

Social Emotional Health Priority Group Meeting Minutes

Date: July 26, 2021 Time: 11:00 am- 12:00 pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

I. Starting Point Services – Quality Enhancement

Discussion Points

- Starting Point offers social emotional training and technical assistance (TA) primarily through 2 departments.
- Quality Enhancement: professional development and TA offered in partnership with the family childcare department, to all publicly and non-publicly funded childcare.
 - Social emotional topics are integrated into several training courses including: early learning development standards; social emotional field guide; infant/toddler best practices; CDA training; and zero to 3 competencies. Most are offered virtually.
 - TA that is offered: Step Up to Quality requires comprehensive curriculum/screenings/assessments across various levels depending on the star rating to align to social emotional health. Most programs are using Ages and Stages Questionnaire as their screening tool. Many things are embedded into everyday practices that already support the social emotional standards.
- Questions:
 - Is there a snapshot of the reach of each training? Does the data exist to look at change over time and scope and scale of the work?
 - We know the # of programs receiving TA and the # of people attending training. It is otherwise much harder to assess the impact on the children attending programs we cannot capture the whole picture because the programs are not required to enter data.
 - o Is there a way to measure the impact of family engagement activities on the family/child because of it? Do you keep track of the kinds of activities that programs do and the different ways that families are engaged?
 - That data is not currently tracked. SP provides the TA to programs about types of activities and provides tools and resources to support the development of the engagement. Programs then develop and implement the strategies. It would be difficult to capture this type of data.

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Conclusion/ Actions

- Working group strategies seem duplicative now that there is an awareness of the professional development offered.
- There still seems to be a gap in the data. Group should explore the capacity and opportunity to survey a small sample of programs to see what is being implemented and if programs are documenting the impact on the child.

II. Starting Point Services – Special Needs Childcare

Discussion Points

- Developed as a prevention focused effort in response to preschool suspension and expulsion. SP serves as the area systems coordinator over 8 agencies to provide services that work to prevent anything that may prevent a child from being included in the childcare setting.
- Services are open to anyone in Cuyahoga County. If a child is served by one agency but requires additional services, the agencies will get the children what they need the burden is not placed on the parents or family caregiver to find additional services.
- Face to face consultation is provided to help the teacher in any way possible to ensure the child thrives in the childcare setting.
- Dad and dad figures have started to be included more in the services provided and are going into classroom to read and take about their careers.
- Resources that are provided: training calendar with a wide variety of social emotional focused trainings available free of charge; lending library; wired to move.
- Ouestions:
 - o Are there other places provided professional development besides Starting Point?
 - Other entities do offer social emotional training but it usually has a cost and is not part of a comprehensive program that offers technical assistance.
 - o How do we best fill gaps and best meet the needs of the community?
 - Discussion: Data may exist but is not accessible; some programs provide services in house and the data would not be captured in what Starting Point collects; a central database was a part of the Race to Top plan but the funding did not work out in the end; We need to figure out a simple way to gather some meaningful data to show we are making positive change this matters here is what is better for children as a result need to validate it in a way that someone cannot argue with.

Conclusion/ Actions

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- There still seems to be a gap in the data. Group should explore the capacity and opportunity to survey a small sample of programs to see what is being implemented and if programs are documenting the impact on the child.

III. Next Steps		
Discussion Points	 Group will digest all of the info received today. Group has a decision to make: go through prioritization exercise again with other strategies and measures; start RBA process over; conduct small sample survey of programs before making a decision. 	
Conclusion/ Actions	Alison to send email to group to vote on next steps.	

V. Next Meeting		
Discussion Points	• September 6 th – Alison will follow up with group about changing due to Labor Day holiday.	

Minutes Prepared by: Alison Patrick