North Carolina's Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS)

Essentials for Childhood Task Force Meeting

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What is ECIDS?

- A project and major goal of the NC RTT-Early Learning Challenge Grant

- A data system that integrates early childhood education, health, and social service information from key participating state agencies.

- ECIDS is focused on all children *receiving state and federal services* from NC participating agencies ages 0-5.

Mission and Purpose

- **Mission:** To develop and sustain a high quality integrated early childhood data system in North Carolina to inform policies and practices that ultimately support better outcomes for children and families.

- **Purpose:** To integrate early childhood data from key participating agencies to be able to better inform policies and practices in North Carolina. ECIDS is an integrated system of early childhood education, health, and social service information.

Goals

- Grant goal: build a high quality integrated system that is able to be sustained.

- ECIDS Goals:
  - Provide state agencies, policymakers, and the general public with unduplicated counts of where children are being served.
  - Provide policymakers and researchers with information about current programs and services to better address areas of need and effective practice within systems.
  - Integrate with P-20W system, allowing for the examination of effects of early childhood programs and services over time.
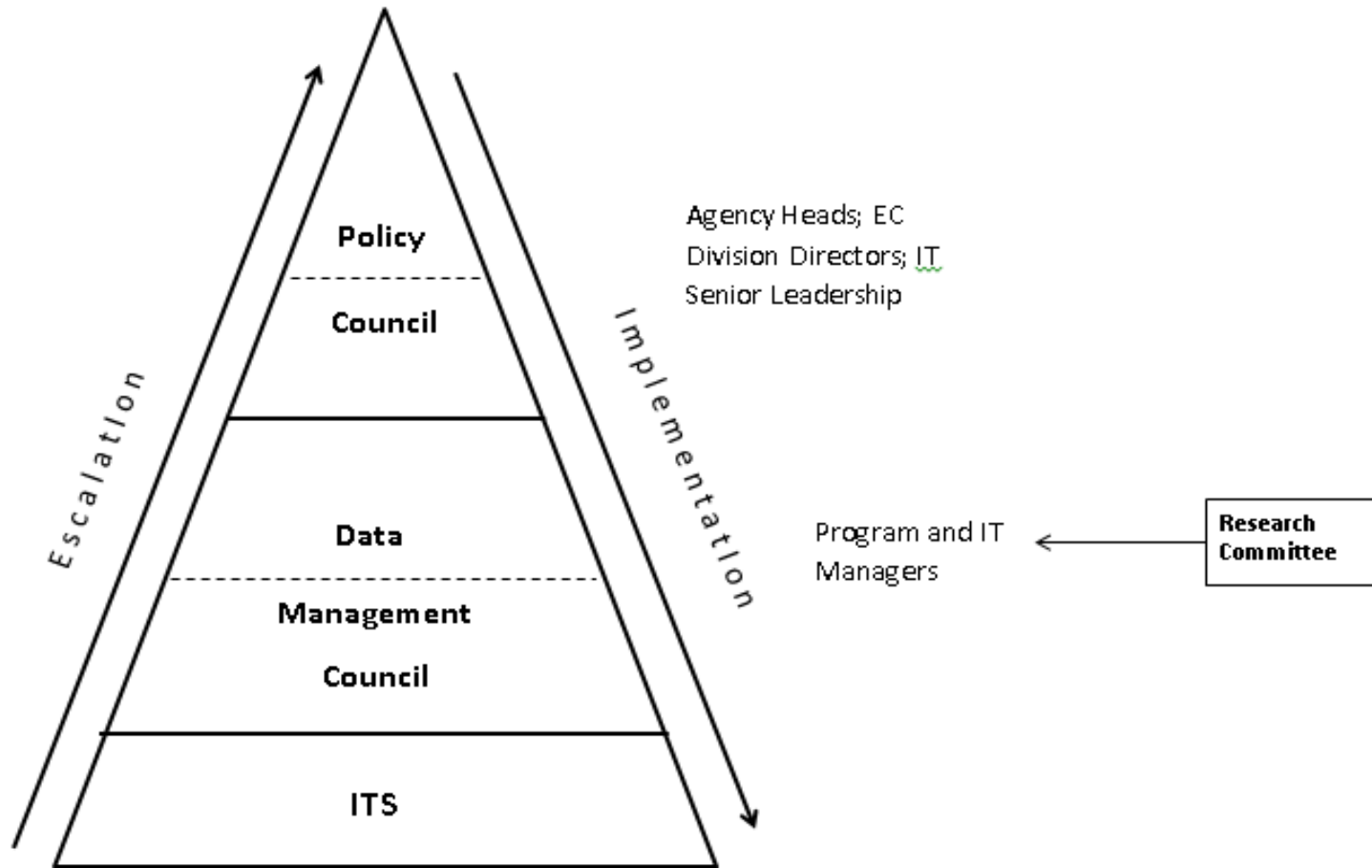
Participating Agencies

