

# Early Childhood Systems Reform Steering Committee - Draft Team Charter

## Committee Purpose

### *Rationale/background on issues:*

A lack of equitable opportunity has caused significant disparities in developmental outcomes for children prenatally through age 8. These disparities threaten our State's economic viability and generational success. There is also ongoing commitment to continuous improvement of our State's system of early childhood programs and services. An early childhood system reform project has been created to ensure that children and families are receiving the supports they need in a manner that encourages their optimal growth and development and eliminates racial disparities in program access and outcomes.

### We intend to:

- Ensure that all children in Minnesota experience healthy development.
- Ensure that all children are cared for in safe, stable, nurturing environments.
- Ensure that all children thrive in their family and communities and achieve their full potential.
- Put families and communities at the center of process to identify and promote solutions;
- Build on the foundational work of early childhood stakeholders and align with previous and current efforts to support communities, parents, and service providers to support positive outcomes for families.

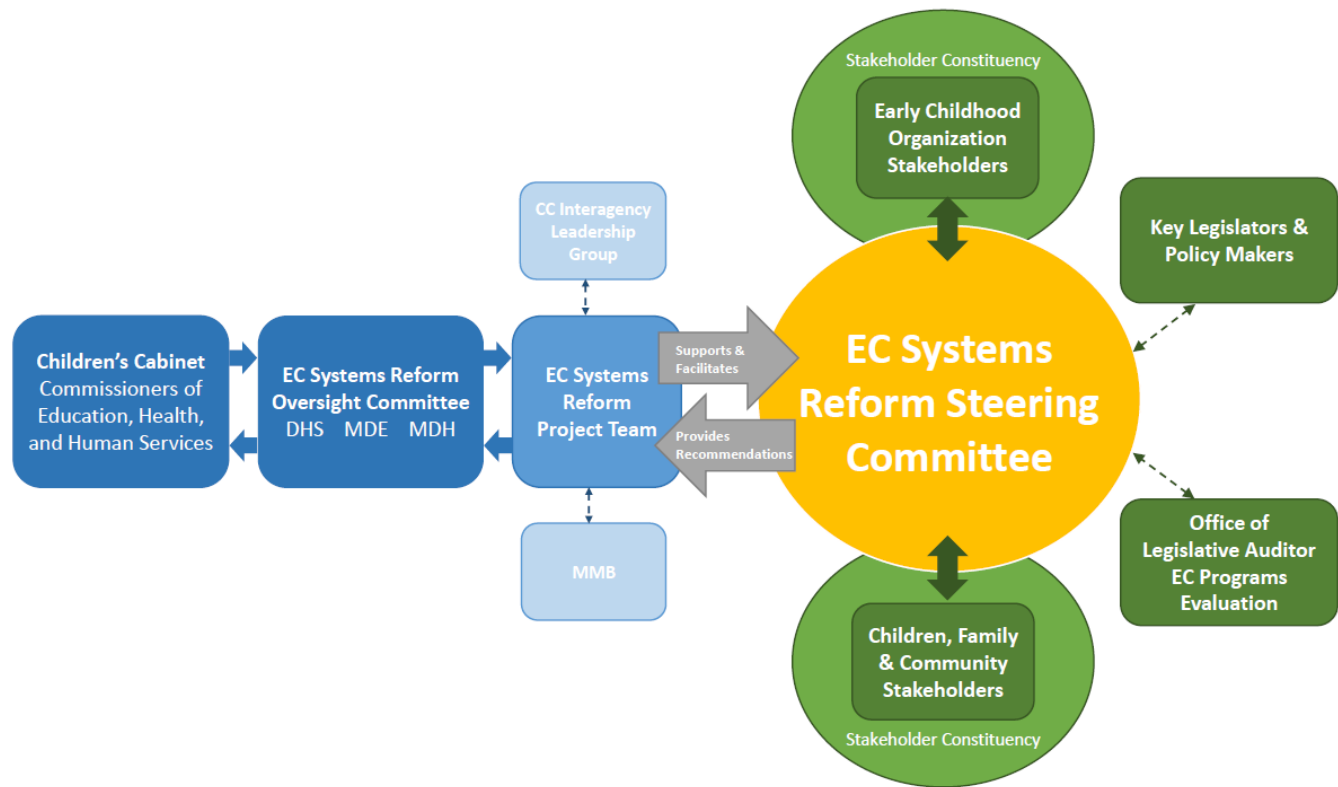
### Committee Responsibilities:

