



## **Provider Supports Subcommittee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

October 11, 2023 - 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting

#### **Welcome, Introductions, Virtual Meeting Protocols, and Meeting Material Review**

Provider Supports Executive Committee member Julie Schroath welcomed members and completed introductions. The group reviewed the August meeting minutes, Feedback Loop, and Agency Updates.

- [August 9, 2023, Meeting Minutes](#)
- [Feedback Loop](#)
- [Agency Updates](#)
- [TLS Tracker](#)
- [Early Childhood Equity Grant Fast Facts](#)

<b>Discussion</b>	<i>TLS Tracker</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If any of the recommendations need legislative action to change them, are we not willing to pursue that avenue?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ This is a DCYF committee, not an advocacy group, so no. This came up years ago and that was the answer.</li></ul></li></ul>
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#### **New DCYF Training Site for Child Care Providers**

DCYF Learning Management System Coordinator Karma Hugo and Professional Development Coordinator Marlene White introduced members to the new training site DEVELOP.

- [DEVELOP Presentation](#)

<b>Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Will we be able to log into MERIT and access DEVELOP within MERIT, and vice versa?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ No, they will be separate.</li></ul></li><li>• EVERYTHING LOOKS VERY ORGANIZED AND EASIER TO USE.</li><li>• Have you reached out to volunteers for this already?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ We have but are still looking for participants. We are really in need of Somali speakers.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <a href="#">DEVELOP testing volunteer sign-up (English)</a></li><li>▪ <a href="#">DEVELOP testing volunteer sign-up (Spanish)</a></li><li>▪ <a href="#">DEVELOP testing volunteer sign-up (Somali)</a> (or email <a href="mailto:abdullahi.abdullahi@dcyf.wa.gov">abdullahi.abdullahi@dcyf.wa.gov</a>)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I'm a lead mentor for shared services from Imagine Institute. Can I share these survey links?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Yes, please.</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• Can we have clear links in each of the sites that will lead us to the other systems? It would be helpful for those who struggle with technology.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ We have heard that feedback and when we talk about streamlining systems, it's clear we are not streamlined enough. A lot of it is dependent on the type of data in the systems and the need for that data to be protected. There are very stringent authentication processes that we must abide by. We've made a note to better have better communication around the different systems and how they interact.</li></ul></li><li>• MERIT is a challenge for providers. Seeing this new website is exciting but MERIT is still very problematic.</li></ul>
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- It would be helpful for staff if the dashboard pointed to where trainings can be found that are required and lit up red or yellow in the dashboard.
  - Yes, that is foundational in what we're trying to do. We will share this with our MERIT team.
- People need childcare basics with an alternative method.
- There should be unlimited online access to childcare basics and Provider Access to a Community Equivalent (PACE) that does not involve you having to sign up for a cohort.
  - It would be so great to have it available all the time. That is a huge challenge for our center, especially with the turnover of staff that we are continuing to experience.
  - The training has been changed and only a few organizations are approved to train. As an approved trainer, I have been told I can no longer host these trainings.
  - Clearly, the availability of the trainings is limited. We will need to follow up on this.
- When do all providers get trained in a webinar about your systems? Can there be annual reviews and updates or changes?
  - We host [monthly webinars](#) on various topics. Please reach out to us if there are specific topics you would like us to focus on. We are also going to be creating support materials and webinars.
    - I worry about the general lack of awareness of providers that don't attend these meetings.
      - The division is going to be creating a communications and engagement team to streamline communication with all childcare providers.
      - DCYF will also be implementing a process where all of our new projects and initiatives will undergo refinement periods at least a year out in order to capture feedback from external partners and stakeholders.
- The training should be in person. It is the best way for the state to have evidence that each childcare provider has the appropriate training and is in compliance when working with kids.
  - I agree that training should be in person so that way the state can make sure people are learning.
- I think trainings should have in-person, virtual, and hybrid options. We need to make training flexible because that is what today's workforce expects.
  - Agreed. The reality is that in-person training cannot meet the demand, flexibility, and locations that are needed. On-demand, self-paced training is the only way forward, particularly for required training.
- [DEVELOP Status Updates](#)
- Regarding the training for providers, will the recorded videos be in Spanish?
  - Yes, we are working on support materials in Spanish and Somali. The site will also be translated into these languages.
- When will trainers and organizations get interaction on the transition to DEVELOP?
  - Some trainers have taken some initial steps with us. Other trainers have shared phases of implementation support. Those are geared specifically for training organizations and trainers. We have been creating very supportive opportunities for one-on-one engagement with those organizations. We haven't started yet but there has been a lot of communication.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We have been supporting a lot of the Early Achievers work and your coach is your resource. Definitely reach out to your coach for additional support to help you navigate these systems.</li></ul>
<b>Next Steps/Follow Up</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Please reach out to Karma Hugo (<a href="mailto:karma.hugo@dcyf.wa.gov">karma.hugo@dcyf.wa.gov</a>) and Marlene White (<a href="mailto:marlene.white@dcyf.wa.gov">marlene.white@dcyf.wa.gov</a>) with any follow-up questions.</li></ul>

