

**NEW MEXICO EARLY LEARNING ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**(ELAC)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**November 15, 2017**

**Albuquerque, NM – UNM CE Room 123**

Meeting was Call Order by Erica Stubbs, ELAC Chair, at 9:09 am. She welcomed the committee and thanked UNM Continuing Ed ECSC for hosting the meeting.

Roll was called for the meeting. Present: Alejandra Rebolledo-Rea, Shannon Rivera (Zoom), Elizabeth Beers, Franz Joachim, Erica Stubbs, Janis Gonzales, Andy Gomm, Larry Langley, Michael Weinberg, Barbara Tedrow, Olga Valenzuela-Zavalo, Heather Vaughn, Janis Gonzales, and Ray Jaramillo (Zoom).

Quorum established at 9:13 am by Erica Stubbs.

Agenda review and community introductions.

Ad Hoc Council Members: Michael Miller-Montaño (Zoom) for Deputy Secretary Debbie Montoya.

Motion to approve September 28, 2017 Minutes

Elizabeth Beers; Olga Second. No discussion. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Presentation – EduDream Update (Recommendations)**

**Michael Weinberg, Monica Martinez and Michelle Oliva**

* Met with ELAC late August early September
* Consulting firm based out of Chicago
* Study plan: answered through the research. What is happening with state and federal funding in the state of NM, how is it allocated, best practices and improvement.
* Secondary data: looked over 40 reports and documents, state agency websites, state finance, head start providers report, PreK annual report from CYFD and PED.
* 10 interviews as primary research; speaking to directors and key stakeholders
* **Findings:**
  1. The process a provider would go through who is eligible to apply for PreK funding, eligibility requirements are laid out by state legislation; 7 components that each should have
  2. When do they get to apply; for PreK there are two agencies; they have different timelines; concerns: need teacher contracts, decisions being made earlier than another.
  3. Funding allocation and when it gets determined. Determined during the RFP review process. Weight place on applicants that are on the border of investment zones; title I schools; demonstrate need for services; applicant communication and collaboration with other providers in the area.
  4. Data; overall transparency. There isn’t consistency; accuracy and completeness, not transparent; concern about how valid the data is. to inform for funding and expansion of their EC program.
  5. Communication and collaboration; they are expected to communicate and collaborate with other EC providers in their communities; very inconsistent between PreK and Headstart; there is variation; lack of trust; different funding streams; findings 4 and 5 based from finding 3.
  6. State funding; losing slots; convert Head Start to an early Head start to not lose funding because they cannot fill that slot. Time intensive process. Must provide proof that slot cannot be filled for a year. an EHS slot is more costly than a HS slot. Didn’t want to take on the liability of younger children.
  7. How different programs are managing blending different funding streams. Make sure they aren’t double dipping. There are HS programs that have CYFD PreK funding. Continue to build out this finding.
* **5 Recommendations:** 
  1. Aligning policies. RFP process. Stream lining the process between the two agencies, to benefit the programs. Aligning the timeline between two agencies.
  2. Data and information sharing; reliability data sharing; data repository. Developing some tools to share their data.
  3. Establish documentation and transparency; how funding decisions are made; detailed documentation how data will be used and how it will be used regarding funding decisions. Build more trust around these pieces
  4. Improve Governance Structures;
  5. More intentional to foster collaboration among providers
* Exemplary States; Georgia, Oregon, Washington DC,
* Data sharing exemplary states; Georgia, developed data system; Oregon; require that HS and state PreK Programs approve the applicant’s request for additional funds
* Discussion questions; what surprised you the most from the findings? Opens the door for better collaboration; why it’s necessary? still afraid to share
* Lack of mention of childcare; and needs of families; Parent choice a program not meeting the needs of a family. They can choose the program
* There is a plan in the works to create a huge Early Childhood Integrated system.