- NC DHHS
  - NC Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE)
  - NC Division of Public Health (DPH)
  - NC Division of Social Services (DSS)
- NC Department of Public Instruction (DPI)
- Smart Start & The North Carolina Partnership for Children (NCPC)
- Technology provider: NC ITS

Framing Critical Questions

- **How many and which NC children and families (especially children with high needs) are participating in early childhood programs and receiving services?**

- **What is the quality of early childhood programs? Is the quality improving over time?**

- **What are the characteristics of the early care and education workforce in NC and how prepared are they to provide effective education and care for all children?**
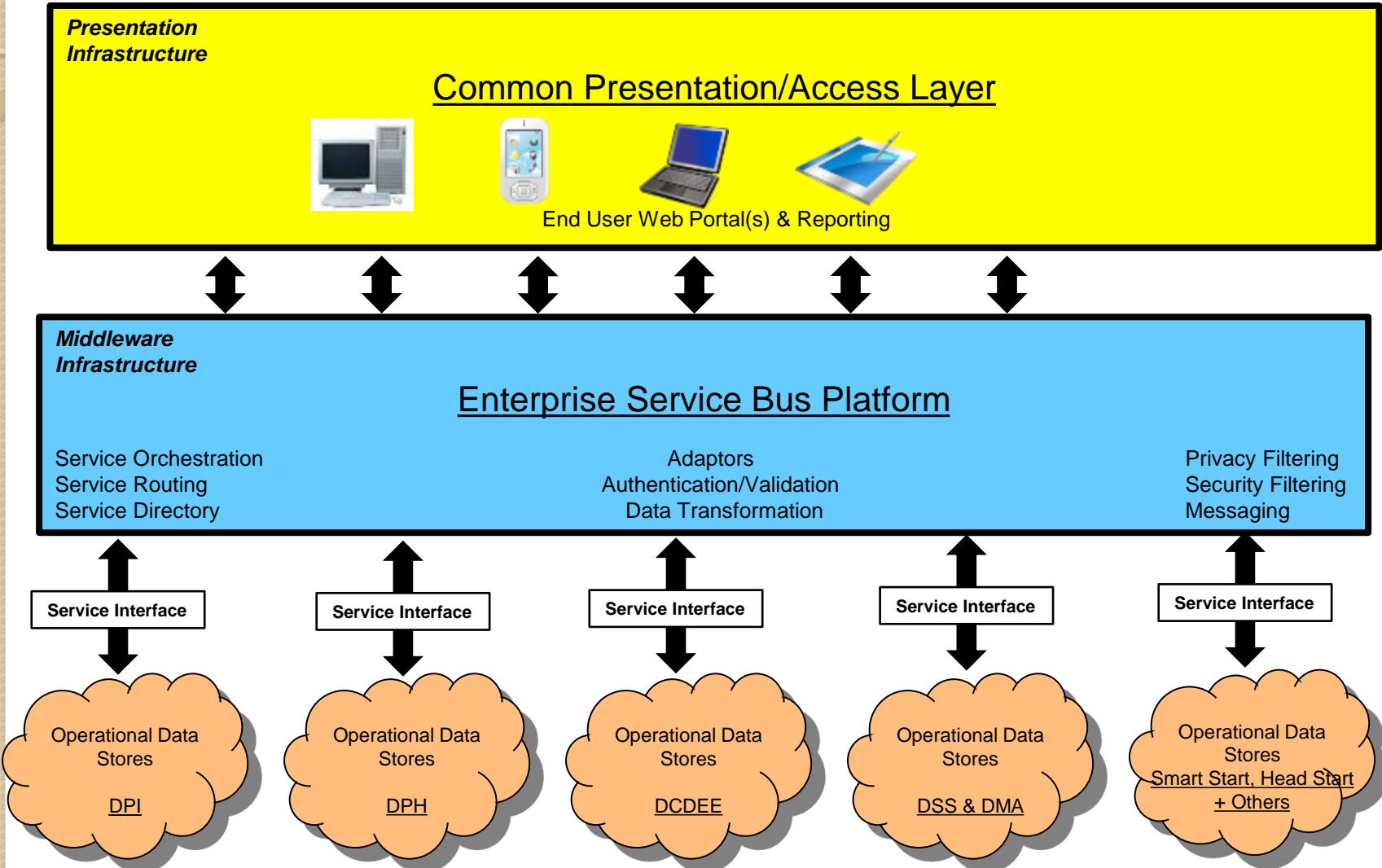
Governance Structure

