

Meeting Minutes: Early Childhood Systems Reform Steering Committee

Date: Tuesday December 12th, 2017, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: Metropolitan Mosquito Control District Building, 2099 University Ave. W., St. Paul MN 55104

Attendance

Steering Committee: John Soghigian, Daniel Gumnit, Loren Groves, Barb Fabre, Nancy Jost, Laurie Coleman, Danielle Swift, Vayong Moua, Bharti Wahi, Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn, Jay Colond, Ruby Azurdia-Lee, Lorna Schmidt

Project Team and State Attendees: Tracy Roloff, Cody Tuttle, Lauren Dawson, Megan Walz, Cindi Yang, Kelly Monson, Jim Koppel, Jovon Perry

Wilder staff: Sindy Morales Garcia, Kristen Johnson, Lydia

Meeting Notes

Introduction

- Cindi introduced the group's new facilitators, Sindy and Kristen from Wilder Community Initiatives, and their intern Lydia. They will be facilitating our steering committee meetings moving forward and are excited to join us in this work.

Vision and Mission

- Megan presented the Vision and Mission that were developed and edited after last month's meeting and solicited group feedback.
- The group expressed a need for the vision to explicitly call out race and to be more aspirational.
- After more group discussion, it was decided that Megan would work with a small group (Vayong and Ruby) to refine the statements by the end of the meeting based on the group's feedback.

Goal Refinement

- Last meeting the group discussed goals and problems. Based on this discussion the project team developed four buckets in which these goals seemed to fit: 1) health and wellbeing; 2) early learning; 3) economic security; and 4) safe, stable, nurturing relationships.

- The group participated in an exercise in which they were given the list of goal areas (e.g., housing, child care) and asked to categorize the goals into the four buckets. Goals could be placed into multiple buckets.
- Before next meeting, the project team will analyze themes and relationships from this exercise.

Problem Identification

- The group participated in an activity in which they split into four groups (one for each of the buckets from the previous exercise) and identified *enablers* and *inhibitors* for each of the buckets.
- The group shared out some of the enablers and inhibitors they identified, and some of the patterns that they recognized during the exercise.
- Some patterns included the importance of how an issue is framed and how problems are defined, and the need for narratives to change in order for systems to change.

Revisiting Vision and Mission

- The group read and provided feedback on the revised vision and mission statements.
- The group liked the content of both statements, and had some feedback about rearranging the information to better highlight the group's purpose up front.
- The project team will incorporate this additional feedback and send out the revised statements.

Engaging our Networks

- Tracy explains the importance of mapping steering committee members' connections with other organizations and individuals as a way to both get to know each other better and to know who we can reach to activate certain connections.
- Cody gives an overview of a tool, Kumu, that we can use to map connections with other partners and identify any gaps that exist and where to focus our efforts.

Next Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: TBD