



**Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council (BBF SAC)  
Meeting Minutes  
July 22, 2019**

Present: David Young, Cheryle Wilcox, Amy Johnson, Kim Keiser, Auburn Watersong, Nicole Grenier, Reevea Murphy, Breena Holmes, Sue Ceglowski, Aly Richards, Julie Cadwallader Staub, Ken Jones, Renee Swain, Chloe Leary, Kate Rogers, Jessica Brumsted

Absent: Stacy Weinberger, Sara Barry, Katie Watts, Emily Merrill

Community Partners/Guests: Lee Lauber, Eddie Gale

Staff present: Morgan Crossman, Katie Mobbs, Julia Andrews, Amanda Biggs, Beth Truzansky, Liz Hamel, Jay Austin, Darla Senecal, Carolyn Wesley  
Ellen Taetzsch, Robin Stromgren, Dora Levinson, Linda Michniewicz

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**1. Welcome, Introductions & Other Business**

Cheryle Wilcox called the meeting to order at 11:07pm

**a. Welcome all in attendance, review agenda**

**b. Consent Agenda**

The board passed the minutes from the May 20, 2019 State Council Meeting. Kim Keiser made a motion to accept, with a second by Renee Swain. All members voted in favor of approving.

**c. Pre-School Development Grant Birth-Five (PDGB5) update**

Reeva gave the brief update that we are in position to get grant funding sometime in August.

**d. Process to develop the How Are Vermont's Young Children & Families Report**

Julia Andrews gave report work is underway on this year's report, the Advisory Committee has begun and Julia is engaged with the company doing the creative work. Funding was found for the printing of the report with National Life Group.

**e. FY20 SAC calendar review**

Review of meeting and important dates for the upcoming fiscal year.

**2. Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Task Force**

This was a priority area identified by the State Advisory Council for 2019. Designated agencies were represented at the February meeting and in March there were continued small group discussions which led to suggestions of the creation of a small working group or task force to move this forward.

Beth Truzansky and Cheryle Wilcox are taking on the roles of convener/facilitators and the group of multi stakeholders has met once to date, they will meet three additional times and a proposal will come back to the SAC regarding best practices, highlights of what is currently working and creation of common ground and language. The ideal timeline will be to present to the SAC in

September or October leaving the ability to integrate this into How Are Vermont's Children & Families Report.

The full document can be found here:

<https://buildingbrightfutures.org/what-we-do/state-advisory-council-sac/>

### **3. Building Bright Futures: Roles and Responsibilities**

Renee Swain walked the Council through Act 104 & Head Start Act, relative to the work of BBF and how we measure this.

- CONVENE individuals, organizations and agencies committed to young children, recognizing that we can better meet the diverse needs of all children and families when we work together.
- MONITOR the state's early care, health and education systems
- ADVISE the Governor, administration and legislature on policy and systems improvements that effect young children.

Doing well:

- Handling the neutral convening role very well
- Excitement around the Families and Communities work happening

Needs support:

- More sectors at the table and involved
- Making content relevant for all

#### **Executive Director's vision**

- Foster a community of Learners
- Engage all key partners to truly be a neutral convener
- Develop reputation to identify and utilize the most up-to-date, high quality data as a tool to inform policy

#### **Reflective questions:**

*What priority areas currently align well across all service sectors?*

*Where do we need to focus our efforts moving forward?*

- Ken Jones with Agency of Commerce reported that workforce issues are the main reason for his department to be at the Council table
- Important to have health connection/brain science at the Council table
- BBF has been instrumental in providing a conduit for stories to be known, there is high success there
- Family engagement seems like an easy in and great opportunity, information is relative to all sectors
- We are going to have to think differently about how we engage families and make it more manageable for them
- Refer back to Act 104 and focus on systems integration this year
- Focus on performance measures before we attempt to knock down barriers and integrate systems
- Look at PreK-12 environment, if we do not look at all resources it will be more challenging. There will be more efficient outcomes using data to inform

### **4. Adjourn**

12:05pm motion to adjourn by David Young. All members voted in favor

**Next Meeting- Monday September 23<sup>rd</sup> | 12-3pm**  
**Vermont Insurance Agents Association**  
**600 Blair Park, Suite 100**

**Williston, VT 05495**