

## Social Emotional Health Priority Group Meeting Minutes

Date: June 14, 2021 Time: 11:00 am- 12:00 pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

## I. Discussion – Performance Measures and Strategies

## **Discussion Points**

- Goal resume discussion about potential changes necessary to the measures and strategies that were prioritized during the RBA process. C. Walker from Starting Point gave an overview of several relevant and existing efforts that have a presence in the community currently
  - The Special Needs Child Care program was created over 20 years ago to take a strength-based approach to address the needs of both the parent and the child to prevent preschool suspension and expulsion.
  - The DECA is the only strength-based screening and assessment tool that focuses on 3 areas – initiative, attachment, and self-regulation. Self-regulation is the area of highest need for both parents and children. Parents and caregivers love the tool because it helps in identifying out not only what happened to the child but also how to use the child's strengths in building resilience.
  - The Starting Point model was developed to engage consultants that provide technical assistance and provide classroom visits. UPK programs are required to use the DECA. The majority of other ECE programs have been trained in the DECA, but programs can select from any number of screening and assessment tools for Step Up.
  - The Special Needs Child Care Program also contracts with 8 agencies to provide TA and services. The agencies also all provide trainings that are free, online, and Ohio Approved.
- There are components of both the DECA and ASQ that can be looked at for potential indicators.
- Several ECE programs also use conscious discipline and have attended trainings and master trainings. It does not have a common assessment tool but uses a rubric system to self-check alignment to the philosophy and is used to help a program set goals.
- The timing of this conversation is good –folks are so focused on the impact of the pandemic on children. Children often do not have the words to talk about how they are

5550 Venture Drive; Parma, OH 44130 Phone: (216) 201-2001 1513 Fax: (216) 676-1325 info@earlyageshealthystages.org

	feeling – any support that can be complimentary and provided to caregivers and families is very needed.  • Resources shared:
	<ul> <li>https://www.e-deca2.org/content/edeca2overview.pdf</li> <li>https://agesandstages.com/products-pricing/asqse-2/</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>https://consciousdiscipline.com/methodology/</li> </ul>
Conclusion/	- Constance to send Special Needs Child Care training calendar to Alison.
Actions	- Alison to meet with Starting Point to further discuss best way to maximize the work of this group.

II. General Discussion	
Discussion	SUTQ state budget debrief:
Points	<ul> <li>Childcare is not seen as a value – there is not enough advocacy about the importance of early childhood education.</li> <li>There is a knowledge gap with our elected officials about what high quality is and few have actually experienced the system first hand. The interesting thing is that it the data is looked at, it very clearly demonstrates the impact that a quality experience makes on a child.</li> <li>Programs are frustrated that this is even being considered – it is deepening the divide between care and education and creating a narrative that is ok to have a choice of poor quality childcare.</li> <li>Childcare Funding:         <ul> <li>Ohio is funded at the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest level in the Country for publicly funded childcare and we are currently out of compliance as a state.</li> <li>Coming into compliance would allow programs to make educational decisions instead of business decisions and would increase the number of programs with the capacity and resources to better address the physical and mental health needs of children.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Resources shared         <ul> <li>https://www.votervoice.net/GroundworkOhio/campaigns/85773/respond</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Conclusion/ Actions	EAHS will continue to disseminate Groundwork's advocacy alerts on the issue.

III. Next Meeting		
Discussion Points	• July 26 <sup>th</sup> , 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	

Minutes Prepared by: Alison Patrick