

TASK FORCE ON ESSENTIALS FOR CHILDHOOD

**NORTH CAROLINA INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
630 DAVIS DRIVE, SUITE 100
MORRISVILLE, NC 27560**

SEPTEMBER 25, 2014

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Goals for the meeting: We will discuss the draft recommendations around evidence-based programs, social norms, data informed action, and policies, and begin to finalize our wording and recommendations. We will also discuss draft report chapters previously provided to the Task Force

Meeting Summary

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Dodge and Ms. Pope will bring the meeting to order and lead introductions of Task Force members. Dr. Zolotor will lay out the goals for today's meeting

Kenneth A. Dodge, PhD

Founding Director
Center for Child and Family Policy
Duke University

Kathy Pope

Board of Directors
Prevent Child Abuse NC

Adam Zolotor, MD, DrPH

Interim President
North Carolina Institute of Medicine

Ms. Pope called the meeting to order and welcomed the task force members. Task force members introduced themselves, followed by an introduction of Sandra Alexander and Renee Wright, who were visiting from the CDC. Dr. Zolotor gave an overview of the meeting agenda. The priority of this meeting was to discuss, revise, and vote on potential recommendations, using any time remaining to discuss draft report chapters. Dr. Zolotor emphasized the importance of considering the audience for the report and discussed the report dissemination plan, including an issue brief publication in the *North Carolina Medical Journal* as well as various press releases. The report will also be formally disseminated at the Prevent Child Abuse NC Summit in March 2015.

DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND VOTING ON PRIORITIES

Adam Zolotor, MD, DrPH

Interim President

North Carolina Institute of Medicine

Dr. Zolotor outlined the recommendation discussion and voting process. The recommendations have been drafted by the NCIOM staff and Essentials for Childhood Steering Committee based on previous Task Force work, discussions, and consensus.

The task force collectively discussed each individual recommendation before voting.

See below for recommendation categories and selected comments on recommendations.

Create the Context for Healthy Children and Families through Policies :

Child care and early childhood education and development

The task force discussed and revised recommendations around early child care and education.

Selected comments:

This section should include more references around brain development science as well as emphasis on evidence of the bipartisan support for quality early child care (i.e. Early Childhood Foundation Report). Dr. Zolotor mentioned that this will be emphasized in the context of the chapter but we can include some references in the recommendation section as well.

Dr. Dodge and other task force members suggested fleshing out the implementation supports for early care and education in the recommendations, such as targeted resources and continued evaluation of tiered reimbursement.

The goal of the child care and early childhood recommendations is to ensure that every child receives high quality care, and this needs to be emphasized.

There should also be an emphasis on how quality early care and education prepares children for life and not just academic success.

Primary care screening for psychosocial risk factors and family protective factors (infants, children, families)

Next, the task force discussed and revised recommendations around primary care screening.

Selected comments:

Some general revisions included acknowledging that primary care screening should not be limited to Medicaid recipients, emphasizing that screenings should be regular, consistent, and ongoing, and recommending screening for maternal, paternal, and other caregivers.

Early pediatric care screening should be broadened to include questions regarding parenting skills, child care satisfaction, mental health, etc.

In general our recommendations should include what success looks like and how it should be measured. Ms. Ries commented that this is embedded in the data working group section.

Economic opportunity for families:

The task force then discussed and revised recommendations around economic opportunities and strengthening the workforce as a method of helping families and children.

Selected comments:

We should use a “two-generation” strategy of economic opportunity, focusing on enabling and helping families to contribute to the NC economy

Language – Parents and caregivers vs. families

Workforce policies and development:

The task force discussed potential recommendations for workforce.

Selected comments:

Need to be aspirational rather than directive – working with Department of Commerce

We need to address the differential effect of policies on lower income workers.

Create the Context for Healthy Children and Families through Norms Change and Programs - Draft Recommendations - Social Norms Change

Early Childhood Development and First 2000 Days

The task force discussed potential recommendations around addressing social norms around early childhood development.

Selected comments:

We should put all recommendations around the First 2000 Days campaign into one large recommendation, with sub-categories

Should we use the phrasing, “social marketing,” or something else? “Public awareness/education”?

Trauma-informed communities

The Task Force discussed potential recommendations around creating trauma-informed communities

Selected comments:

We need to ensure that our recommendations include building infrastructure

How to address the General Assembly?

Possibly add a recommendation around education about Medicaid and child care subsidies – as health insurance and scholarships – can be rolled into social norms?

Move to raising awareness and commitment section

Following extensive discussion on the Task Force’s draft recommendations, the Task Force then voted on the draft recommendations within two categories: policies and social norms change. The recommendations were written on large posters. Task force members were given “dot” stickers to place on the posters next to the recommendations they wanted to vote for inclusion in the report. Data and evaluation recommendations will be discussed and voted on in future task force meetings. Task force members who were not present will be sent an online survey as an opportunity to vote.