

All In For Kansas Kids



Early Childhood Recommendations Panel

MEETING SEPTEMBER 15, 2023



WELCOME

Thank you for serving Kansas children, their families, and our state's early childhood care and education professionals!

This is a remote meeting.

- Today's meeting materials are posted on the [Panel Meetings webpage](#) on the Children's Cabinet site.
- Panel members will clearly identify themselves when they begin speaking.
- Panel members can use the "raise hand" feature to show they are ready to share.



TODAY'S AGENDA

- Welcome
- Approval of September agenda
- Approval of August meeting minutes
- Kansans' Open Forum
- KS Early Childhood System Needs Assessment Update
- Kansas Early Learning Standards Revision Updates
- AIFKK Tactic Work Group Reports
- Bright Spots & Upcoming Meetings
- Adjourn



ACTION ITEMS

Panel members - please clearly identify yourself when you begin speaking to make and second a motion.

- Approval of September agenda
- Approval of August minutes



KANSANS' OPEN FORUM

Kansans are encouraged to submit comments through the [Kansans' Open Forum Comment](#) Form by 5:00 p.m. the day preceding each meeting to share written comments or to sign up to share verbal comments with the Panel during this portion of the meeting.



All In For Kansas Kids



2023 Needs Assessment

CHRIS TILDEN, KU-CPPR



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Supported by the 2023 PDG Birth to Five planning grant
- Builds on 2019 Needs Assessment and annual updates
- Will inform development of new early childhood system strategic plan

Background



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Data from array of recently-produced evaluations and needs assessments
- Perspectives from individuals/organizations impacted by system
 - Developmental health survey/engagement sessions
 - KCCTO Career Pathway engagement sessions
 - “Key informant interviews” with closed child care operators
 - Early Childhood Transition Task Force Tour
 - Our Tomorrows
- Synthesis of quantitative and qualitative findings

Approach



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Framed by principal goals of All in for Kansas Kids Strategic Plan

- Coordination/Collaboration: state, local, private sector
- Family knowledge and choice
- Workforce
- Quality and Environments
- Capacity and Access

Framing



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Guided by key findings of previous needs assessments

- There are financial and geographical disparities in access and availability of ECCE services
- Families are struggling with access to affordable child care
- The early childhood workforce is stressed due to a broken business model where families cannot afford care and providers cannot afford to pay adequate wages, and in some cases keep the doors open.

Framing



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Is there enhanced coordination (state, local, private partners)?

- The State Directors Team and ECCE governance groups have collaborated on numerous initiatives (1-800 Children, Data Trust, CommonApp, Career Pathway, Workforce Registry, etc.)
- Local collaboratives like Local Interagency Coordinating Councils are growing and building relationships
- Private partners like Child Care Aware of Kansas and the Kansas Children's Service League and agencies like Dept. of Commerce are collaborating with ECCE governance to advance the field

Coordination



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Is there enhanced coordination?

- While coordination has improved, inefficiencies in the coordinated multi-agency model place Kansas next to last among states in efficiency and effectiveness of early childhood system (Bipartisan Policy Center, 2023)
- Gov. Kelly's Executive Order 23-01 established a task force to recommend a new governance system/approach

Coordination



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Do families have better information and choice?

- Significant increase in utilization of 1-800-Children
- Success with pilot projects like Bridges (KDHE), now integrated into KDHE Maternal and Child Health (MCH) programming in four communities
- Large increases in developmental screening through ASQ statewide enterprise

**Information &
Choice**



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Do families have better information and choice?

- There are disparities in access to information and services (rural/urban, low-income communities)
- Parental frustration about limited information
- Low utilization rates of benefit programs like TANF and SNAP in the state
- Racial/ethnic disparities in worksite conditions such as access to subsidized child care, onsite childcare, infant-at-work support, family resources (Ringerling, 2023)

**Information &
Choice**



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Is the ECCE system supporting a trained, well-compensated, and resilient workforce?

