

ECAC 2018 Focus Area Recommendations 6/14/2018

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Focus Area	Strategic Plan Item	Recommendation to the Governor's Office	Name Team/Person Responsible	Timeline	Additional Notes
Coordinated and Responsive Systems - Finance	Strategy 2 : Develop innovative strategies for financing early childhood services	Early Childhood Tax Credit: Develop and submit legislation for an Early Childhood Tax Credit or at a minimum examine tax credit that will support early childhood and professional development. A tax credit that will support: (1) Child Care providers who have high quality program and parents who send their children to high quality programs; Credit to director and staff to support professional development; and Businesses through corporate income tax or franchise tax credit that provide quality child care and anyone who donates to a quality child care program.	Stephanie Woodard		
	Strategy 7 : Address opportunities to increase compensation for the early childhood field				
Coordinated and Responsive Systems - Data	U. Priority Action: Develop a framework for data collection that will promote strategies to support agencies working together on data collection; define a strategy on how to use the data, and identify what is important to collect regarding data, i.e., key indicators.	Direct the Office of Information and Technology Services to establish a task force comprised of agencies and organizations that administer early childhood data systems to develop and link relevant data into a Early Childhood Integrated Data System	Cate Bohn Carol Saginaw Bob Frawley		
Coordinated and Responsive Systems - Supporting Communities	Strategy 2: Provide support to community-based coalitions around early childhood systems building.	Develop a COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND FOR YOUNG CHILDREN that provides funding as well as technical assistance to communities working together on improving outcomes for young children.	Dana Friedman Kristin Weller		

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		<p>Develop and implement targeted outreach and prioritized enrollment practices to ensure children experiencing homelessness have access to early care and education programs (pre-k, Head Start, and child care)</p>			<p>For example, setting aside of Head Start seats for children who are homeless (http://naehcy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Reserving-Slots-in-Head-Start-for-Homeless-Children-final.pdf), pre-k outreach efforts in NYC, better highlighting enhanced rate for child care providers and no co-pay for parents who are homeless, enhancing CCR&R's capacity to do targeted outreach, model outreach and enrollment policies</p>
		<p>Ensure greater access to early care and education programs for children experiencing homelessness, through better identification of children experiencing homelessness who are seeking enrollment/child care and collection and reporting of accurate data on the number of children experiencing homelessness who have been served by early care and education providers.</p>			

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		<p>Increase access to and participation in early care and education programs for children who are homeless by providing regular training and training materials for early childhood education (e.g. pre-k, Head Start) providers, child care providers, home visiting programs, CCR&R staff, county staff administering CCDBG funds, homeless service/shelter providers, DSS staff involved with temporary assistance, McKinney-Vento Liaisons and other school district personnel, and other providers who come into contact with families who are homeless.</p>			<p>Explore trainings available through NYS-TEACHS, NY Early Childhood Professional Development Institute, OTDA's Homeless Shelter Training Institute, OCFS.</p> <p>Trainings should ensure that participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a better understanding of the impact of homelessness to support their ability to collaborate to meet the needs of young children experiencing homelessness; • have a set of strategies to identify children for services as early as possible including questions to ask and language to use, what services are available, etc.; • are knowledgeable about programs and services available in their community that can meet the needs of homeless families including but not limited to early childhood education, child care subsidies, homeless housing assistance, domestic violence services, and mental health treatment; and • reinforces that many children who are homeless are eligible for child care subsidies and explains how to obtain those subsidies.

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<p>Coordinated and Responsive Systems - Homeless</p>	<p>L. Priority Action: Develop Identify a set of strategies to that support young children experiencing homelessness throughout the ECAC plan.</p>	<p>Ensure that early care and education providers are better able to help both the parent and child who are living in temporary housing situations by providing training and training materials to early childhood care and education providers on curricular approaches and classroom supports for families in temporary housing.</p>	<p>Homeless Team</p>		<p>See https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ecd/final_self_assessment_tool_for_early_childhood_programs_serving.pdf</p>
		<p>Provide Early Intervention Program screenings to all young children who enter the shelter system or access shelter services or assistance.</p>			
		<p>Add early childhood providers on HUD Continuum of Care Committees that allocate HUD funding for the homeless.</p>			
		<p>Target/prioritize enrollment in home visiting programs for families who are homeless.</p>			
		<p>Ensure immediate enrollment in child care and early education programs (provided there are available seats) for children who are homeless even if they don't have the documents normally needed and allow parents reasonable time/grace period to get the needed records in accordance with federal Head Start and Child Care regs.</p>			
		<p>Ensure children experiencing homelessness smoothly transition from one system to another (e.g., Early Intervention to Preschool Special Education to Special Ed.)</p>			
		<p>Ensure funding for transportation for pre-k and Head Start so that children who are homeless can stay in their school/program of origin</p>			
		<p>Ensure funding for add'l staff for pre-k classroom to accommodate child who is homeless (i.e. funding for add'l aide in classroom to accommodate child who is homeless who would be 19th or 20th child in the classroom)</p>			

