



**ESSENTIALS FOR CHILDHOOD  
EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMS WORKING GROUP  
FEBRUARY 1, 2018  
1:00-3:00 pm**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**MEETING ATTENDEES:** Maggie Bailey, Catherine Joyner, April Harley, Kim McCombs-Thornton, Kristen O'Connor, Michelle Ries, Meghan Shanahan, Marshall Tyson (via phone), Jan Williams (via phone), Berkeley Yorkery, Adam Zolotor

**GUESTS:** W. Oscar Fleming

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Michelle began the meeting at 1:00 pm and meeting participants briefly introduced themselves.

**IMPLEMENTATION TEAMS:** W. Oscar Fleming, MSPH, DrPH Candidate and Implementation Specialist, National Implementation Research Network (NIRN)

Oscar gave an overview of his research proposal. Through his research, Oscar seeks to expand knowledge of how implementation teams contribute to the implementation process and the outcomes of evidence-based programs, specifically relating to child wellbeing. To collect qualitative data, Oscar will hold interviews and focus groups with implementation teams working with evidence-based programs across the state and will also interview TA professionals who may be working with implementation teams. He is aiming to identify 6 sites with at least 6 months of working experience.

Oscar sought feedback from the group, specifically requesting ideas for implementation teams/EBPs to reach out to for participating in the study. Work group members asked questions related to his research question and methodology: definition and structure of an implementation team, scope of "child wellbeing," organizations/individuals he has already contacted.

Work Group members discussed:

- Recommended contacting Center for Child and Family Health, both in regards to their work on Healthy Families and Family Connects, but also their work more broadly
- Is there implementation support for Child First?
- Parents as Teachers is the most widespread home visiting model in the state. The national office provides TA but local partnerships don't have implementation teams.
- Triple P is expanding implementation support to new counties.
- Juvenile Justice has been making sure that funding is going to EBPs, so there may be people there who could provide other contacts.



### **RECOMMENDATION FOR STANDARDIZED FIVE-YEAR FUNDING CYCLE DISCUSSION:**

Work Group members discussed the draft of the recommendation for an aligned funding cycle based on the Essentials for Childhood Task Force Recommendation 5.3 (Support Implementation of Evidence-Based Programs to Prevent Child Maltreatment and Promote Safe, Stable, and Nurturing Relationships and Environments). Group discussion focused on answering the primary question:

Have we landed on the right details for this recommendation, and if so what are next steps?

- Kim discussed timeframe constraints with Smart Start funds
- Group discussed if there is a need to identify a specific program for funding alignment request.
- Jan shared that since some programs are well-established and would be applying for ongoing funding rather than startup funding they would not need a 6-month planning period. Group members discussed that implementation support/analysis/improvement funding beyond initial implementation funding would be beneficial for existing programs.
- Kristin discussed next steps for engaging DHHS—need a clear proposal to take to Susan Perry-Manning that can then go to the contract/procurement office.
  - Ask would include looking at funding from an implementation science lens, possibly using common language, longer contracts, common grant cycle, planning and implementation support, common evaluation metrics when possible.
  - Kristin and Marshall will discuss further as representatives of the two divisions that are primary funders of EBPs for children.
- Other funders we want to engage—statewide funders as well as regional and smaller community foundations
- MIECHV summit scheduled to take place in the fall—opportunity to host a program staff/funder conversation as previously planned?
- April shared that there will be a meeting of NFP administrators in March—get their perspective on challenges around funding.
- Add language to the draft around evaluation

### **UPDATES FROM ESSENTIALS**

Michelle updated the group on the reverse site visit to the CDC in January, the progress on facilitating a gaps analysis for Pathways data (first meeting to be held in April), and the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting for reconvening the E4C and early childhood mental health task forces.

Maggie will send out a Doodle Poll to schedule the next work group meeting.