- The number of child care workers in licensed facilities grew between 2022 and 2023, surpassing pre-pandemic numbers
- Overall, providers felt good overall about their career, social and emotional health, and financial stability (KCCTO workforce survey)
- Significant progress made on Career Pathway and Workforce Registry

Workforce



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Is the ECCE system supporting a trained, well-compensated, and resilient workforce?

- Approximately one-third (32.4%) of providers say they do not have enough money to buy the things they need (KCCTO workforce survey)
- Many ECCE programs report staffing challenges (example: approximately half of MCH felt their programs were not adequately staffed (Interim MCH Program Needs Assessment))
- *“It’s hard to recruit teachers on what child care pays, especially after the stress of the pandemic. We’re fully aware that you can go to Target and make more money than what you make as an early childhood provider.”*

Workforce



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Do Kansas children have access to quality services in appropriate learning environments?

- Over \$8.5 million in PDG funds have been invested in local efforts to train workforce, equip facilities, and ensure high quality services for children and families
- Links to Quality (L2Q) has developed an ECCE Standard of Quality and provides diverse resources to support efforts for providers to build skills, resources, and connections

**Quality &
Environments**



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Do Kansas children have access to quality services in appropriate learning environments?

- Newly announced Child Care Capacity Accelerator grants funded approximately \$43 million (of \$117 requested) to support capacity-building in the ECCE system
- There is a gap between resources and awareness of these resources; examples: only 39.9% of child care providers are familiar with the KS/MO Core Competencies; only 17.8% of providers were familiar with L2Q (KCCTO workforce survey)

**Quality &
Environments**



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Do Kansas families have access to needed ECCE services for their children?

- Well over 100,000 Kansas children received child care services in facilities supported by stabilization funding (over \$300 million) distributed to providers in the state
- For the first time in five years, in 2023 the number of child care programs in Kansas grew, from 4,064 in 2022 to 4,144 in 2023 (Child Care Aware 2023 Supply Demand Report)

Capacity & Access



2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Do Kansas families have access to needed ECCE services for their children?

- The number of licensed child care homes (facilities caring for a maximum of 10 children) has seen a consistent decline from a high of 2,419 licensed homes in 2019 to 1,904 in 2023
- Demand exceeds capacity in all Kansas counties
- Child care costs in Kansas exceed all other household expenses, and use about 14% of the median couple's income and 45% of the median single parent's income (based on one infant in center-based care)

Resource: Child Care Aware of Kansas 2023 Supply Demand Report

Capacity & Access





Summary

KANSAS' PROGRESS

- Many examples of progress, through efforts of many organizations and individuals.
- Recent accomplishments will be noted in Needs Assessment.
- Work remains, and this Needs Assessment will inform the next ECCE Strategic Plan.



All In For Kansas Kids



- What have we got right so far?
- Are these general findings consistent with your experience and knowledge of system?
- What is missing?





Next Steps

- Additional presentations and discussions (State Directors, next week's All in For Kansas Kids webinar)
- Refinements from feedback and discussion
- Presentation to Children's Cabinet for endorsement (December 1)



All In For Kansas Kids



Kansas Early Learning
Standards Revision

KIM KENNEDY (DCF) & NATALIE MCCLANE (KSDE)





Kansas Early Learning Standards Update



All in for Kansas Kids Webinar

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

KELS Revision Core Team	
KSDE	Natalie McClane
Head Start Collaboration Office	Kimberly Kennedy
Head Start Association	Jennifer Adhima, Heather Schrotberger
Part B	Julie Rand
Part C	Tricia Wagner
Child Care Aware	Michelle Gilbert
Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities	Jennifer Francois
Kansas Children's Cabinet	Amy Meek
Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS)	Misty Goosen
Kansas State University	Jennifer Pishny
KUCPPR	Jenny Memmot
KUCPPR	Clayton Jarrard
KUCPPR	Julia Gruss

KELS Revision Core Team





Rather than relying on simplifications of standards for older children, the content and desired outcomes of effective early learning standards are based on research about the processes, sequences, and long-term consequences of early learning and development.

