



Building Bright Futures

600 Blair Park, Suite 160, Williston, VT 05495

802-876-5010 | buildingbrightfutures.org

Early Childhood Investment Committee

January 24, 2021 | 1:30-3:00 pm

Meeting via Zoom - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81339622588>

Present: Dan Winslow, Eddie Gale, Sarah Kenney, Chloe Learey, Margot Holmes, Miranda Gray, Matt Levin, Kate Rodgers, Ken Jones, Renee Kelly, and BBF Staff: Morgan Crossman and Anna Brouillette

Early Childhood Investment Committee

The Early Childhood Investment committee seeks to document and monitor the investments in Vermont's children and families. The committee is relaunching in 2022, with the intention of creating a baseline inventory of current financial investment across the early childhood system as is charged by the VIP-3 grant. The committee membership is a partnership of advocacy, community, philanthropic, and agency partners. Additionally, the committee will meet on a quarterly basis to monitor existing funding in the early childhood system in Vermont, and ensure sustainable and sufficient investments in the programs, services, and supports that serve children and families.

Advance materials:

- Preliminary Draft Outline of EC budget (Attached)

EC Budget Project Overview

As part of the VIP-3 grant and as is described in BBF's statutory charge, in 2022 we will be collecting data for, and publishing a baseline inventory of current financial investment across the early childhood system. This budget will reflect FY2021, allowing us to provide a retroactive look at the spending in our state related to serving young children and their families. The Early Childhood Investment committee will be relaunched with public, private, and philanthropic partners to oversee BBF's work in developing a baseline budget process.

We are aiming to collect information that will allow us to publish a clear budget that includes an accurate program name/line item description, a brief description of the program/funded item, the population served, and the funding source

- This is modeled largely after Louisiana's [Early Childhood System Integrated Budget](#) process which clearly outlines public spending across a variety of agencies related to all programs serving young children
- In 2015, BBF published a [FY2013 Early Childhood Budget Report](#) with a similar aim
- We hope to include the level of public data available in the FY2013 Budget Report, but with increased clarity and information, as is done in the Louisiana example

Desired Outcomes

- Review the purpose of building and maintaining an EC budget
- Confirm the key components and format of the budget document
- Identify what information is needed to build the budget and timeline
- Review opportunities to be involved in budget building process

Time	Agenda Item
1:30 - 1:45	<p>Introductions & Overview & Record</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome to the Early Childhood Investment Committee Meeting for January 2022. ● Review Agenda and Round of introductions ● Our last EC Investment Committee Meeting was just over 1 year ago (DEC 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Focus was on funding to support the EC system ■ Chronically underfunded ■ BBF funding as systems champions ○ Today’s meeting is reinvigorate this committee focused on a key charge outlined in our HRSA Grant: to Develop and implement innovative financing, health, and equity strategies to improve policies, services provision, and outcomes for the P-3 population and families ○ We’re excited to share that in collaboration with the VDH, BBF was awarded a 5-year award from HRSA to support this work of understanding the complex systems, funding and mapping them to needs. ○ Initial Projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Systems Asset & Gap Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compiling all needs assessments from 2020 and developing plan for meta analysis for systems asset and gap analysis ● Also developing a full “map/list” of early childhood system ● Defining EC for Vermont and listing all partners, websites, resources, etc. ■ EC Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Using stakeholder list as a starting point for developing the early childhood budget or fiscal mapping ● The budget will identify all financial sources dedicated to children and their families to monitor, align and leverage financial resources and will serve as a starting point for legislators, policy-makers and others to understand the current level of investment for EC systems and services and be used to facilitate discussions about future investments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reviewing EC budgets from other states before we begin compilation. We’re also reviewing the EC budget created in VT in 2015 and will build on the work started for the ECSA ● We’re working to build an inventory for federal \$ across agencies/department to outline overall federal funding dedicated to EC so we can use it to identify unique and collaborative priorities to align and reduce duplication, which is a key role of the ECICT ● This Committee will be instrumental in supporting the process of developing and publishing this critical tool for the early childhood system in VT ● This series of projects are critical to position us well for additional federal funding and the Potential of another round of PDG (or other federal initiatives), which will also focus on systems building/sustainability. This work will support us in identifying priority projects based on federal investments, the VECAP and opportunities to integrate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review the purpose of an EC budget