**Legislation (LHS, LHHS) Meetings Debrief**

**Erica**

* Alejandra presented to LHHS.
* October; Kids Count; preventing child abuse and maximizing child enrollment in benefits, legislation around rights of preschoolers for expulsion especially children with disabilities. Barb will keep an eye on Bills being dropped.
  + Erica nice if ELAC had a chance to comment on this matter
  + Do we have another meeting before the next session?
* Michael talked about a report No Time To Loose; looks at why other countries outperform the US in education. Identified 4 policy categories, one being early childhood education. Bringing in experts about what’s happening in other places.

**Committees and Sub-Committees**

**Erica**

* ELAC make recommendations to Higher Ed.
* Infant Family Studies at the BA level
* Higher Ed bylaws are in a draft editing formal document. Has not been voted on.
  + Erica – Is ELAC incorporated into HE Bylaws?
* Andy motions to ELAC requests that HE that they examine the availability of Infant Family studies at the AA and BA in person and online. Beth seconds the motion. Motion Carries.
* **Discussion:** 
  + Shannon - Depends on university enrollment. WNMU has very low enrollment
  + If state requires students to take courses
  + TEACH funding for professionals to take Infant Family courses
  + Andy – we paid a lot of money to develop those courses a few years ago.
  + Katrina – Andy perhaps you can present again to HE Taskforce. We are coordinating and aligning TEACH funding for home visiting. Shannon will be there and present this request.
  + Erica – We are simply asking HE if this is happening and what is the enrollment? A motion formalizes the request.

**Update on Request for Proposal (RFP) Transition – “The Now”**

**Alejandra Rebolledo Rea, Early Childhood Services Division Director, CYFD**

**Katrina Montano-White, Bureau Chief, Office of Child Development, CYFD**

* Presentation of an update of the new consultation system; has undergone the most complex and consolidated the consultation systems.
* Regional hubs that are going to be the liaison with satellites. They have an implementation plan in place. They will be hiring the layers of individuals, first a generalist/management making the contacts with community resources.
* **Katrina:** Region IX 43 consultants. Cross efforts so that consultants are taking training, comprehensive system, quality efforts. Comprehensive Training and Consultation System. Some of the programs will have some transition. David Melford will continue to offer Infant Mental Health – Social Emotional
* OCD has mentors that are in the filed helping the consultants. The mentorship will continue. Verification is being done through our office.
* **Questions:**
  + **Barbara:** Since TTAP is gone, under the new system will programs receive training?
  + **Alejandra:** Regional HUBs and consultants will be providing training, so that you have choices.
  + **Shannon:**  How are you communicating to Providers? Is there a system yet?
  + **Alejandra:** OCD phone and the consultants are reporting back.
  + **Barbara:** Do all programs have a consultant? How would they find out about trainings?
  + **Katrina:** No, we are focusing on the 2-star programs first. FOCUS will be uploaded again.
  + **Ray:**  I have the upmost confidence in the new plan and I appreciate being heard and the changes that have been made to make the system better.

**Update on Children Youth and Families Department requesting $26 Million of new funding for Child Care Assistance**

**Alejandra Rebolledo Rea, Early Childhood Services Division Director, CYFD**

**Thomas Montoya, Early Childhood Services Deputy Director, CYFD**

* $1 MM – Direct services to fill 16 existing positions
* $25MM – Strictly for Childcare services
* Not for expansion- just to meet the current need.
* **Larry** – the last 3 years you flatline; I would take another look.
* **Rebecca** – Any request for PreK?
* **Alejandra** – no this is strictly for childcare.
* **Andy** – If there is time, you should start talking with legislators.
* **Thomas** – we haven’t had an opportunity to sit with the secretary.
* **Shannon** – if we receive the funding? How do we ensure the families are receiving assistance? Will there be anything different with retention and training of staff?
* **Alejandra** – we underwent organization staff turnover. Ongoing communication and input so people feel part of the system.

**Public Comment**

None at this time

Meeting adjourns at 12:40 pm

**Next Meeting:**

* Tuesday, December 12, 2017, 1pm – 5pm; UNM Continuing Ed, Room 123; Working Meeting/Committee Members Only
* Wednesday, January 10, 2018, 9am – 1pm; UNM Continuing Ed, Room 123; Open/Public Meeeting

***Respectfully Submitted By***

***Mari Galvez***