



Notes | VECAP Data and Evaluation Committee
December 21, 2023 | 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Agenda/Meeting Minutes :

Thank you to everyone for SVC data and context - Thanks again to all who have supported the BBF data team to gather data and refine the narrative for our upcoming State of Vermont's Children 2023 report. The **annual briefing** will be held on January 18th from 12-1pm. If you would like to join us, [register here](#).

Putting policy recommendations into action

We started by reviewing [BBF's 2024 Policy recommendations specific to data](#).

To work toward those recommendations we reviewed the D&E's rough draft vision specific to reducing inequities and data collection and reporting.

Vision: over the last year of our convening we have heard that generally this group is aiming to work to make sure that data are

- meaningful,
- accessible,
- high-quality, and
- involve impacted individuals and communities
- Completing the data cycle with reporting
- Well funded

Additional details and important elements of this vision were developed in the first frame of this [Jamboard](#).

We hope to find a time over the summer to convene for a full or half day retreat to create an aligned strategic plan that includes more of the important details that arose today. More to come on that.

Desired outcome for this meeting: Walk away from this meeting having identified some specific scopes of work that are items that can be moved forward in the coming year.

This group took time to identify meaningful projects and themes that could be worked on collectively over the next 6-12 months and those ideas can be found in frame two of the [Jamboard](#).

A quick interest inventory was taken about which of these items were most compelling to those in the room. Below you can find the outcome of those votes.

Topic	Prioritization Votes
A. Tool inventory	
B. Standardized demographic question bank	
C. Develop guiding principles (2) Note: This is related to E)	
D. Identify ways to collect and report data on collaboration and integration in order to share more meaningful data	3
E. re: standardized demographic questions - need to think through whose perspectives and experiences are centered, who is helped by standardizing. -JG	5
F. Child Care Financial Assistance Program application asks for someone's primary language, but we only allow for English, Spanish, ASL, French, Chinese, Vietnamese, Bosnian, Somalian...	



G. This group has the opportunity to develop the vision on funding more robustly.	
H. Provide TA for the writing of Executive Summaries. Support to make reports Accessible and accessible	5
I. (cont.) usually hear (e.g., capacity to conduct interviews or go to locations where people gather rather than only sending out survey links)	
J. EC Workforce: Gather ideas about how to increase capacity so that we get input from families/educators/service providers from whom we don't usually	3
K. Use qualitative data when #s need to be suppressed	1

Early Childhood Data Updates - updates and opportunities for collaboration and alignment

- FSD -
 - Making progress with CCWIS -
 - have some money,
 - RFP feds have reviewed and need to review once more - then AHS review, likely to publish in late January
 - Carlie presented to _____ which will be distributed in early January
 - Long term goal to make connections with other VT systems
 - High-end system of care
 - 5 children are being staffed - 2:1 or 3:1 -
 - Staff are burnt out
 - OCYF annual report will include a long section on CCWIS
- CDD
 - Working to get the workforce reports out (CIS, HS, and Child Care)
 - Hired a communications person, hired a PDG data person, hired another data team member
 - Continuing to work on CDDIS improvements
 - Act 76 work
 - CIS
 - ARPA funding is at a close - talking about how to share the difference that was made - what was done and the impact it made
 - Partnering with BBF on sharing Special Accommodation Grant information and potentially reporting Early Intervention Family Survey data
- BBF
 - Releasing the State of Vermont's Children on January 18 with a spotlight on perinatal health and well-being: <https://buildingbrightfutures.org/state-of-vermonts-children/>
 - Act 76 report to the legislature
 - \$1.2 million in VECF grants
 - BBF hired an equity consultant - Creative Discourse Group who could support this committee
- Public Assets
 - State of Working Vermonters will be released in mid-January
 - Who pays Vermont will also be released in mid-January
- Reach-Up



- Submitting annual report to the legislature which will be posted on the public website:
- This year and last year charts and tables are all posted on the website with links to the report with highlights
- Ratable reduction report will be released in mid-March
 - Calculation for Reach Up benefits - took the basic needs plus the housing allowance X .49
 - Feds have not increased the block grant
 - State has only increased the basic needs only twice during the past 25 years, but has never increased the housing allowance
 - <https://dcf.vermont.gov/esd/resources/reports>
- ORE
 - Suggested recommendations for creating Advisory Councils
 - <https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/WorkGroups/SummerGAC/Documents%20and%20Testimony/EDRE%20SGAC%20Recommendations/W~Xusana%20Davis~EDRE%20-%20SGAC%20Recommendations~12-13-2023.pdf>
 - <https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/WorkGroups/SummerGAC/Documents%20and%20Testimony/2023%20ORE%20Recommendations%20for%20State%20Advisory%20Bodies/W~Xusana%20Davis~2023%20ORE%20Recommendations%20for%20State%20Advisory%20Bodies~12-13-2023.pdf>

Many great resources were shared in the chat. Find them below:

<https://www.communitycommons.org/entities/3aec405c-6908-4bae-9230-f33bef9f40e1>

<https://www.statnews.com/2023/11/21/asian-american-health-disparities-obscured/>

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/WorkGroups/SummerGAC/Documents%20and%20Testimony/EDRE%20SGAC%20Recommendations/W~Xusana%20Davis~EDRE%20-%20SGAC%20Recommendations~12-13-2023.pdf>

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/WorkGroups/SummerGAC/Documents%20and%20Testimony/2023%20ORE%20Recommendations%20for%20State%20Advisory%20Bodies/W~Xusana%20Davis~2023%20ORE%20Recommendations%20for%20State%20Advisory%20Bodies~12-13-2023.pdf>

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ei/pages/reald.aspx>

<https://weallcount.com/2022/08/12/the-two-report-strategy/>

<https://vtnarratives4change.my.canva.site/>