April 18, 2017

To: Equity Implementation Committee

From: Measuring Success Committee

RE: The Role of the Hubs and Indicators

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The Measuring Success Committee of the Early Learning Council met on April 5th to begin discussions regarding potential changes to the Early Learning Hub metrics for the next contract cycle. During the current contract cycle, many lessons were learned regarding the availability and limits of current data and data systems, the challenges of developing a set of common metrics across Hubs that also allow for local flexibility, significant variability across Hubs in their regional challenges as well as their own stage of development, and others. The Committee began by reviewing the underlying roles of the Hubs in promoting the three early learning system goals of (a) a coordinated, aligned, and family centered system, (b) supporting children and families to be ready for kindergarten, and (c) promoting healthy, stable, and attached families.  The next meeting is scheduled for May 10th from 1 -4 pm where the Committee will begin discussing potential indicators for the identified roles of the Hubs.

**The Role of Early Learning Hubs**

**Goal One: The early childhood system is aligned, coordinated and family-centered**

1. The role of the hub is to develop and implement, in partnership with the five sectors (early learning, K-12, health, human services, and business), a shared strategic vision and work plan to achieve the Early Learning System goals of (1) an aligned, coordinated, and family-centered system, (2) children entering school ready to succeed, and (3) healthy, stable, and attached families.
2. The role of the hubs is to aggregate, interpret and effectively communicate available data in order to (1) identify focus populations, (2) track the well-being of children and families in the community, (3) guide development of their work plan and its revision in a process of continuous quality improvement; and (4) facilitate collaboration across sectors and partners.
3. The role of the hub, in partnership with the five sectors, is to identify focus and priority populations in the community using best available data and help direct community resources to address the needs of those populations.
4. The role of the hub is to work with community partners to build understanding and grow community support for the shared vision, and to facilitate opportunities for partners to integrate that vision into their own work plans and strategies.
5. The role of the hubs is, with partners and all five sectors, to identify and prioritize barriers children and families experience when attempting to access supports to achieve positive outcomes, and to strategically work to remove prioritized barriers.
6. The role of the hub is to incorporate family voice from focus populations and adjust accordingly in hub planning, strategies and activities.

**Goal Two: Children are supported to enter school ready to succeed**

1. The role of the hub is to facilitate shared understanding and collaboration between early learning and K-12 partners regarding expectations about the skills and abilities of children entering school.
2. The role of the hub is to facilitate family engagement activities across the community (including schools) that promote seamless transitions into kindergarten and the family’s comfort and engagement at their child’s school.
3. The role of the hub is to work with partners to coordinate identification of children & families from priority and focus populations, to recruit them for early learning activities, enroll them in services, and make timely referrals with smooth transitions.
4. The role of the hub is to work with community partners to increase the percentage of children from focus populations who access quality early learning experiences that prepare them for success in school.

**Goal Three: Families are healthy, stable and attached**

1. The role of the hub is to work with early learning programs and other partners to ensure children and families from focus and priority populations access family support services.
2. The role of hub is to collaborate with the health sector to address the social determinants of health that lead to health and well-being for young children and their families.
3. The role of the hub is to work with community partners to increase protective factors and reduce childhood experiences of abuse or neglect.
4. The role of the hub is to work with community partners to ensure children and families access medical, dental and other health care services.