

Summary Notes Steering Committee #4 Agenda (September 26)

Time	Description of Activity/Presentation	Summary Notes/Share Out Notes
9:00 (30 min)	<p>Opening: <i>(Slides 1-5)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome, rename/affirm the purpose/Why of this Steering Committee ● Reminder of conversation at last meeting on DCYF's commitment and SC members interest in sharing and using people's chosen pronouns. ● Where we are in the process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A period of high intensity: coming to end of public outreach, drafts of Needs Assessment being developed, beginning of next phase of strategic planning work. ○ Breaking news: New federal funding opportunity for PDG, so discussing with Committee, instead of discussing process for developing the strategic plan. If interested in designing process for Strategic Plan, please let DCYF know. ● Honoring Native Land (on table tents) ● Introductions: One word & loop back to previous word clouds ● Meeting Purpose & Today's Agenda ● Community Agreements (on slide and table tents) 	<p>One word: anticipation, grateful, thoughtfulness, inclusive, energized, supportive, excited, tiredly optimistic, opportunity, receptive, seen, progress, curiosity, inclusive, listening, ready (to go), driven, curious, partnership, listen, responsive, progress, curious, anticipation, balance, innovation, vibrations, reinvigorated, listening, family, collaborative, openness, tiredly excited, children, flexibility, energized, connected, thankful, togetherness, dazed</p>

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9:30 (20 min)	<p>Connections Activity (Slides 6-7)</p> <p><u>Context:</u> To prepare for discussion on developing new values and vision for the ELP 2 process, reflect on personal values as it relates to their leadership in Early Learning.</p> <p><u>Activity:</u> Engage in conversation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When I reflect upon my work in Early Learning, what three or four values drive my leadership? • What events, people, places and/or aspects of my identity have helped shape my values? • Which values do I believe will be important to bring forward today as we engage in our work together? 	<p><u>What values that people shared?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration – shared decision making; • Beneficiary voice – making sure that we have the family voice included; • Optimism – sometimes it’s hard to be optimistic; • Value of system responsibility – working upstream; rather than deficit on family, parent or child. But how do we fix the system so not expecting families to navigate, but building inclusive equitable pathways?
9:50	<p>Seeing our System (Slide 8-9)</p> <p>Come back with edits on system visual (use visual to lead into vision/principles conversation?) This is what we heard from you. Conversation led to thinking about vision and values.</p> <p>Questions they can respond to.</p>	<p>No comments to larger group; individual comments in post-its available here</p>
10:00	<p>Vision and Values for ELP 2.0 & PDG Grant (Slides 9-21)</p> <p><u>Activity:</u> In small groups</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individually read/engage 3 documents (in package): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. RETOC visual & narrative b. North Carolina ECAP (pp 8-10) c. PDG Application Tenets 	<p><u>Vision:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation, cultural competency, shift in power. ELS created and led by the people it serves. • Culturally aware, culturally responsive, seeing and being seen. • Red thread: a common theme that runs through everything = race, culture, language equity at the forefront of everything we do. Bridge the gap between