## Trauma-Informed Care | Dual Language Designation Awards

DCYF Trauma-Informed and Healing Centered Care Manager Jess Mayrer, and Dual-Language & Multilingual Learning Manager Athena Jimenez-Manalo provided updates and gathered feedback on Trauma-Informed Care and the Dual-Language Designation Awards.

- [Trauma Informed Care Presentation](#)
- [Dual Language Designation Awards Refinement Presentation](#)
- [Early Learning Division Written Updates](#)

<b>Discussion</b>	<p><i>Trauma Informed Care</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This was an amazing idea and I like the concept. However, it's really disheartening when there is no communication about the payments.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>There are a lot of moving pieces, but we can do a better job at communication. Not all trainers were using the primary training template, so we had to go into MERIT and verify their training history. We are working to do better and understand that it is frustrating.</li></ul></li><li>I thought this training was great and is important. However, it's difficult for front line staff to have the time for these trainings. We continually add these new trainings and even when they are super impactful, they pile up and staff don't have time.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We are working on some planning to make a very clear trajectory for growing trauma-informed and social-emotional learning. We do want to make this more intuitive, less stressful, and easier to prioritize.</li><li></li></ul></li><li>Will you be providing trainings that are more profound than the foundational trauma-informed care trainings that are currently available? The trainings need to be searchable and stay up to date with the latest research because research is always evolving. When training participants have questions, it's really important that the trainers are well-versed in trauma-informed care because oftentimes participants may have more profound questions than what's available in the training or that trainers are able to respond to.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We are currently preparing new in-depth professional development training for everyone, including the coaches, and the trainings will also be in Spanish and Somali.</li></ul></li><li>We need special mental health consultants that providers can go to with cases. We refer families to mental health services, but they are on waiting lists.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We definitely need more mental health supports and are working to grow our infant and early childhood mental health supports.</li><li></li></ul></li><li>Types of support needed for trauma-informed care include more diversity in the classes, more profound trainings, and credentialed professional trainers.</li></ul> <p><i>Dual Language Designation Awards</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Community-Driven Outreach and Engagement Strategies for Dual Language Designation</a></li><li>Are trauma-informed care and dual language programs available to all providers, or only to those accepting subsidy and for the Early Childhood Education and Assistance</li></ul>
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	<p>Program (ECEAP)? Basically, are resources available for all providers (e.g., training), but payment or funding available to subsidy and ECEAP providers?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Yes, that's it. The dual language training is available to all providers. The funding award for the designation is only available for licensed or certified childcare providers accepting State subsidy and ECEAP.</li><li>• What about American Sign Language (ASL)? I didn't see this on the list of languages; will sign language be recognized?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Yes, ASL is a recognized language for the dual language designation.</li></ul></li><li>• <a href="#">Dual Language Learning Video</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Dual Language Learning Video with Spanish subtitles</a></li><li>• The \$2700 of support to implement the dual system is very little money. It is not even enough to hire a teacher for one day a week.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ You are very right. The \$2700 is only a start. The plan is to increase funding for designated programs.</li></ul></li><li>• For any provider workgroup or committee members for Trauma Informed Care and Dual Language Programs, are you seeking providers who accept subsidy and/or ECEAP? Or are you seeking any licensed/certified provider?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ For dual language, any and all are welcome.</li></ul></li><li>• If we are a subcontractor, would we go through our contractor to express our interest in being a dual-language site?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ If you have access to Coach and Educator Community Interface (CECI) as a subcontractor, you are able to go in and request the Designation for your site.</li></ul></li><li>• With a bilingual system and having the financial support to buy bilingual materials allows us to do more activities and allows kids to develop more communication skills.</li></ul>
<b>Next Steps/Follow Up</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Please reach out to Jess Mayrer (<a href="mailto:jess.mayrer@dcyf.wa.gov">jess.mayrer@dcyf.wa.gov</a>) and Athena Jimenez-Manalo (<a href="mailto:athena.jimenez-manalo@dcyf.wa.gov">athena.jimenez-manalo@dcyf.wa.gov</a>) with any follow-up questions.</li></ul>

### Closing Remarks/Adjourn

<b>Next Steps/Follow Up</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The next meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2023.</li></ul>
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