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Named in statute as an intended role of BBF, yet not work we been consistently been funded to do or had the capacity to carry out since the version published in 2015 - the VIP-3 grant is allowing us to commit to this really important project
<p>1:45 - 2:05</p>	<p>Building an Early Childhood Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Comments from partners about the importance/value <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Having an understanding of the SCOPE of what we're investing, the importance of aligned investments. What are we doing now and what's possible with what we have? Are we using resources the best we can? ○ Something policy makers have been asking for since 2015. How much are we spending on EC? Exciting. How does it intersect with the financing study? Current investments will be an important part of that. ○ What are we spending and are we spending it well? Is it impacting children and families? ○ Let's understand how the money is being spent. What's good enough? <p>Format of budget and key components</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review Early Childhood Budget Outline/Shell ○ Some components of what BBF published in 2013, some components of models from other states ○ Discuss whether this looks like the correct information/data to collect and publish ● Review timeline and information needed to develop and publish an EC Budget ● Private investment - how to capture and on what timeline? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Group consensus - this is important but we don't have the time or capacity to include the full scope of private investments in the baseline budget. ○ There are also considerations to be made when thinking about private investment that we likely aren't ready to answer/describe - the private pay of parents for child care or health care, the full scope of grant funding for nonprofit/private programs, etc. <p>Questions/Comments from Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It's a map. It's a spending inventory. Consider renaming it, as "budget" makes it sound as though it is a recommendation as to what should be budgeted for/spent. ● Helpful early on - make it clear what the parameters of it are. Age range: prenatal to age 8. Be comprehensive: is it housing, nutrition, etc.? ● RETITLE: Early Childhood Funding Inventory vs. EC Budget ● State vs. Federal Investments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If we have both, we need to understand the % gap ● Consistent federal funds will be included but COVID federal funds will be excluded (from this particular resource) ● How are we disaggregating data related to BIPOC Vermonters? How are we looking at which populations are targeted by funding source? ● Do we delineate system or direct service funds? Color coding? ● How do we capture subsidizing of child care? Both through parent pay, and the insufficient compensation raised by the field. In addition to all of the fundraising, grant writing, etc. that programs do in order to operate. ● KEY or glossary with shared definitions, assumptions, limitations, etc. ● IF Goal is % of federal to state, we'd include general fund. Do people want the totals? Who the audience is will influence this decision.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is it federal funding with specific parameters or is it a general fund allocation and with more flexibility? What money has flexibility...it's doing X but maybe it could do that? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are also implications/unintended consequences that pointing out which money is flexible/could be changed could inspire - something to avoid when possible
2:05 - 3:00	<p>Discussion about EC Budget Building Process and Committee Structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Information collection and timeline ● Anticipated barriers and how to address them ● Questions/Comments from Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How do we get information and how things are already coded? Its hard to get things renamed. ○ Timing - potential challenge for the workload of our fiscal friends/finance managers at the agencies we will need data from. Needing to support them/manage their workload/timeline constraints. ○ UPK - \$ around ADM and district levels, no state appropriations. Not federal or state. ○ Keep asking hard questions and assumptions around how money is being spent and what we can/can't publish or can/can't fund with our given resources. ● Vision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What's good enough? Even having a broad understanding ○ Capture the non-fed, non state support: show there is a gap and only so much \$ there, that could help policy makers. ● Levels of involvement and decision making ● How often would this group like to convene? ● Who may be missing to inform budget development?
3:00	Adjourn