



NOTES | VECAP Data and Evaluation Committee
March 21, 2024 | 1:00 - 2:30 pm
[Meeting Recording](#)

Key Points:

- With PDG funding, efforts to integrate, align, and link data across early childhood sectors is moving forward. Agency leaders will be meeting later this month to create a vision for moving forward. With support from new PDG supported data analysts, a comprehensive data catalog of previous, current, and future efforts will be build out.
- The CDD Market Rate Survey will follow the methodology from the most recent report. Karolyn Long and Erik Post welcome feedback on the process. (karolyn.long@vermont.gov, erik.post@vermont.gov)
- A subcommittee on demographic data collection is forming. Already on board are: Kheya Ganguly, Tiffany NorthReid. Please contact me if you are interested in participating or contributing to the work.

Updates:

- There is new data capacity funded by PDG at AOE, CDD, and VDH!
- CCWIS -
 - Potential discussion of tobacco dollars - maybe \$3 to \$6 million? Not enough, but increasing visibility of the need for a CCWIS
 - RFP is out for bid! The furthest the project has ever been
- Child Trends, CDD, and BBF are working on an evaluation of the impact of CCFAP changes
 - Administrative data from CDD, family and provider focus group data with support from BBF
- VDH -
 - Title V Needs Assessment is underway - lots of qualitative data during this cycle to gain new needs and perspectives
 - Grant application process for a maternal health innovation grant focused on data landscape mapping on maternal mortality
- AOE
 - [Ready for Kindergarten! Survey \(R4K!S\) report from 2022-2023 data is out.](#)
 - 2023-2024 data will be out soon
- BBF
 - [Vermont's Early Childhood Data Portal](#)
 - Monitoring Act 76
 - [Legislative Report on Monitoring Act 76](#)
 - [Plain Language Summary of the report](#)
 - [Data Indicator Snapshot](#)

Issues to elevate/inform policy recommendations/considerations

- Funding and capacity - Data Governance from the general fund

Next meeting: June 21, 2023 1:00 - 2:30

Full Notes

Desired outcomes:

- Build relationships and connect data stewards and experts across sectors
- Share updates and opportunities for collaboration and alignment in data collection, analysis, and utilization
- Advise CDD on the Market Rate Survey
- Share data integration, alignment, and linking efforts, challenges, and successes

In attendance: Alyssa Mullan, Ann Dillenbeck, Breena Holmes, Brianne Renadette, Carlie Thibault, Carol Lang-Godin, Dave Kelley, Emily Smith, Erik Post, James Nadeau, Kheya Ganguly, Kristina LeBlanc, Leslie Davis, Leslie Freedman, Peggy Broziceveic, Tiffany NorthReid

Welcoming new PDG funded members!

- Grant Cotherman
- Teri Hata
- Stephen Kirby
- The Office of Racial Equity, Division of Racial Justice Statistics is in the process of hiring an additional position

Integration, alignment, and linking efforts, challenges, and successes

- Morgan Crossman shared the vision for early childhood data in Vermont
 - Vermont is going to develop stronger systems and link data to meaningfully monitor programs and services and have meaningful outcome measures for children, families, the workforce, and the programs and services.
 - Using data to inform decisions and continuous quality improvement.
 - Making the data publicly available - telling the story and centralizing information in a meaningful way.
- **Discussion:**
 - Opportunities:
 - There was general consensus that we need to document the previous and current efforts across these priorities in order to learn from the lessons and move forward.
 - The private sector might also play a role in advocating for public access to integrated data to answer policy questions.
 - We need to be intentional about capturing all voices despite the challenges of required suppression at state agencies.
 - Suppression rules
 - AOE suppresses numbers less than 11
 - [The VDH suppression policy is here.](#)
 - Start with the data elements in each system
 - Challenges:
 - Capacity and buy-in
 - There has not been adequate capacity and buy-in which are required to move this work forward.
 - There is so much data that is being collected, but no capacity or prioritization to utilize the data.
 - Funding
 - Data governance projects often end up on shelves (like the one started under the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant) as they are grant funded rather than coming from the General Fund. (Funding)
 - The lack of MOUs are a barrier to linking - the actual linking is more straightforward.
 - The Agency of Digital Services (ADS) did not exist during some of the historical efforts, so their requirements/standards now need to be understood and incorporated.
 - Resources:
 - Jay Greene: [State Policy Tool Modules – Aligning Health and Safety \(csgjusticecenter.org\)](#) I recently attended a webinar on this policy tool, I think it could be a good model for this project - similar challenges with system-wide coordination, multi-sector collaboration
 - Jay Greene: The Department of Health has a new strategic plan with a good data equity vision statement/strategy for rollout - [Strategic-Plan-2024-2029.pdf \(healthvermont.gov\)](#)
- [Notes from the meeting on previous, current, and future efforts are documented here.](#) This is an editable document and we welcome additions. We will also be working with the new PDG data analysts to build

out a more comprehensive data catalog, including lessons learned, to inform future alignment, integration, and linking efforts.

Market Rate Survey: Karolyn Long, Director of Operations and Erik Post, Senior Process and Performance Analyst at CDD presented the methodology for the upcoming Market Rate Survey.

- What is the Market Rate Survey? (MRS)
 - Getting ready to compile the CCDF State Plan which outlines how the state administers CCFAP in accordance with federal regulations.
 - Part of the state plan is a Market Rate Survey - could be done with a survey or with administrative data
 - Vermont uses administrative data based on the provider rate agreement which are submitted by each provider - using an early 2023 date rather than a fall 2022 date, given the recent increases to reimbursement rates associated with Act 76.
 - [Using the same format and methodology as last year.](#)
- Moving forward
 - Drafting an RFP for methodology to update the cost of care on an annual basis moving forward. Looking to have the first round of cost analysis done by the next legislative session, will include analysis based on additional increase for Family Child Care Homes.
 - [Using the RAND report for this year](#)
- There was general consensus from the committee that moving away from STARS for payment is more equitable than the previous paradigm.
- Please send additional feedback to Karolyn Long - Karolyn.Long@vermont.gov

Demographic Data Collection:

Seeking participants for a subcommittee to support accurate and authentic demographic data collection

- Already on board: Kheya Ganguly, Tiffany NorthReid

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