develop recommendations to better use existing resources
- Encourage partnerships among Head Start, child care and pre-kindergarten providers, state and local governments, Indian tribes and tribal organizations, private entities, and school systems
- Improve transitions between early childhood and school systems
- Maximize parental choice and knowledge about the state's mixed delivery system





Colorado Shines Brighter Outcomes

- 1. Colorado families have access to quality formal early childhood care and education settings of their choosing which best meet the need of their child and family, especially those who are vulnerable and infants and toddlers.
- 2. Informal early childhood care and education environments (parental, friend, family, and neighbor care) are enhanced to enrich and support children's physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development.
- 3. Colorado's B-5 early childhood state system is coordinated and aligned to enhance the resources available to families and to improve the quality of relationships among families, caregivers, and children.





2019 Implementation Timeline

January

Revise Budget

February

Hire Staff

March

Secure Vendors

April

Launch Activities

July

Stakeholder Outreach

October

Submit Application, Launch Activity 5 May

Stakeholder Outreach

August*

Review Strategic Plan, Year 2-4 Application

November*

Disseminate Strategic Plan June

Review ELDGs, Stakeholder Outreach

September

Review Application, Submit Strategic Plan for Approval

December

Years 2-4 Funding Announcement





Required Activities

- 1. Conduct a statewide B-5 needs assessment
- 2. Develop, update or implement a statewide B-5 strategic plan
- Maximize parent choice and knowledge of the state's mixed delivery system
- 4. Share best practices among early childhood service providers
- Improve the overall quality of early childhood care and education services





1. Statewide Birth—5 Needs Assessment

- Build upon existing needs assessments and conduct additional research to address:
 - What do we have (current state)
 - What is enough (what do families want)
 - Where is there not enough (identify geographic areas)
 - Who is not getting enough (identify inequities in access)
 - Why is there not enough (market conditions, parental choice, cost)
- Explore "warm line" for early childhood mental health consultation
- Assess community-level needs for different modalities of early childhood mental health support

2. Statewide Birth-5 Strategic Plan

- Develop a 5-year strategic plan to ensure all children are ready for school when entering kindergarten by:
 - Utilizing the needs assessment information and data
 - Aligning existing state and local strategic plans and frameworks
 - Building on existing initiatives and foundational systems
 - Broadly including stakeholders across Colorado's mixed delivery system
- Increase engagement in system-wide transition planning
- Identify innovative strategies to support the early childhood workforce
- Develop an Information Technology Roadmap to inform future enhancements or technology builds





3. Maximize Parent Choice and Knowledge

- Build upon Colorado's consumer education and engagement efforts by developing shared messages, training, and resources all providers can use to create a "no wrong door" entry point to early childhood and family support programs
- Update the Colorado Early Learning & Development Guidelines to align with best practices and other standards, and create new content that addresses caregivers' experiences and early childhood transitions





4. Share Best Practices

- Convene workgroups to assess and make recommendations for:
 - 1. Colorado Competencies for Early Childhood Educators and Administrators
 - 2. Early Childhood Professional Credential
 - 3. Professional Qualifications
 - 4. Colorado Shines Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Framework
- Develop new course offerings on the Colorado Shines Professional Development and Information System (PDIS)
- Mine data from Colorado Shines systems to inform long-term training and technical assistance plans
- Initiate a retooling process to transition from Environment Rating Scales (ERS) to the ERS - 3





4. Share Best Practices (cont.)

- Analyze the organizational capacity and alignment of local community partners
- Leverage the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP)
 Contract for Slots Pilot Project to inform statewide adoption of child care slot contracts
- Implement the ROOTS™ Early Childhood Mental Health Training Program
- Enhance Early Childhood Mental Health Specialists program
- Augment the Growing Readers Together model
- Pilot home visiting programs (HIPPY and PAT) to licensed family child care home providers and friend, family, and neighbor caregivers

5. Quality Improvement

 Implement enhancements to existing information technology, focusing on the Colorado Shines website





Reporting Requirements

- Strategies undertaken at the state, local, or program level to implement recommendations in the strategic plan
- New partnerships among Head Start providers, State and local governments, Indian tribes and tribal organizations, and private entities (including faith and community-based entities), and how these partnerships improve coordination and delivery of services
- The extent to which activities led to the blending or braiding of public and private funding
- How information about available existing programs for children from birth to kindergarten entry was disseminated to parents and families, and how involvement by parents and family was improved
- Plan to evaluate activities in years 2-4





Renewal Grants (Years 2-4)

- Fund programs in a mixed delivery system designed to benefit low-income and disadvantaged children prior to entering kindergarten to:
 - 1. enable programs to address areas in need of improvement and expand access to existing programs, and
 - develop new programs to address the needs of children and families eligible for, but not served by, programs (funds must support a mixed delivery system and supplement - not supplant - other funding sources)
- Prioritize activities to improve areas in which there are state-identified needs that would improve services for low-income and disadvantaged children living in rural areas

Thank You!

Visit ColoradoOfficeOfEarlyChildhood.com to:

- Sign up for Colorado Shines Brighter email updates
- Participate in stakeholder meetings
- Learn about vendor and grantee opportunities
- Apply for Colorado Shines Brighter job opportunities





Next Steps

Worksheet:

- Reflecting on today's presentation, what resonated most with you?
- What would you like to learn about more, or would you like to request more information on?
- Are there any organizations or individuals that were not at the table today that should be? (Please provide contact information if known.)
- What would you like the Colorado Shines Brighter team or the Program Quality and Alignment Subcommittee Chairs to know?

Before March 8 Meeting:

- Share this information with your organization or community
- Be prepared to talk about how your organization or community's work supports the PDG Goal: Ensuring all Colorado children are ready for school when entering kindergarten.



Public Comment and Member Updates





Next Steps and Adjourn

• Agenda Topics for Future Meetings





NEW LOCATION: Colorado Counties, Inc. 800 Grant St. #500 Denver, Colorado 80209