Policy

Council

Data

Management

Council

ITS

Escalation

Implementation

Agency Heads; EC Division Directors; IT Senior Leadership

Program and IT Managers

Research Committee

Reports

- **Standard Reports**: produced on a regular basis (e.g., annually or quarterly) using aggregate statewide data. These reports will be posted on the ECIDS portal and available to the public.
- **Query Reports**: produced by a user when requested that contains aggregate data but is broken down by different selected variables (e.g., by race, by county, by age of child)
- **Data Reports**: users are able to submit proposals for specific data elements and once approved be able to obtain the data for research purposes.

Conceptual Application Architecture

Presentation Infrastructure

Common Presentation/Access Layer

End User Web Portal(s) & Reporting

Middleware Infrastructure

Enterprise Service Bus Platform

Service Orchestration
Service Routing
Service Directory

Adaptors
Authentication/Validation
Data Transformation

Privacy Filtering
Security Filtering
Messaging

Service Interface

Service Interface

Service Interface

Service Interface

Service Interface

Operational Data Stores

DPI

Operational Data Stores

DPH

Operational Data Stores

DCDEE

Operational Data Stores

DSS & DMA

Operational Data Stores
Smart Start, Head Start + Others

Activity Timeline

Activity Description	When
Visioning & planning kick-off workshop for ECIDS stakeholder agencies	Jul 2013
Complete technical PoC for ECIDS application	Aug 2013
Finalize core team members and agency business & technical reps	Sept 2013
SW/hosting procurement, tech team staff-up and tool training	Sept 2013-Dec 2013
Governance process, MOU's, critical questions, requirements development	Sep 2013-August 2014
ECIDS application development life cycle begins (core team + agencies)	Feb 2014
Initial pilot application deployed, evaluated, and finalized. Initial reports anticipated summer 2014	Jul 2014-Dec 2014
Initial production application deployed (production iteration # 1)	Jan 2015
Deployment of subsequent production iterations per schedule	Feb 2015-Dec 2015
Grant funded ECIDS project complete (on/before)	Dec 2015

Steps for a Successful ECIDS

- Build strong and trusting partnerships between and within all participating agencies, ITS and ECIDS staff.
- Engage external stakeholders throughout the process.
- Work closely with P20W to ensure a seamless integration of data systems.
- Develop a sustainability plan

Questions