

# Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) Birth to Three Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2015 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Radisson Hotel – 18118 International Blvd, Seattle

### Welcome & Getting to Know Each Other

- Participants shared their role, earliest childhood memory and why they are passionate about supporting infants, toddlers and their families.
  - [Birth-3 Subcommittee Meeting PPT Slides](#)

### Community Agreements

- The group agreed to share the similar community agreements as ELAC:
  - Choose to be present and engaged.
  - Listen actively to understand and be open to all voices, perspectives and outcomes.
  - Tell the truth and assume good intentions.
  - Be willing to have brave and sometimes messy conversations.
  - Respect different learning, engagement and communication styles

### Birth to 3 System: Setting the Stage

- Evette Jasper, DEL’s State/Local Coordination Administrator led a discussion on the history and the current context of state-level efforts to build a system of services and supports for infants, toddlers and their families.

Discussion	<p>Members shared their thoughts about the system and where we are at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It has been a long time since the Birth to Three Plan and recommendations were developed, and not a lot has happened.</li> <li>• It will be critical to use data we have on infants and toddlers in Washington to drive the conversations.</li> </ul>
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### Birth to 3 Needs, Gaps and Opportunities

- The subcommittee began identifying the needs, gaps and opportunities in efforts to build a continuum of services and supports for infants and toddlers within the ready and successful framework of the [Birth to Three Plan](#).
  - [Birth to Three Plan Status Update](#) (full table)

Discussion	<p><b>Ready and Successful Children</b> <b>Health and Developmental Wellbeing &amp; Home Visiting</b></p> <p><u>Needs &amp; Gaps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include breastfeeding and oral health services in Birth to Three Plan strategies.</li> <li>• Home visit for every family – how can we leverage this to figure out what each family needs? How do we reach more? All, some or few?</li> <li>• What if a parent needs support but doesn’t want home visiting? What about</li> </ul>
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	<p>rural communities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What if you don't qualify for Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT)? What else could you need and use?</li><li>• There is almost nothing for children after they turn three-year-olds.</li><li>• More awareness of ESIT (and too much stigma?) If we move toward a more universal developmental screening, stigma questions are still there.</li></ul> <p><u>Opportunities &amp; ways to connect and coordinate:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use a systemic three-pronged approach with a continuum between 1)health, 2)development, and 3) mental health</li><li>• Home Visiting Services Account (HVSA) has a set aside to support new areas. Expand opportunities to different regions throughout the state.</li></ul> <p><b>Ready and Successful Parents, Families and Caregivers</b> <b><i>Families and parents as their children's first and most important teacher &amp; Family, Friends and Neighbor Care</i></b></p> <p><u>Needs &amp; Gaps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Birth – 3 is the most critical age. Most children are in parental or informal care. All families need information, resources and skills to promote children's healthy brain development. Where are the pathways that can help deliver or connect families to the information, resources and skills?</li><li>• Need parenting education (make child development a requirement in schools?) What if birthing and attachment classes are a part of the prenatal system?</li><li>• We need a focus on whether <u>all</u> parents have what they need.</li><li>• We need extra focus on homeless, foster care, prisons, workforce, and health care.</li><li>• Need a linguistically responsive system. Child profile mailings should be available in all languages.</li><li>• Paid Parental Leave</li></ul> <p><u>Opportunities &amp; ways to connect and coordinate:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Where are the families? All access health care in communities. Go to where families play, pray, pay or are paid.</li><li>• Help Me Grow already has an inventory of services to build on and can serve as one point of connection for all families.</li><li>• Intentionally connect what we know about child development and work it into prenatal education and post-partum information, resources, and skills.</li><li>• Prenatal health care could connect families with successful stories of other families-share experiences. Peer-to-peer works in so many different contexts. Connect child welfare; workforce system; and incarcerated parents to prenatal care systems.</li></ul> <p><b>Ready and Successful Early Learning Professionals</b> <b><i>High-quality professionals and environment</i></b></p> <p><u>Needs &amp; Gaps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Well-compensated, well-trained workforce.</li><li>• Look at alternatives to career and wage ladder for compensation.</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase enhanced rate to care for infants/toddlers to close gap of actual cost of providing care.</li> <li>• Increasing infant mental health consultation and knowledge for providers.</li> <li>• Ratios impact teacher’s ability to provide quality care.</li> <li>• Formal credential system for infant/toddlers, which may include infant mental health.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ready and Successful Systems &amp; Communities</b></p> <p><b><i>Child care subsidies that promote parent choice and access to affordable care</i></b></p> <p><u>Needs &amp; Gaps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subsidy gaps for students (loss of subsidy for a variety of reasons). The break in authorization period for teen moms accessing child care subsidy (in summer months).</li> <li>• Need continuity of care for infants and toddlers!</li> <li>• Reaching the majority of families with infants and toddlers not accessing government programs.</li> </ul> <p><u>Opportunities &amp; ways to connect and coordinate:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a data system to unify data, avoid duplication, and individualize the best program/setting with family’s needs.</li> <li>• Conduct community asset mapping. Pilot programs and bring data together.</li> <li>• Look at the Early Learning Plan and re-evaluate priorities. Provide progress updates.</li> <li>• Need to get all of the right players to the tables and coordinate collaboration tables.</li> </ul>
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**Guiding Principles and Subcommittee Governance**

- Members discussed the [draft subcommittee charter](#) and guiding principles.

