

**Illinois Early Learning Council  
Executive Committee Meeting**

**June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 1pm to 4pm**

Chicago: ISBE Video-conference Room (100 W. Randolph St., 14<sup>th</sup> floor)

Springfield: ISBE Video-conference Room (100 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St.)

Call: 1-888-494-4032, Access code: 6113045703

**Minutes**

Chicago: Karen Berman, George Davis, Gaylord Gieseke, Phyllis Glink, Tasha Green Cruzat, Diane Grisgby Jackson, Dan Harris, Reyna Hernandez, Diana Rauner, Elliot Regenstein, Sara Slaughter, Teri Talan, Cynthia Tate, Maria Whelan, Josie Yanguas

Springfield: Cindy Zumwalt

Phone: Teresa Kelley and Barb Payne

**I. Welcome and Introduction**

Co-chair Phyllis Glink welcomed everyone and started the beginning of the ELC Exec meeting. Co-chair Beth Purvis and Director of the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, Kelley Washington, were unable to attend due to family health issues respectively.

Co-chair Glink also announced that this would be the last ELC Exec meeting of the fiscal year before asking for the approval of the minutes.

**II. Children's Cabinet Update**

Amberly Tenney, the main staffer for the Governor's Cabinet for Children and Youth gave a introduction and review of the Cabinet's goal structure. She explained that the key indicators – metrics that will track progress as goals are being worked towards – are related to factors that are obtainable in the state's goals.

After Tenney went through the current progress that the Cabinet's working groups had made, there was a general consensus from many of the committee members that they wish they had had an opportunity to share their opinions and knowledge on some aspects of the key indicators and goals in regards to early childhood. Many were worried that key early childhood programs were not represented.

**III. CCDBG State Plan Update**

Committee members Barb Payne and Diane Grigsby-Jackson gave an update on the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) State Plan. The most noticeable comment on the plan that they received from the Feds was to remove homeless children as a priority and put it under "Protected Services" because they cannot be called a categorical eligibility under the plan.

The state of the Illinois did get complimented for putting the time in the plan and being thoughtful.

On May 25<sup>th</sup>, the Feds called a webinar with the state to give a verbal update where they were on their review. They advised that all waivers were going to be approved for the state except for the Health and Safety Training Waiver because they thought we had enough time to prepare for that. An official letter/answer to the state will be sent by June 10<sup>th</sup>, then the state would have 60 days to send out a corrected action plan.

**IV. Review of ELC Subcommittees and Priorities**

The committee was told that some of the members who were currently on the Executive Committee may not be on it after restructure. There was also a discussion about the relationship between the Executive Committee and the Full Council.

**V. Mental Health Action Plan Update**

Co-chair Phyllis Glink gave an update on the Mental Health Action Plan. This summer there will be a meeting with the agency heads to see what they're interested in to make sure that public partners are fully onboard. Co-chair Glink will update when there's more information.

**VI. Illinois Early Childhood Inclusion Summit**

The Executive Committee was informed and asked to participate in the Illinois Early Childhood Inclusion Summit. The Executive Committee agreed to participate and sponsor in the summit.

**VII. Updates**

**a. ISBE**

ISBE is currently doing a lot of substantive work with the Early Learning Council. KIDSS is getting to place where very general information will be put out. There was a heavy push to have an alternative method where school districts are able to report based on information that they're already collecting.

**b. OECD**

Kathy Stohr from the Office of Early Childhood Development shared that the Race to the Top grant is wrapping up at the end of year and that OECD has no reason to believe that it can't be redone. The Community Systems group is also trying to adapt to meet the current environment such as figuring out how to operate a system where programs have to collaborate at a really high level to help children in need.

**c. Committees**

The Program, Standards, and Quality Committee shared that they did a lot of work to support the gateway credentials higher education forum.

The Home Visiting Task Force shared that their Child Welfare project is getting closer to its pilot stage.

VIII. **Adjourn**

Before adjourning the meeting, Co-chair Glink welcomed Tasha Green Cruzat, the new president of Voices for Illinois Children, as a new member of the Executive Committee.

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