

Progress on Scope of Work Activities – Successes and Next Steps

Local Early Childhood Councils - Project 1

1.1.4 - Meet on December 5, 2012 with the Governor's State Advisory Council on Early Care and Education and local councils will send representatives.

- ✓ The meeting occurred at the Miller Library in Ellicott City. Most of the local councils sent representation. A Q&A Forum was conducted and local representatives observed the work of the State Council as a model. Local participants indicated the meeting was very helpful in obtaining information, observing the state council in action and receiving updates on projects from RTT ELC that impact local jurisdictions.

1.1.6 - Set expectations for local early childhood advisory councils to submit their membership roster, agendas and meeting minutes to the Governor's State Advisory Council on Early Care and Education (ECAC).

- ✓ 22 of 24 local early childhood advisory councils have submitted planning grant applications as well as their membership roster and plans moving forward to establishing their local councils. The other 2 jurisdictions have elected not to pursue the planning grant funding but are forming local councils. Processing the grant applications that have been approved is currently underway. The planning grants are funded by the Governor's State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care.

1.3.4 - Deliver first regional capacity building leadership curriculum and provide an evaluation summary report of outcomes.

- ✓ Two of the four Regional Results Based Accountability (RBA) sessions have been conducted with great success. Two additional sessions will occur in December and January 2013. In January the RBF (Results Based Facilitation) Sessions begin January 10 & 11. All the RBA, RBF and Customized Cohort Trainings are scheduled with all 24 jurisdictions participating. Attendees are the Early Childhood Leadership Teams from each of the 24 jurisdictions that represent the local early childhood advisory councils.

Maryland EXCELS - Project 2

2.2 - Train Technical Assistance providers, Quality Assurance Specialists and Licensing Specialists to recruit programs, offer technical assistance, support programs in achieving higher levels in Maryland EXCELS and conduct on-site standards verification.

- ✓ Six Quality Assurance Specialists have been hired and trained. They have had excellent engagement with the child care community and have been very well received. Nine additional Quality Assurance Specialists will be hired early in 2013.

2.3.9 – Conduct Field Test

- ✓ Field test began November 26, 2012 with 299 early care and education programs participating.

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2.5.1 - *Develop broad marketing plan for programs featuring print, online, and social and mass media advertisements; along with targeted dissemination routes, and advertising levels based on yearly recruitment targets in full-implementation.*

- ✓ Marketing plan developed and disseminated for review and comment.

Quality Capacity Building - Project 3

3.10.3 - *Select high quality Preschool for All sites in Title I attendance areas in accordance with the NIEER quality benchmarks.*

- ✓ Five new sites were awarded grant funds to add 1 classroom each. Site coordinators are preparing to order materials, post positions and prepare spaces to get classrooms operational. Technical assistance will be provided to sites through an ongoing TA process.

3.11.2 - *Identify 4-5 local jurisdictions as pilot sites for Year 1 implementation of coaching and mentoring training program for licensed early childhood providers serving children with disabilities in least restrictive environments/natural environments.*

- ✓ Next planning meeting between Johns Hopkins University (JHU) and Allegany County teams is scheduled to plan for implementation of the coaching and mentoring professional development program beginning in January 2013. First planning meeting with Anne Arundel County was held November 30, 2012. JHU team will meet with Wicomico County team in January to plan for their participation. Carroll and Harford counties will be contacted in January. The team listed 10 key trainers to participate in the initial training. Four candidates are itinerant teachers and the remaining six are staff members. The team plans to build in training for para-educators and Speech Language Pathologists working with transitions to school. One coaching trainer will meet the team and help plan logistics of the coaching sessions. Anne Arundel staff is enthusiastic and identified high need areas, successful small-scale local programs, and potential key players for implementation of the coaching program.

3.11.3 - *Solicit applications from selected pilot jurisdictions, including work plan and formal MOA between local lead agency and local school system, and joint letter of commitment to participate in the coaching and mentoring program.*

- ✓ Allegany County Public Schools submitted MOA and grant proposal with work plan. MOA can serve as a model for other pilot jurisdictions.
- ✓ Additional activity components - JHU team met with Project ACT team to explore collaboration opportunities. An information sharing meeting with staff in the Division of Early Childhood is planned for January 2013 to ensure effective collaboration of project activities with other Early Learning Challenge grant activities as an effort to increase inclusive opportunities across early childhood settings. JHU team is in conversation with Larry Edelman, a recognized expert in the field of early childhood special education, University of Colorado, on the use of video as an effective web-based PD resource. Development of phase one of the Coaching Toolkit is underway. Additions and revisions will be made following input from each county. iPads and video equipment have been ordered to begin data collection and video segments for training and for the Toolkit.

Promoting Use of Early Learning Standards – Project 4

4.1.1 - Pre-K STEM Instructional Guide.

- ✓ Group work on the document is complete and final editing is occurring. The draft will be submitted to MSDE's Division of Instruction, STEM Initiative for future presentation to the State Board. Draft was presented to the LEA STEM Coordinators meeting on December 7, 2012 for feedback. The workgroup had a cross-section of stakeholders from education and businesses who contributed to the guide.