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	<p>And capture compelling words, phrases, language on post-its + generate your own!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Share these, look for patterns, prioritize, generate: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 3 most important Vision ideas b. Up to 8 most important Values/Principles ideas <p><u>Whole group</u> (30)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Small groups share, look for patterns 4. Discussion: What do we see? Alignment? Tensions? Key issues? 5. Ask for volunteers to generate a draft Vision & Values document - to share at Oct 15 Steering 	<p>opportunity and outcome. System that actively and intentionally supports a holistic view of family and community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and families have what they need. ALL families; inequities are gone. Fully funded and interdisciplinary system that makes that possible. • Equity for families that allow children to have the tools and resources for potential in life. Set them up for success in life. • Supporting children and families; being data driven. Strong foundations for children and families & community in the classroom. All children are celebrated for where they come from; all children achieve their full potential. • Intentional; intentional co-creation. Undo structural racism. Families involved from start to end. <p><u>VALUES:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate funding & prioritizing this work; Culturally relevant service provision; Families and children centered; Okay to target racial communities and focus on their needs. • Authenticity; Individualized; Collaborative with community voice; Holistic view of children; Data-driven – quantitative and qualitative • Focus on practitioners, educators, providers, advocates, clients; People need to be seen and valued who are the recipients of whatever comes out; Informed by multiple stories; What's working in communities, even if home-grown instead of evidence-based.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broaden attachment to evidence-based practices; Child and family centers; Workforce reflects those served and has resources to do that; Focus on brain development. • Families and communities are respected, important, supported — including teachers; Respect different learning styles; Diversity of different voices; finding common ground • Listening; Love and community; Strength-based; Inclusive; Hope; Aware; Relationship focused; Listen/ask • Inclusivity of relationships — children exist in the context of relationships; Stewardship/redistribution of resources; Value unique strengths, focus on cultural competence; Feedback loops include family, student, community <p>Full Shots of group notes available here</p>
11:45	LUNCH	
12:15 1:20	<p>Needs Assessment (Slides 23-26)</p> <p>Conversation about some of the narrative stories that are beginning to emerge from data and outreach. This is an update at a point in time. It is very much still a work in progress. It does not reflect a lot of community comments that we are still collecting. We are starting to weave together data and outreach comments, but more to come. Provide a brief summary of some of the points made in the draft document.</p> <p><u>Activity:</u> Read individually. Discuss in small groups:</p>	<p><i>Note: This reflects a sample of comments from Steering Committee members. The full complement of stories will be incorporated into the Needs Assessment.</i></p> <p><u>Healthy Children and Families</u></p> <p><i>Strengths:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to pediatricians, need to recognize other primary care providers (RN, etc.) • DOH is developing a universal developmental screening system (UDS system) for anyone who works with kids.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are these the strengths to raise up in the Needs Assessment? If not, what's missing? • Are these the needs/gaps to raise up in the Needs Assessment? If not, what's missing? 	<p><i>Needs/Gaps:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to call out communities of color: Af-Am, NA, etc. • Even with Apple Health insurance, not all families have access to appropriate health care (geography, cultural, etc.) <p><u>Strong, Stable, Nurturing and Supported Families</u></p> <p><i>Strengths:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing understanding of nurturing, but need more attention to how to teach families <p><i>Gaps:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families, especially rural, are isolated – from the system, from other families, from community. <p><u>Positive Early Learning Experiences</u></p> <p><i>Strengths:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities have been making continued investments in early learning experiences. • The number and types of care options increasing (FFN, ECEAP, centers, etc.) • Standards alignment has helped reduce confusion • Expansion of pre-school/transition-to-kindergarten to more of state. <p><i>Gaps:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different funding stream/requirements can make coherent programming hard. • Diverse system can make coordination and flexibility hard. • Still large need for home visiting for eligible families.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need more supports for FFN to help understand resources, supports. <p><u>Empowered Communities and Responsive Early Learning System</u></p> <p><i>Strengths:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The coalitions are putting together system that is set up to be responsive. <p><i>Gaps:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need stable funding for quality care that continues to allow family choice. • Fragmented system that is hard to tie together to create an overall system that is responsive and flexible. <p><u>Supported Early Learning Workforce</u></p> <p><i>Strengths:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instead of “trained”, use “well-prepared, educated, skilled...” • Community Colleges and college partnering with program for education and training, etc. <p><i>Gaps:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensation needs to include benefits, time off, etc. • Need to do more to develop new leaders with more representational demographics for E.L. leaders. • Need more support for administrative infrastructure and business. • Need for recruitment and retention of staff; including building mentorship pool. <p>Full Shots of group notes available here</p>

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	<p>Group Discussion on Exercise</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very idealistic perspective and realistic perspective of what we have. Reality is we have the most regressive revenue stream – people most hurt by gaps in child care are paying the most; and that needs to change. • Have a huge system that needs to be changed; but the very families we aim to serve have yet to feel that we are serving them. Need to do work that families feel actually touches them. Been working for a long time, but not there yet. • Make sure that diversity is not seen as problem, but as a strength. It brings complexity, but ultimately a strength for WA. • All really overwhelming; As an advocate would like to see document reflect what we think we need as a system; then chunk it out for legislators. This is what we see, this is what we need. Then work on how to do that. • What are the underlying policy things that prevent the change we want to see happen? What needs to change in a systems way? E.g., needs classroom and schools, but need broadband for every kid to get rich resources of internet.
1:30	<p>Preschool Development Grant Birth to Five (PDG) Funding Opportunity: (Slides 27-33)</p> <p>Discussion about the recently released federal opportunity announcement and the state's preparation of a grant application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick summary of Renew Grant (timeline, purpose, funding level, odds) 	<p><i>Journaling was done individually.</i></p> <p>Selected sharing at the end:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a lot of different perspectives and deep conversation, so importance of listening to really understand different perspective. • Infant mental health popped up.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the starting gate: 5 ½ weeks of fun; Opportunity-Challenge: not yet deep in co-creating early learning plan 2.0; opportunity now to take stock of where we are in the process; <p>Carrying/Holding: vision/values, needs and strengths, sense of what we want to “do” together within the framework that has been shaped by this group (Differentiate- “strategy” in ELP 2.0)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity: Reflecting/Journaling (quiet, movement, choose your direction) <p>Q: What is most important for us to do, collectively, at this point in time (ex for each framework)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There’s a lot of value added. Needs Assessment is still a work in progress, opportunity to build. Tendency to linger on 1.0. Instead of using system language, we focus on individuals – like parents. These “cross-system” families, need to think about serving across systems. Still looking for opportunities to integrate the thinking around equity and inclusion and metrics on reductions in inequality. RETOC has a lot of good stuff; but that’s different from actually doing the work. Chance to actualize the work. How do we bring forward? Let’s be intentional about including fathers in the conversations, because fathers are parents. Fathers have been left behind in the scheme of things for early childhood. Engagement in fathers should also be kept in mind – weaves into issues of equity and representation.
2:50	Closing	
3:00	Adjourn!	