

**ESSENTIALS FOR CHILDHOOD  
TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES WORKING GROUP  
NOVEMBER 9, 2017  
1 pm to 3 pm**

**Meeting Summary**

Purpose of today's meeting: to review Essentials for Childhood ongoing activities and goals of working group; to gain understanding of work underway in early education to address trauma and toxic stress; to develop a shared understanding of issues pertaining to evaluation and dissemination of trauma-informed practices in school and early education settings

**INTRODUCTIONS**

**ESSENTIALS FOR CHILDHOOD: ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

Michelle Ries, MPH, Project Director, NCIOM

Ries updated attendees on ongoing activities of the Essentials for Childhood initiative, including the Evidence-Based Practices work group, NCMJ issue on childhood trauma, Pathways to Grade-Level Reading data gaps analysis work, CDC Violence Against Children survey, and others.

**NORTH CAROLINA MODELS OF TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICE INITIATIVES: EARLY  
EDUCATION**

Karen McKnight, M.Ed.  
Director  
Head Start State Collaboration Office  
NC Department of Public Instruction, Office of Early Learning

McKnight presented on Head Start's approach to social emotional development. The presentation included information on number of children enrolled in Head Start, prevalence of trauma among enrollees, and methods of developmental screening and educator training to address trauma and social emotional development. Other information include Head Start's approach to family engagement and case management.

**TRAUMA- INFORMED PRACTICES: EVALUATION**

Katie D. Rosanbalm  
Research Scientist  
Duke Center for Child and Family Policy

Rosanbalm presented on evaluation considerations for trauma-informed practices in schools and early care and education settings. The presentation included information on available measures and screening tools, use of existing administrative data, challenges of designing a useful evaluation, additional challenges and barriers, and approaches to sustainability.

#### **DISCUSSION: EVALUATION AND DISSEMINATION**

Participants discussed concepts from McKnight and Rosanbalm's presentations, including:

- Types of metrics would you like to see used for evaluation, including “pain points” – ie, what would schools want to move the needle on in their school?
- How to improve measurement
- How to use evaluation to inform sustainability plans and dissemination
- Differences in approach between screening for trauma and identifying children in need of additional services vs. a trauma-oriented approach that focuses on staff training, etc.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

Ries will discuss with Ake and Joyner – what are next steps for this group? How do we want to continue this work? Ries will distribute a Google doc spreadsheet to collect resources and data to inform literature review.