

# Minnesota Early Learning Council

## Meeting Agenda

Monday January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

### Think Small

*Little Canada Offices*  
10 Yorkton Court St. Paul, MN 55117

**Present:** Ann McCully, Anna Ross, Anne Hoff, Ayolanda Evans, Daniel Yang, Dianne Haulcy, JoAnn Birkholz, Kathleen Cooney, Kelly Wolfe, Kimberly Antonsen, Lynn Haglin, Maureen Seiwert, Megan Gunnar, Nikole Logan, Pamela Rees, Sharon Henry-Blythe, Susan Hoeft, Charlene Briner, Jeanne Ayers

**Via Telephone:** Marilyn Deling

**Via Skype:** Arthur Rolnick, Nathan Chomilo and Amber Lampron

**Staff:** Melvin W. Carter III, Kelly Monson and Jasmine Carey

**Public members:** Kelly Mickie, Maggie Diebel and Megan Waltz

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- *Nancy Jost, Chair, called the meeting to order*
- **Welcome and remarks by Melvin W. Carter III-**
  - *Melvin talked about the council's role as an advisory role and what Governor Dayton wants from the Council. He also talked about bringing outside/ community voices to this space and bringing these conversations out to the rest of the state.*

- **Ice Breaker Activity led by past council member David Cournoyer**

*David recommended that the council to google: Carol Black -1,000 rivers*

- **Discussion: Bylaws and Guiding Principles**

*Nancy Jost announced that this discussion will be postponed until next month's meeting*

- **Presentation/ Data Review:**

**Stephanie Hogenson - Research & Policy Director, Children's Defense Fund**

- Stephanie gave a presentation on the Kids Count Data Book

**Risk and Reach Report-** Melvin W. Carter III, Executive Director Minnesota Children's Cabinet

- Melvin gave a brief synopsis of the Risk and Reach report and encouraged members to take time to look through the document and then break into small groups for discussion.
- **Small Group Discussion:**

The council split into 5 groups and answered the following 5 questions:

1. What did you just hear?
2. What bothers you about the data?
3. What do you see as a priority?
4. What other information do you need?

### **What did you just hear?**

Group 1—Opportunity to have targeted efforts, defining what poverty is and to be clear about what they are considering when looking at data, what are they trying to influence.

Group 2—a lot.

Group 3— ditto, more depressing data.

Group 4--- such different access with different communities, trying to figure out why.

Group 5- identify some points of access, WIC & medical assistance, onramp to other services.

### **What bothers you about the data?**

Group 1—Varying eligibility, how it was presented, data mixed together without a clear way of understanding.

Group 2- data not in real time and no explanation of the context of the data, can be misleading.

Group 3—ditto on context, -16% of NA not receiving health care, community school.

Group 4—can't get ahead of the data, need more data broken down on race (desegregate).

Group 5- kids can lose opportunities based on families' income, we do an opposite of 2 gen approach.

Access to prenatal care to AA woman, cuts across all economic levels.

### **What do you see as a priority?**

Group 1-Building public non tolerance, families get what they need, link back to 1,000 per year.

Group 2—understanding, generational, racial cultural background when looking at the data.

Group 3- not moving backwards, everything is a priority.

Group 4-articulate priorities, issue how fragile incomes are, access to learning and parenting skills, reach more kids, easier for people to get in the program.

Group 5-better data sharing, new political environment keep racial equity at the forefront, structure.

### **What other information do you need?**

Group1- housing data, connect it back to other data and do a racial analysis and geographic, to see high risk areas and accountability on what goes next.

Group 2- start with racism, call it what it is (back to Nathan's point).

Group 3- impact on stress, racism on fetal development, real thing, what are we going to do about it.

Group 4-no.

Group 5- real time data, recent investments, why is MN so much worse than MS, what causes these persistent disparate outcomes.

#### **Answers for those who are on video chat/conference call line**

**Marilyn-** Increased priority of prenatal to 3 or p-1, % of low birth rate babies, more info on ACES-report and graphs.

**Art-** High quality education for birth to 5 is the priority, fully fund for every child or else we fail. With limited dollars, we must target our most at-risk families.

**Nathan—**agree with a lot of everything prenatal—3, if we don't solve the access problem. Is it a county problem? Didn't talk about the role of technology, meet them where they are at using technology Think Small is looking at text messaging.

**Amber-** 2<sup>nd</sup> access issue, perspective from a small district in Richfield, transportation is the barrier.

Group 1- additional notes: Looking at the data, effect this data. Had to look at the full resources, the people at the front in, lack of cultural competency

#### **Announcements:**

*Nancy Jost, chair, announced meetings will be held on the second Monday of the month. Location may vary.*

- Nancy shared the next steps for the council. The Council will continue to build relationships with each other and determine a focus of the council.
- Council members requested an overview of the Governor's budget related to Early Childhood at the February meeting.

**Kelly Monson, Children's Cabinet Manager, announced that all agendas and minutes will now be posted on the Governor's blog.**

#### **6. Public comment:**

*Kelly Mickie, Regional Director for Lakeshore Learning materials introduced herself to the council.*

#### **7. Adjourn**