



ARPA Task Force Early Childhood Learning Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes –July 7, 2021
10:30am Virtual Zoom Webinar

Attendance:

Committee Members Present: Co-Chair, Charuni Patibanda, Co-Chair Lisa Diller, Kirstin Olson, Rita Landgraf, Quinn Johnson, Heidi Beck, Pam Reuther

Committee Members Absent: Mari Viera Gunn, Aaron Bass, Madeleine Bayard, Ken Woods

Others in Attendance: Aundrea Almond, NCC Chief of Staff, Anne Clauss, Hector Maldonado-Reis, Ryan Harrington (DDIL)

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order at approximately 10:35 a.m. by Co-Chair Patibanda
- Committee member and support staff introductions
- Presentation by Associate Director Yvette Sanchez Fuentes
 - \$110M to DHSS from Childcare Development Block Grant (through ARPA)
 - Stabilization Money ~ \$67—stabilization for the workforce, money to providers DOE and DHSS are co-administrators.
 - Quality Money ~ \$42—intended to focus on raising the quality of care, will be finalizing recommendations in the next few days.
 - Focus on training for workforce and creating a pipeline
 - How could we use this money as a down payment to build some infrastructure?
 - How can we support raising wages?
 - What about shared services models?
 - By the end of summer State should know how much money is left over and who applied for funds and who did not.
 - Council Meeting on July 20th.
- Committee Discussion
 - We need to focus on families and providers in the QCTs.

- How do we identify these families? Can we give them an additional stipend or to the providers to get families back to work?
 - Can we give incentives to providers who are accepting POC
 - We need data on families in qualified census tracts who are not using POC and why not.
 - We also must deal with the workforce we cannot increase the capacity.
 - Because the state is focusing on providers, the County should focus on families in the QCTs.
 - State is trying to do a financial spreadsheet for the state to get to the 75th percentile
 - Data may not be readily available to determine on a granular level which families in the QCTs are not using POC.
 - We must collect data on a door to door bases. Should the program including outreach for collecting data in each QCT in NCC?
 - Should standards be relaxed for a while in order to bring more providers online? How can we not get locked into these revised standards later on down the road.
 - The STARS reimbursement rates did not keep with market rates.
 - In home provider care requirements did change and caused in home providers to close because providers would go elsewhere for employment.
 - Should there be a period of time for providers to get the qualifications they need after they are open for business? Should there be an internship or training program? H. Beck has an idea to possibly present.
 - Will the parent co-pay that is being paid by the state continue?
- Approval of Minutes (Mover Landgraf, Second Olson)
 - Committee requested update from Workforce Development Committee.

Public Comment:

- RJ Miles—For qualified census tracts, who are the advocates that may have a choice between local providers versus a center for childhood development.

Adjournment:

- Co-Chair Patibanda adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:57 p.m.