

Practice Profile for Regional Early Childhood Coalitions

Mission: All regions of the State will have a locally coordinated early childhood coalition with cross-sector membership, including families, whose purpose is to design a comprehensive community-based approach to improving early

Clearly Defined Outcome/s for this Practice: Outcome: To ensure that all families and children have the opportunity to shape and have access to comprehensive and responsive supports and educational opportunities that are provided in a

Critical Component (non-negotiable)	Define how does this Critical Component contribute to the Outcome	Ideal "Gold Standard" of the Critical Component	Emerging Practice (<i>Acceptable Variation</i>) of the Critical Component	Unacceptable Variation of the Critical Component	Competencies or Training (Optional)
1. Backbone organization to support EC Coalition	Coordination; brokering relationships and partnerships, foster collective vision and action plans; collects data to track progress on collective goals; serve as fiscal agent.	Adequately funded position within backbone org dedicated to coalition; back bone org has admin capacity to manage, distribute and monitor funds; assist with data tracking; ensure sustainability of the coalition	An organization that is willing and able to support the coalition with coordinator.	There is no backbone organization.	Competencies: Guide vision and strategy Support aligned activities Establish shared measurement practices Build public will Advance policy Mobilize funding
2. Multi-sector representation with meaningful caregiver participation	By having different child/family serving organizations and caregivers meeting and working together, there will be better alignment, sharing of different perspectives and coordination and problem solving.	Active representation from: Caregivers with children (of any age); Medical; child care; schools; Early supports and services; Head Start (if in area); institutions of higher education (if in area and have early childhood curriculum); faith community; business; other family service non-profits	Representation from at least 4 sectors (must include a early childhood program/service)	One sector representation would not be considered a coalition (ie only childcare or schools represented)	NOTE: Caregiver - meaningful role in a child's life
3. Meaningful Caregiver participation in EC Coalition	Caregivers are the foundation to the service provision - that they are represented in the decisions that support and affect them.	Active representation from caregivers in the leadership team, including the decision making process. Caregivers represent 25% of coalition membership in their primary role on the coalition as caregiver. Including caregiver perspectives/input using diverse and inclusive methods that caregivers identify as preferred methods of communication.	Coalition is actively developing caregiver leadership so that a caregiver can take an active role within the leadership team. There is at least one caregiver actively participating on the coalition. The coalition gathers formal input from caregivers regularly.	There are no steps for including caregiver representation on the leadership team. If no caregiver representation in the coalition, Coalition must actively recruit caregiver w/in 6 months. Coalition doesn't seek input from caregivers.	Create a mentorship w/ another coalition member; partnered with another parent

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4. Communication pathway exists to provide feedback and support loops	Creating a dynamic coalition and building community relationships and trust.	A consistent, timely, inclusive and structured system of communication within the Coalition and with partners. Coalition members are using the communication system to receive and send information. Ensure communication between meetings/events/etc; and between workgroups.	Communication is initiated from the backbone organization.	There is no communication between meetings or when important information needs to be shared. Communication between coalition and one entity.	
5. Designated leadership is identified	The leadership team steers the Coalition to ensure the work is carried out towards achieving the Coalition goals and carrying on the mission of the Coalition.	Leadership team meets monthly; representatives on the team have understanding of implementation science; caregiver representation is present; established team operating procedures; utilizes collaborative check list; members have decision-making ability and uses a clearly defined decision making process, consistently attend meetings, includes representation from backbone organization. Designated facilitator for the leadership team.	There is a designated leadership team; Meeting frequency is not established; May not have implementation science knowledge. Established plan of how to recruit leadership members. At least four sectors are represented on the team. Decisions are made in a collective/democratic manner but formal processes and procedures are not formally in place (ie MOU or charter).	Leadership team meets infrequently. Leadership team membership shifts/inconsistent No established plan to recruit leadership team. Less than 3 three leadership team members.	
6. Orientation process exists for new members	Important for new members to understand the Coalition, its purpose, who all of the members are and their roles and responsibilities as a coalition member.	Orientation guide provided in writing to new members. Provides introductions of what the organizations do and contribute in their role on the Coalition. Provide clear expectations of the Coalition members and the others on the Coalition. Coalition member is clear about the role of their organization in the Coalition. New member is matched with a Coalition mentor (if possible, before the new member attends their first meeting)	Coalition has an orientation guide provided to new members. Provide clear expectations of the Coalition members and the others on the Coalition. New members understand how they can ask questions between meetings.	No orientation guide. No further communication or support for new members.	One pager that people can reference as to what the Coalition is about. Provide ability for new member to meet other members outside of the regular meeting. Training for coalition for diversity/inclusion/trauma informed

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7. Values and guiding principles	Establish how the Coalition would make decisions, role of everyone, value of everyone's perspective.	The values and guiding principles are in a written form. Language in the values and guiding principles are clearly written and understandable by a variety of audiences. The full coalition is engaged in the development of the values and principles to include diversity, and inclusivity. Values and guiding principles are included in the agenda/Coalition documents. Coalition revisits and updates values and guiding principles yearly.	Values and guiding principles are established created with input from the Coalition members. The values and guiding principles are written down.	Coalition has not established values or guiding principles. One person decides the values or guiding principles for the Coalition.	
8. Clear vision and mission for Coalition	Participants have clarity and know the reason they are all there. Provides participants greater understanding of ways they contribute. External stakeholders understand the purpose of the coalition and what it is seeking to accomplish.	All Coalition members can articulate and understand what is the vision and mission of the Coalition. Language in the mission and vision are clearly written and understandable by a variety of audiences. The mission and vision is written down.	The mission and vision is written down.	One person decides the mission and vision for the Coalition.	
9. Evaluation System	Coalition has clearly articulated work plan with clear and measurable goals. Provides measurement of progress towards goals and activities and Coalition can make adjustments as needed.	Work plan is reviewed by the leadership team monthly. Work plan is reviewed by Coalition quarterly. Work plan drives the work of the leadership team and Coalition. Work plan is developed by the leadership team with input from the Coalition. Data collected is selected based on regional determination and is aligned with other community/ regional/state plans.	Work plan is reviewed quarterly at leadership team.	There is no work plan or the work plan is not reviewed by leadership or Coalition.	