



**BBF Child Outcomes Accountability Team Notes**

**August 26, 2021 | 9:00-10:30 am**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85664773532>

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*The BBF Child Outcomes Accountability Team works to improve integration and coordination of early childhood public and private partners committed to the health and well-being of children and their families. The group will inform strategies and monitor progress to ensure that children are healthy, thriving and developmentally on track from the prenatal period to third grade by promoting and monitoring outcomes in the following domains: physical health, development and educational outcomes, mental health outcomes, and basic needs outcomes. Goal 1 also promotes the importance of prevention and early identification across the same domains.*

**Desired Outcomes**

- Learn about the goals of the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems 5-year grant 😊 from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awarded to the Vermont Department of Health focused on aligning and integrating early childhood and maternal and child health systems and the role of the COAT committee
- Review discussion from the VECAP Summit small group on chronic inequities in the early childhood system and inform policy recommendations for the State Advisory Council

Present: Danielle Dukette, Cheryle Wilcox, Renee Kelly, Jen Fortman, Morgan Crossman, Scott Johnson, Cynthia Green, Tanya LaChapelle, Amy Bolger, Becca Webb, Charlotte Safran, Michele Johnson, Pam McCarthy, Elizabeth Gilman, Linda January, Breena Holmes, Beth Truzansky

Time	Agenda Item
9:00 - 9:20	<p><b>Opening connection time</b> - in pairs, what is a wish you have for children and families as we enter into a new school year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Health and happiness, connection and community</li> <li>● A lessening of stress as the year progresses</li> <li>● Resilience</li> <li>● Stability and connection (w peers, teachers, coaches, etc)</li> <li>● Stability, peace, compassion, resiliency</li> <li>● Clearer guidance around mask wearing!</li> </ul>
9:20 - 9:35	<p><b>Celebrate end of Act Early grant from AUCD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This group was assembled, built from the VECAP Early Childhood Wellness committee to support the Act Early Grant. The partners assembled at this table and work of this year has drawn attention from state and national partners.</li> </ul>

- AUCD announced there is a second year of funding available. BBF and VDH are currently working with AUCD to adjust work plans and deliverables to align with the HRSA Grant in year 1. 12 or 13 states received both grant awards.

**Review the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) 5-year grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to Vermont 'Building Integration in Vermont's P-3 Early Childhood and Maternal Child Systems (VIP-3) project'**

- Co-led by the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and the Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council (BBF SAC)
- The goal of the funded VIP-3 project is to promote optimal infant, child and family health and development, family engagement, and family well-being.
- \$766K over 5 years
- The purpose of the VIP-3 project is to strengthen partnerships between the Early Childhood (EC) and Maternal and Child Health (MCH) sectors using existing infrastructure to:
  - Build Early Childhood Systems Leadership
  - Conduct a systems asset and gap analysis/identify gaps, assets and areas of duplication through mapping and reviewing existing needs assessments
  - Updating and aligning the VECAP and Maternal and Child Health Strategic Plans
  - Enhancing cross-sector collaboration and the use of high-quality data to inform policy
  - Develop and implement innovative financing, health, and equity strategies to improve policies, services provision, and outcomes for the P-3 population and families
  - Promote family leadership, partnership and engagement;
  - Advance equity within Maternal and Child Health and Early Childhood Systems
- Role of BBF
  - Conduct systems asset and gap analysis
  - Support statewide EC system leadership
    - Support training for families
    - Support professionals un understanding EC priorities, barriers, innovations and recommendations
    - Bring stakeholders together to support aligned vision etc.
  - Strengthen the VECAP from an equity and MCH lens
  - Strengthen cross-sector partnerships:
    - Bring public health, pediatric health, MCH, partners to the table and across other BBF/EC tables (SAC, VECAP Committees and Regional Councils
    - Highlight data and promising practices
  - Engage VECAP Committees in discussions of gaps and barriers tot increase capacity to advance equitable and improved access to services (primary focus on gap between positive screen and access to services)
  - Development of EC baseline budget
  - Reinvigorate EC Investment Committee
  - Align and integrate data systems

