



Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2024

Attendees:

Carly Reighard
Chantal Sinady
Chris Peusch
Crystal Francis
Cynthia Skinner
Darlene Abraham

Faith Miller
Hilary Roberts-King
Imani Angela Rose
Kristen Kinkopf
Mari Beth Moulton
Maura Kennedy

Melissa Rock
Olivia Zhao
Rachel Demma
Tracy Harris
Trina Powell
Yolanda Jenkins

Welcome and Opening Remarks from Co-Chairs, Crystal Francis & Imani Angela Rose

Introductions- All attendees

Vote on 3/20/2024 meeting minutes → No quorum

Workgroup Reporting:

- **All Hands In; Crystal Francis & Imani Angela Rose**
 - Working on Strategic Refresh
 - Working on getting some grant funding
 - Want to ensure they're utilizing the brain power of ECAC members!
 - Work with Hyve this year is going to be more in depth
 - The EC landscape has shifted a lot, so want to make sure ECAC is being responsive to those changes
 - They're going to work with us for 3 months, starting with leadership in August to solidify strategic priorities
 - Sending out an organizational survey to see what work ECAC members are doing in their organizations to see where there is alignment or opportunity for ECAC to support (Strong Backbone is going to look at that)
- **Strong Backbone; Ashley Bush & Tracy Harris**
 - Looking at training opportunities for child care providers—prioritizing trauma informed care and domains of learning as we head into mixed-delivery implementation
 - External facing event for families to understand about early childhood entities
 - Don't want to duplicate efforts of other organizations
 - Collaborating with All Hands In about what actionable goals Strong Backbone can have
 - ECAC was at the BCCCRC's child care appreciation event
 - Christina Peusch presented to workgroup about 2024 Legislative Session bills re. child care that passed

- **Smart Thinking; Hilary Roberts-King**
 - Martha Holleman presented information about how to expand the 2020 BERC landscape
 - A lot of dialogue about we'd like to do and what the road blocks are
 - Examining policy roadblocks
 - Examining (1) workplace issues for childcare providers; and/or (2) collecting data from private childcare providers
 - Group voted to look at regionally specific workplace issues—using Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success funding to get that completed
- **Open Heart; Yolanda Jenkins**
 - Working with consultant to do Family Engagement strategy to support ECAC with ongoing family engagement—Spark Solutions Consulting, have a contract in place
 - Will have a plan in place to propose to ECAC by August
 - Consultants will work on survey for families to determine how families get their information, to inform the family engagement plan
 - Survey will have a tight turn around, so we need ECAC to send it out!!
 - They will also do focus groups with ECAC members to know how members are already engaging families to take that into account—to not duplicate efforts, but rather tap into the eco-system
 - Milestones Document: printed and mailed out to ECAC partners
 - Requested feedback
 - Request for Spanish Version—working on getting the translation this month, to have printouts by the end of next month

Mixed Delivery Hoc Workgroup Update; Imani Angela Rose & Crystal Francis

- Working with a consultant
- Will be taking a break for the summer
- Next meeting: Friday, 6/14
 - Discuss legislative changes
 - Issues with childcare credentialing
- City Schools submitted their Blueprint Implementation plan in May
- 4 buckets of work
 - Lead Teacher Certification
 - Braided funding to support mixed delivery
 - Engaging Families (Open Heart)
 - Supporting workforce through coaching and professional development (Strong Backbone)
- Credentialing issue:
 - Program is halted for 1 year (it's supposed to be funded, but it wasn't funded for FY 2025)
 - This is the only training resource directly for child care providers
 - Provides professional development support and bonuses
 - Because of the funding issue, EXCELS is pausing the credentialing pieces, too
 - Chris Peusch is doing an email campaign to the Governor
 - [Here](#) is the link to send an email
 - (Could have asked for Deficiency funding)
 - MSDE credentialing session was today 11:00 am and then two more scheduled for Friday, June 21st at 2 pm and Tuesday, June 25th at 6 pm



General ECAC Updates:

Strategic Planning; Yolanda Jenkins

- See above
- September meeting will be a bit longer because we'll be working with Hyve

MSDE Grant; Yolanda Jenkins

- Contracting took a very long time so it was executed a lot later than initially expected
- They'll have a draft by the end of June, and then Smart Thinking will work on tweaking it

Open Floor:

- Child Care Development Fund hearing tomorrow (6/12/24)
 - Can make public comment
 - This is how the Child Care Scholarship program is funded
 - Could ask it to be based on enrollment rather than attendance
 - Creating a registry would be valuable
 - Chris Peusch will send a link to Yolanda Jenkins so ECAC members can weigh in
- All Hands In: we are going to continue having a break for the summer! It was very valuable last year, and if the work allows, welcome workgroups to make that choice to take a break for July and August