- The Steering Committee will develop a unified vision and action plan for Minnesota's children and families. Anchored in and aligned with the comprehensive prenatal to age 8 early childhood age range, we will start with a focus on pregnant and parenting families with infants and toddlers where there is the both the greatest opportunities and the deepest need to invest.
- Examine, analyze and synthesize information gained from both deep ethnographic and community immersive research as well as information on current state and community level efforts, practices, programs and systems to identify core barriers, root causes, strengths, opportunities, and promising solutions;
- Act as a conduit for bidirectional information exchange with the children, families and communities committee members represent.
- Identify and make connections to families and community level stakeholders as the need for deeper immersive research requires.
- Identify, review drafts, and provide feedback on project communication messages, mechanisms, and audiences including formal reports. Give input to content of final report in June 2018 with recommendations for action.

### State Agency Responsibilities:

- Coordination and logistics for Steering Committee meetings including: creating the agenda, developing materials for meetings, scheduling and meeting location, notetaking, and between meeting coordination and communication.
- Facilitation and recording of Steering Committee meetings.
- Develop drafts of report(s) and other communication modalities to be reviewed and approved of by Steering Committee.

## Project Structure



## Level of Agreement/Authority

The Early Childhood Systems Reform Steering Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the state agencies who convene the group. The goals and objectives of the workgroup are not dependent upon group consensus. Although consensus would be optimal, it may not be attainable given the timeframe. For the topics and issues where the workgroup members do not reach consensus, members will have an opportunity to express their opinions and alternative viewpoints will be documented and included in written materials such as reports.

## Duration

Meet monthly August 2017 – June 2018

## Committee Members

The Steering Committee is comprised of culturally and geographically diverse family-centered, community-based organizations, key partnerships and task forces, and parent representatives. Four state agency leaders will attend meetings in an ex-officio role. Please see the chart below for a list of committee members.

Organization	Suggested Partner	Organization	Suggested Partner
Minority Child Care Association	Ikram Mohamed	<a href="#">Local Public Health Association (LPHA)</a>	Lorna Schmidt
Special Education and Family Voice	Mai Chang; Zang Vang-Lee	<a href="#">MN Coalition for Targeted Home Visiting</a>	Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn
People Serving People	Daniel Gumnit	Greater Minnesota Tribal Nations	Lee Tourney, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
Tri-Valley Opportunity Council	Laurie Coleman	Coalition of Asian American Leaders	Kaying Yang
<a href="#">Voices and Choices for Children</a>	Bharti Wahi	<a href="#">Isuroon (Somali Community)</a>	Fartun Weli
American Academy of Pediatrics	Krishnan Subrahmanian	<a href="#">CLUES</a>	Ruby Azurdia-Lee
<a href="#">Minnesota Initiative Foundations (MIFs)</a>	Nancy Jost	Professional Organization: MNAFEE	Monica Potter
Head Start Association (Early Head Start)	Kraig Gratke	Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council	Vayong Moua
<a href="#">MN Indian Women's Resource Center</a>	Patina Park	Minneapolis Cradle to K, Think Small, Voices & Choices, Early Learning Council	Dianne Haulcy
Voices & Choices	Daniel Yang	Greater Minnesota Tribal Nations	Barb Fabre
<a href="#">Family Voice: Parent Leadership Team</a>	Danielle Swift	Family Voice: Head Start Parent Council	Loren Groves
Family & Provider Voice: Rural (Duluth)	Melissa Meyer	Family Voice: Rural (Ely)	John Soghigian

#### State Ex-Officio Members

Department	Partner
Minnesota Department of Human Services	Jim Koppel
Minnesota Department of Education	Hue Nguyen
Minnesota Department of Health	Jeanne Ayers
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency	Ryan Baumtrog