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Vermontkidsdata.org, support for SLDS, Data and Evaluation Committee</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Role of the COAT &amp; what to expect in Year 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Advise in the implementation of the grant (accountability infrastructure)</li> <li>○ Support in the data collection, evaluation, analysis and reporting</li> <li>○ Engage in an early childhood mapping project with a consultant</li> <li>○ Continue discussions around equitable access to services</li> <li>○ Identify pediatric health voices needed at the table</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Resources shared</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Early Childhood Finance Toolkit: A Curated Resource to Support State Leaders in a Mixed Delivery System:  <a href="https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/public/pdgb5_financetoolkit_acc.pdf">https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/public/pdgb5_financetoolkit_acc.pdf</a></li> <li>● 14 Priorities to Dismantle Systemic Racism in Early Care and Education:  <a href="https://childandfamilysuccess.asu.edu/sites/default/files/2021-03/14-policies-equity-031521.pdf">https://childandfamilysuccess.asu.edu/sites/default/files/2021-03/14-policies-equity-031521.pdf</a></li> <li>● <a href="http://ecbraiding.mathematica.org/">http://ecbraiding.mathematica.org/</a></li> </ul> <p>Questions/Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clarification on the type of fiscal mapping</li> <li>● Family engagement- How will families see the influence of their ideas? What will the positive change be to families? While this is a system grant, this is a worthwhile challenge to message accurately. System of family voice - for input and messaging. Build a stronger connection to partners doing this work well, such as CIS, VICC, Kheya Ganguly- new Director of Trauma Prevention and Resilience Development at DMH,</li> <li>● How to engage diverse (in every sense of the word) families in this work, esp. in the Family and Community Engagement Committee so that it is truly representative of Vermont's young children and families?</li> <li>● How well are we connected to the VT chapter of AAP as we think about systems integration?</li> </ul>
<p>9:35 - 10:20</p>	<p><b>Policy Recommendation Development - 'Chronic inequities in the early childhood system'</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review process to build policy recommendations and discussion at the VECAP Summit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 5 categories of recommendations are reflective of the priorities across 12 regional councils, the EC Needs Assessment, and last year's categories</li> <li>○ Specific to this group, last year's recommendations did not include a focus on early childhood education or supports for our most vulnerable children and families</li> <li>○ We've adapted the broader category to be : Recognize and address chronic inequities in the early childhood system</li> <li>○ During the small group session we: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Identified successes</li> <li>■ Gaps, challenges and barriers</li> <li>■ Existing VECAP strategies/initiatives to address challenges</li> <li>■ And priorities around equity</li> <li>■ We also started to identify recommendation areas</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- BBF then reviewed the recording and the Idea board to develop draft recommendations for this committee's review
- Provide input on draft policy recommendations on chronic inequities in the early childhood system
  - Recommendation 1 (Levels 2-4): Recommit to the Vermont Guiding Principles Supporting Each and Every Young Child and Family's Full and Equitable Participation.
    - Notes: Clear communication about GP and alignment with equity work in the state
  - Recommendation 2 (Levels 3-4): Fully fund and implement Early Multi Tiered System of Supports (Early MTSS) to fidelity statewide and monitor/evaluate equitable access and outcomes for children.
    - Notes: bolster mentor and coaching capacity
    - Do we have data around suspension and expulsion in programs? Linda share situation of maintaining enrollment for children at the expense of losing teachers
    - Data brief coming w S&E data from AOE
    - Where is CIS in all of this?
    - Need for interagency leadership (ECICT)
    - Why this matters (this group helps build that)
    - And if the quantitative data isn't solid on our end, how do we leverage the Families and Communities Committee to possibly gather information
    - S&E sometimes about family, not child's behavior
    - We need to incorporate the SUPPORTS in childcare and early ed as part of the arguments for more investment in childcare ---We need to better link LGK with is recommendation
    - Children's Equity Project-EMTSS as a strategy to address equity, implementation of EMTSS needs to be implemented w an equity lens and aligned w Guiding Principles
  - Recommendation 3 (Level 3-4): Maintain the existing infrastructure and programs in place to support children and families until Vermont's Child Care and Early Childhood Education Systems Analysis Report and Recommendations are released in July 2022.
    - Notes: understanding difference between this rec and the VIP-3/HRSA grant
    - I always struggle with the word "maintain"... what is the plan or commitment for pursuing strategies to address challenges and barriers? (alternatively support and transition, reinforce, re-envision)
    - I feel very strongly about this one, as someone who has been part of this work since its inception. CIS and SAG have never been fully resourced, and we have not had an integrated and consistent data system to prove efficacy or equitable access to high quality supports and services under this recommendation
    - I appreciate the courage it takes to even put this 'out there' for us to grapple with.
    - Agree and appreciate us thinking this through together. It is extremely important.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Build on what works for children and families and good outcomes, let go of what doesn't</li> <li>■ And Evolve as a way to ensure children and families get the best, most streamlined, understandable support</li> <li>○ Recommendation 4 (Levels 3-4): Review and integrate the recommendations made by the Racial Equity Task Force across the early childhood and maternal and child health systems to create meaningful change for children and families. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Notes: this will happen regardless of if it's made a recommendation</li> <li>■ It's more than racial equity, though this is a high priority</li> <li>■</li> </ul> </li> <li>● GOAL FOR TODAY re: Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review the 4 big recommendations and choose the top 2 for a deeper dive (ask for people to indicate their top 2 in chat bar)</li> <li>○ Review and discuss key components of the top 2 recommendations</li> <li>○ Consensus to do #2 and #3, incorporate language from #1 and #4</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Discussion Reflection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ I appreciate you hosting such rich discussions, and for such an involved and committed group of people who come around this table.</li> <li>○ Productive meeting, thanks! I'm looking forward to the next steps.</li> <li>○ Thank you all! My mind is spinning....in a good way!</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
10:20 - 10:30	<p><b>Upcoming Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Please share announcements in the chat bar</li> <li>● Next meeting: September 9 10-12: joint meeting with the BBF Early Learning and Development for a presentation by University of Vermont, College of Education and Social Services researchers on two reports conducted under the Preschool Development Grant: <a href="#">Promoting Inclusion and Exploring Supports for Children with Specialized Needs in Early Childhood Education Settings: Recommendations to Prevention Suspension and Expulsion</a> (PIES Report) and <a href="#">The Early MTSS-123 Project Final Report</a>.</li> </ul>
10:30	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>

### Quick Links

[May 27 COAT Notes](#) and [recording](#)

[April 22 COAT Notes](#)

[March 25 Recording of COAT meeting](#)

[About the Child Outcomes Accountability Team](#) and archived meeting materials

[2020 Vermont Early Childhood Action Plan](#)

### Upcoming Meeting Dates and Topics

September 9 10-12: joint meeting with the BBF Early Learning and Development for a presentation by University of Vermont, College of Education and Social Services researchers on two reports conducted under the Preschool Development Grant:

-[Promoting Inclusion and Exploring Supports for Children with Specialized Needs in Early Childhood Education Settings: Recommendations to Prevention Suspension and Expulsion](#) (PIES Report) and

-[The Early MTSS-123 Project Final Report](#).

September 23 meeting canceled (moved to the 9th)  
October 28  
November 18 (moved from 25 due to Thanksgiving)  
December 23 meeting canceled  
January 27