Comprehensive Assessment System - Project 6

6.1.7 – Conduct initial review of project updates with national Technical Advisory Council (TAC)

- ✓ Meeting was held in October 2012.

6.1.11 - Establish Ad-hoc State Work Groups of curriculum and assessment experts to participate in content validity, and fairness, bias and sensitivity review meetings.

- ✓ Members for the State Work Groups are being recruited.

6.2 - Develop Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) and formative assessments (36-72 months).

- ✓ Conceptual Design Document (Assessment framework document) was developed (October 2012)
- ✓ Items are being developed and will be tested in cognitive interviews with students beginning in January 2013
- ✓ Assessment Blueprint (draft) has been completed. Final version available for review in January 2013.

6.2.1 - Alignment of Ohio and Maryland standards and ensure alignment and coordination with other national standards or frameworks.

- ✓ Alignment is complete and was submitted to assessment consultant.
- ✓ Standards alignment document was developed to select assessment standards for the Kindergarten Entry Assessment.

6.2.3 - Conduct benchmarking and small scale piloting in Ohio and Maryland of item prototypes.

- ✓ Cognitive Interviews will be conducted in both Ohio and Maryland in early January.

6.4.1 – Conduct business analysis of existing MD technology and data infrastructure.

- ✓ Task is being coordinated with related PARCC activities.

Child Development Innovations - Project 7

7.1.6 - Early Childhood Mental Health Phone Consultation for Pediatricians: Develop and implement phone consultation services for primary care providers in concert with the Behavioral Health Integration in Pediatric Primary Care (B-HIPP) Project. Enroll a minimum of 20 pediatric Primary Care Providers.

- ✓ Beta testing the phone consultation service completed. 24 pediatric practices have been enrolled and 16 consults have been conducted. 100 practices have enrolled from Western Maryland. An additional 150 providers on the Eastern Shore are interested in participating. The phone consultation service will be available statewide on July 1, 2013.

7.4.2 - Develop on-line Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (SEFEL) training modules.

- ✓ The Infant and Toddler SEFEL modules are in draft and being reviewed by SEFEL trainers. Target date for uploading to the website is before 4/30/2013. Core of Knowledge Clock Hours (professional development credits) will be given to licensed regulated child care providers and training will be self-paced and free of cost.

7.4.3 - Develop a website to house data system, training modules and other related SEFEL and Early Childhood Mental Health resources.

- ✓ Website is in draft. A STATE SEFEL Partnership Meeting was held on December 11, 2012 to obtain input from stakeholders, trainers and implementers on what they want to see on the site. A meeting was held with University of Maryland web staff. The website will be delayed one month due to web developer's schedule. All content building and design is on target.

7.7.4 - Develop an online professional development module on Maryland's Developmental Screening Process to provide various approaches to access for early learning and development programs.

- ✓ Met with CTE (Johns Hopkins Center for Technology in Education) staff to begin content building and development of online Professional Development modules for licensed child care programs to implement developmental screening. Two of the four recommended screening tools will be free of cost to Maryland licensed programs.

Family Engagement and Support - Project 8

8.1.2 - Identify potential members and conduct coalition meetings three times per year.

- ✓ The expanded Core Coalition reviewed a first draft of the Maryland Parent, Family and Community Engagement Framework and decided upon the format and recommended content. A second draft will be completed, reviewed by the core group, and revised prior to a full coalition meeting in February.

8.5 (Including 8.52-8.55 8.6-8.62, 8.7-8.74) - Learning Parties: Selection of Learning Parties program in Title I Elementary Schools.

- ✓ Activities were moved back 6 weeks 10/1/12 to 11/13/12 due to procurement delay. Assessing if possible to keep to 12/31/12 timeframe on several activities after starting late.

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8.9 - *Reach Out and Read (ROR): Establish leadership, governance, and structure of statewide coalition to promote ROR.*

- ✓ Established MOA with Maryland Academy of Pediatrics
- ✓ Recruit local early childhood councils to incorporate Reach Out and Read activities.

8.12 - *Library Family Councils: Establish Library Family Councils in Library Systems serving Title I school districts.*

- ✓ On target with 5 Family Advisory councils created in Baltimore, Frederick, Carroll, Caroline, and St. Mary's counties and recruiting of next 5 libraries in Title I areas.

Workforce Competency and Leadership Development - Project 9

9.1 - *Align the Child Care Credentialing Program with the Workforce Knowledge and Competency Framework to identify specific coursework for each of the credentialing levels.*

- ✓ Structure has been set and will complete its work by March 2013.

9.2.3 - *Conduct orientation meeting for Maryland Alternative Preparation Program-ECE participants.*

- ✓ Orientation sessions were held for 15 participants. The cohort will begin the MAAPP in January 2013 and complete by December 2014.

9.2.4 - *Provide technical assistance, coaching and mentoring for participants taking Praxis II.*

- ✓ Many participants need technical assistance to complete Praxis II to qualify to participate in the Maryland Approved Alternative Preparation Program-ECE.

9.2.5 - *Monitor grantee and progress of first pilot cohort of Maryland AAPP participants.*

- ✓ Participate in biweekly check-in calls with The New Teacher Project (TNT- vendor) to update progress.

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