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include that the subcommittee will look at policies in addition to programs and services.</li> <li>• In the guiding principles, make the language around maternity and prenatal supports into a principle, rather than a task. Add a principle that acknowledges that children grow in the context of families, friends, neighbors and communities.</li> </ul>
Next Steps	DEL will send the revised language for the subcommittee’s input.

**Subcommittee Work Plan**

- Members discussed how to identify the subcommittee’s long term goals and tasks.

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a crosswalk between the Birth to Three Plan strategies and <a href="#">the ELAC Infant/Toddler work</a> group plan ideas.</li> <li>• Use the Infant/Toddler recommendations as considerations instead of adopting.</li> <li>• Perhaps create smaller work groups according to the Ready &amp; Successful framework (4 total)</li> <li>• Review the ideas that arose from conversations today to draft a work plan.</li> </ul>
Next Steps	Email to subcommittee to see if interested in joining a small group to draft a work plan. This may eliminate the November subcommittee meeting depending on the timing.

**Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Plan**

- Evette requested input on the [draft CCDF Plan responses](#) related to increasing quality and expanding access to child care for infants and toddlers.
- Roxanne Garzon presented an update on [Infant-Toddler Child Care Consultation](#).

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How will family be determined for the purposes of getting background checks and monitoring friend and neighbor care? There are a lot of cultures that consider many people family, but are not blood relatives.</li><li>• In other states some CCDF funding does go towards Help Me Grow models.</li><li>• Broaden funding for child care.</li></ul>
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Send additional input on the CCDF Plan responses to <a href="mailto:elac@del.wa.gov">elac@del.wa.gov</a> by <b>October 15</b>.</li></ul>

**Follow-up**

- DEL will follow up to schedule the next regular meeting by phone/webinar.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

- Christy Arenson –Catholic Family & Child Services in Yakima  
Nina Auerbach – Washington Association for Infant Mental Health (WAIMH)  
Sharon Beaudoin – WithinReach  
Janelle Bersch – North Central ESD  
Kelli Bohanon – MIECHV Technical Assistance Coordinating Center, Zero to Three  
Sarah Borgida – Washington Dental Service Foundation  
Suzanne Boursaw – Lower Columbia College ECEAP/Head Start/Early Head Start  
Jason Gortney – Children’s Home Society of Washington (CHSW)  
Enrica Hampton – Kindering  
Bridget Igoe– Department of Health  
Rhodes Lockwood – OESD 114  
Mary Nagel – OSPI Family and Consumer Sciences Program  
Lenore Rubin – Public Health Seattle-King County  
Michelle Sarju – Open Arms Perinatal Services  
Jill Sells – Reach Out and Read Washington  
Kathy TeKolste – University of Washington  
Maria Vasquez – Child Care Aware of Central  
Jodi Wall – ESD 112  
Candy Watkins – A Step Ahead of Pierce County  
Liv Woodstrom – Thrive Washington

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

- Delores Baccus – Public Health Seattle-King County  
Danette Glassy – Mercer Island Pediatrics, University of Washington  
Zam Zam Mohamed – Voices of Tomorrow  
Anne Messerly – Washington Student Achievement Council  
Jan Olmstead – American Indian Health Commission (AIHC)

August 21, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Bat-Sheva Stein – Department of Health

Sandra Szambelan – Northeast WA ESD 101

**DEL STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Rachael Brown-Kendall, QRIS Administrator

Adrienne Dorf, Healthiest Next Generation Program Manager

Bernadette Dunlap, Student Intern

Susan Franck, Early Support for Infants & Toddlers (ESIT) Program Consultant

Roxanne Garzon, QRIS Special Projects Lead

Evette Jasper, State/Local Coordination Administrator

Caitlin Jensen, Head Start State Collaboration Office Administrator

Judy King, Strengthening Families Administrator

Veronica Santangelo, Medicaid Treatment Child Care Administrator

Deanna Stewart, State/Local Coordination Program Manager

Greg Williamson, Assistant Director of Partnerships & Collaboration