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		Ensure greater access to child care for children who are homeless by making all income-eligible children who are homeless categorically eligible for child care			
		Ensure that shelter providers use the <i>Early Childhood Self Assessment Tool for Family Shelters</i> (https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ece/interagency-projects/ece-services-for-homeless-children/self-assessment-tool-family-shelters)			
		Ensure that early care providers use the <i>Self-Assessment Tool for Early Childhood Programs Serving Families Experiencing Homelessness</i> (https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ece/final_self_assessment_tool_for_early_childhood_programs_serving.pdf)			
		Ensure that more shelters participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)			In 2013, only 74 shelters in NYS participated in CACFP: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ece/homelessness_profile_package_with_blanks_for_printing_508.pdf

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Early Learning - Pre K	Provide guidance for aligning all New York Prekindergarten Programs into a single full-day program that ensures adequate funding for classrooms operated by school districts and community-based program providers.	Ensure alignment of state prekindergarten programs incorporates policies and strategies that support a robust diverse delivery system and equitable compensation for teachers with commensurate qualification in all settings.	EL Focus Area Team*	Timeline recommended by SED	
Early Learning - Workforce	Promote NY Works for Children as the states workforce system, a unified competency-based professional development system for the early care and education workforce.	Support departmental bill that moves training topic areas from statute to regulation	EL Focus Area Team*	By July 2018	Would assist in establishing the Early Learning Framework as foundation to professional learning
Early Learning - Workforce	Make recommendations to establish recruitment and retention strategies to ensure New York has the early childhood workforce necessary to implement a high quality early learning system - Aligns with NAM plan	Amend Excelsior scholarship to allow for part time study to better support current ece workforce	EL Focus Area Team* (plus NAM Core Team)	TBD	
Early Learning - Workforce	Support the development of strategies to align P-3 development and learning standards (ELGs, PreK Foundation, and K-3 Learning Standards) with developmentally appropriate curricula and assessment.	Require Aspire; all new licensed and registered programs are required to join Aspire; and current programs are required to join Aspire upon next renewal	EL Focus Area Team*	FY 2019-2020	This would allow us to develop baseline data needed to make informed decisions about professional preparation and ongoing learning.

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Healthy Children	Recommend and actively participate in key strategic/stakeholder meetings to promote Medicaid and other health policy vehicles to support universal developmental screening in primary care settings that align with Bright Futures/AAP best practices	Fully support funding and efforts to bring First 1000 Days 10 point plan to fruition	Screening Team: Liz Isakson and Evelyn Blanck	Fully funded in the Governor's FY20 Exec Budget	https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/1000_days/2017-12-01_proposal_desc.htm
Healthy Children	Recommend and actively participate in key strategic/stakeholder meetings to promote Medicaid and other health policy vehicles to support maternal depression screening and referral in primary care settings	ECAC Healthy Children focus area to be advisory to the Governor's Multi-Agency Effort to Combat Maternal Depression	Screening Team: Liz Isakson and Evelyn Blanck		https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-efforts-combat-maternal-depression-and-prevent-maternal-mortality
Healthy Children	Promote behavioral health strategies to support maternal depression treatment within primary care.	Fully support funding and efforts to bring First 1000 Days 10 point plan to fruition	Screening Team: Liz Isakson and Evelyn Blanck	Fully funded in the Governor's FY20 Exec Budget	http://www.scaany.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Webinar-slides-Promoting-1st-1000-Days-on-Medicaid-initiative-in-NYS-Budget.pdf

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Strong Families	Objective 3-Vulnerable Families	Convene a task force on supporting immigrant families		2019	
Strong Families	Objective 3-Vulnerable Families	Convene a study on Adverse Childhood Experiences/ Protective Factors Universal screening		2019	
Strong Families	Objective 3-Vulnerable Families	Support expansion of ACE/PF training to child serving sectors - SED, OMH, OCFS, DOH, OTDA		2019	
Strong Families	Objective 3-Vulnerable Families	Expand EC Home Visiting services to all unserved counties		2019	
Strong Families	Objective 3-Vulnerable Families	Invest \$150,000 in a statewide home visiting training/orientation coordinator.		2019	
Strong Families	Objective 1-Parent Voice	Statewide cross-agency parent leadership symposium	NYSPEP	2019	Leverage existing SED/OMH parent leadership initiatives to convene a statewide leadership symposium
Strong Families	Objective 2-Parental Knowledge and Capacity	Communicate through common platform all parent training opportunities			
Strong Families	Objective 2-Parental Knowledge and Capacity	Use Parent Education Partnership to collect evidence materials related to parent education			
Strong Families	Objective 2 -Parental Knowledge and Capacity	Place Parent Resource material and navigator in all family homeless shelters			