



COLORADO

Department of Early Childhood

Home Visiting Investment Task Force

March 23, 2023 9:00 - 11:00 am

LINKS to tasks and HV plan: [Implementation Plan Tracking Document](#) and [Home Visitation Investment Progress Report](#)

Welcome from Chairs

- Kendra Dunn welcomed the group.

Introductions

- The co-facilitation team, task force members, and attendees introduced themselves.

Updates from the Colorado Department of Early Childhood

- Aaron Miller introduced Joyce Johnson, the new home visiting supervisor who started at CDEC on 3/20/2023. She will support all home visiting work in the State and will be participating in the Task Force.
- Legislative updates:
 - Kendra Dunn shared that a CDEC Technical Clean-up bill (related to the creation of CDEC) has been introduced and is going through. There were also some items related to next year's budget and this year's supplemental budget that all passed.
 - Angela Ben-Zekry noted that a higher ed bill ([workforce Hb23-1246](#)) adjacent to the HV work (and modeled on the CareForward Program for medical professions). It passed unanimously out of house committee on 3/22/2023.
- Preschool Development Grant
 - Julia Anderson reminded the group that the PDG Planning Grant was a success - it will provide funds for home visiting messaging. CDEC will be securing a vendor who can support this work. The vendor will engage with HVTF to move forward developing this messaging.
 - The PDG Planning Grant will also support workforce activities. Angela Ben-Zekry shared that the grant is supporting a short mileage survey (with questions on compensation of benefits). The survey went to intermediaries. The grant also includes an apprenticeship pilot. Anyone from the Task Force is welcome to attend qualified workforce meetings to provide support. Meetings are monthly. If anyone wants to participate, contact Angela.

Review Fact Sheets on TANF and ESSA

- Laura Knudtson explained that CDEC contracted with Start Early to do a policy analysis and [paper to identify federal sources of funding for home visiting](#). They chose two federal funding streams to get more info on: TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) & ESSA (Every Student Succeed Acts). They synthesized the report into short documents: TANF-2 pager for county audiences and ESSA- School District audience
- The Task Force is encouraged to use these fact sheets as needed. The finance workgroup is pursuing ways to present to school districts and counties. Send ideas to Kendra Dunn and Lisa Hill.

- Action items: add Family Connects to TANF sheet; Kendra Dunn will follow-up with Kim Mauthe to create a brief write-up on Teller County as an example of its success that can be shared during presentations.

Early Milestones - Home Visiting Workforce Discussion-

- Tanya Weinberg and Kacee Miller from Early Milestones presented information on their work to gather input for updates to the Early Childhood Workforce Plan. They also facilitated a feedback session to get input from the Task Force on how the early childhood system in Colorado supports the home visiting workforce, what challenges remain for the home visiting workforce, and what solutions would work well.

Work Group Updates

Availability, Collaboration, and Innovations Workgroup

- Heather Tritten reported on the group's goals:
 - *Expanding HV capacity by 20%*: funding has been identified for HIPPY; the group has emailed Early Childhood Councils and Family Resource Centers to find out what HV programs are being implemented.
 - *Extended access to culturally/linguistically appropriate services*: the group has worked with Jenn Bellamy from University of Denver on virtual visits to connect with hard-to-reach families. Working to disseminate the report. (and dissemination of her report).
 - *Creating systems for parents to learn more*: - a lot of this is related to Family Connects. Family Connects is full in Boulder County. Eagle County is also implementing Family Connects (though not full yet).
 - *Linking existing efforts and cross agency data sharing* - the group hasn't moved much (intentionally) because of the creation of the new department. Waiting to see how the new department gets going and how data can be coordinated.
 - *Bringing evidence based programs together* - Discussed ideas of combined PAT and Safe Care programming but not the primary focus of the group at this time.

Finance and Funding Opportunities WorkGroup

- Kendra Dunn presented:
 - The group has been focused on building infrastructure to regularly collect data on financing across the HV system. A survey is going out soon - it will collect baseline data and create infrastructure to gather data annually. Data in the report will be aggregate - to increase participation in the survey.
 - Tax/fee structures - while the group hasn't focused on this, local counties have and the group will watch to see what emerges from those efforts.

Qualified Workforce Workgroup

- Angela Ben-Zekry reported:
 - This group has been supporting the apprenticeship and mileage pilot.
 - The group has also been talking about how to use Senate bill 22-213 dollars - timeline extended for funding. \$5 million that can be used through December 2026 - and that includes money for HV. (up to \$1-1.5 million for HV). If you want to join

those calls, contact Angela Ben-Zekry.

Outreach and Advocacy

- Laura Knudtson presented:
 - The group has focused on communications/messaging during the past few months. They are excited about working with the new communications contractor.
 - Kaherine Casillas has an intern who has been researching what messaging strategies for HV already exist - don't want to reinvent the wheel. Intern did a landscape scan that looked at the "how" of outreach. That scan will be shared with the new contractor so, contractor has a solid base to start with.

Discuss 2023 Report

- The Task Force has typically done a long annual report - but there is nothing that REQUIRES this group to produce a written report, but just an annual update to ECLC.
- The Task Force agreed to have each workgroup develop a 1- or 2-pager summarizing efforts, actionable activities and "asks". These summary documents would accompany a slide deck that has consolidated information. The materials need to support legislative update work.
- Aim to have materials ready for release by August 2023.
- Action item: Betsy and Kara to create a template for the workgroups to use

Announcements/Other Items

- Leads of working groups should share meeting invite Joyce Johnson - CDEC so she can attend meetings in the future
- April 26-27 - Parent Possible event in Aurora - <https://parentpossible.org/conference/>
- Child Abuse Prevention Month activities are available here: <https://copinwheelsforprevention.org> - April 3rd is Wear Blue Day! Help us fill the galleries of the state legislative chambers as Child Abuse Prevention Month tributes are being read. Illuminate will bring the pinwheels!
- The Early Childhood Leadership Commission (ECLC) is refreshing the Early Childhood Colorado Framework (Framework) which is our state's unifying vision for a comprehensive early childhood system. We are hosting a variety of engagement opportunities and hope that you will all take a few moments to share your feedback and suggestions with us. Links: Framework. Survey.
- The Home Visiting Coalition created an animated video and is getting it translated into Spanish (subtitled in other languages). Request: if members have low-cost or no cost translation services that the coalition could use please contact Aaron: aaron@cohomevisiting.org
- The RSVP form for CAPM: <https://copinwheelsforprevention.org/community-calendar/>

Close by Kendra Dunn

Kendra thanked the group for their commitment to home visiting work and closed the meeting.