-NAEYC & NAECS/SDE Position Statement

Content Area Meetings	
August	Approaches to Learning
September	Physical Health and Development
October	Social Emotional Development
November	Communication and Literacy Skill Development
December	Mathematical Knowledge
January	Science
February	Social Studies
March	Creative Arts



Approaches to Learning



A. Persistence & Engagement in Learning

1. Engagement and Attention
2. Persistence

B. Initiative

1. Curiosity and Initiative
2. Sense of Competence

C. Creativity

1. Problem Solving
2. Creativity and Flexibility



Physical Health and Development



- A. Gross Motor Skills
- B. Fine Motor Skills
- C. Physical Fitness
- D. Nutrition & Healthy Eating
- E. Self-Care
- F. Safety



Social Emotional Development



A. Character Development

1. Foundations of Character Development

- a. Develop understanding of right and wrong.
- b. Foster caring attachments between fellow children, staff, and the community
- c. Demonstrate mutual respect and utilize strategies to build a safe and productive culture.
- d. Demonstrate actions and facilitate experiences that promote empathy, positive interactions and respectful relationships.

B. Responsible Decision Making & Problem Solving

1. Begin to develop the skills necessary to recognize and acknowledge the feelings and needs of others and how positive choices contribute to a safe community.
2. Demonstrates awareness of personal time and responsibilities within predictable routines.
3. Develop, implement and model effective problem-solving skills.

C. Personal Development

1. Self-Awareness

- a. Expresses and develops an understanding of thoughts and emotions of self and others.
- b. Develops and communicates a sense of self and positive identity.

2. Self-Management

- a. Understand and practice strategies for managing emotions and behaviors.
- b. Reflect on perspectives and emotional responses.
- c. Set, monitor, adapt and evaluate goals to achieve success in social settings.

D. Social Development

1. Social Awareness

- a. Demonstrate awareness of the thoughts, feelings and perspectives of others
- b. Expresses comfort and joy in human diversity and develops accurate language for differences.

2. Interpersonal Skills

- a. Demonstrate communication and social skills to interact effectively.
- b. Develop and maintain positive relationships.
- c. Demonstrate an ability to prevent, manage and resolve interpersonal conflicts.

3. Community and Citizenship



Communication and Literacy Skill Development



A. Speaking and Listening

1. Conversation and Comprehension
2. Expressive Language

B. Language

1. Conventions of Standard Language
2. Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

C. Literature

1. Identifying and finding meaning, details and ideas from literature.
2. Structure and Format
3. Integration of Knowledge and Ideas
4. Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

D. Foundational Skills

1. Print Concepts
2. Phonological Awareness
3. Fluency

E. Writing



Mathematical Knowledge



A. Counting and Cardinality

1. Know number names and counting sequence
2. Count to identify the number of objects
3. Compare Numbers

B. Operations and Algebraic Thinking

1. Understand addition as putting together and subtraction as taking from.

C. Measurement and Data

1. Describe and compare measurable attributes
2. Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category

D. Geometry

1. Identify and describe shapes
2. Analyze, compare, create, and compose shapes



Science



- A. Scientific Inquiry
- B. Movement and Simple Machines
- C. Living Things
- D. Environment and Climate
- E. Habitats and Human Impact



Social Studies



- N/A
- This content area has been incorporated into other areas.



Creative Arts



- A. Dance
- B. Music
- C. Dramatic Play
- D. Visual Arts



Moving forward

- Presentation and Engagement to Groups
 - Recommendations Panel (September)
 - Head Start APM Group (September)
 - KSDE Annual Conference (October)
 - State Interagency Coordinating Council (October)
- Public Comment Period on KSDE's Website (October)
- Presentation and Approval of KSDE Board of Education (October/November)
- Presentation and Approval of the Kansas Children's Cabinet (December)



The Work Continues!

- Current draft with the KSDE Graphics & Communications Team
- Dissemination of final document
- Website and Resources to Accompany the Standards
- Training





Questions/Comments?



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AIFKK TACTIC WORK GROUPS

- **Tactic 6.1.5:** Document and address recruitment and retention challenges (includes all early childhood care and education professionals).
- **Strategy 4.2:** Promote family-friendly workplaces throughout the public and private sectors.
- **Tactic 6.1.1:** Develop recommendations to increase compensation and benefits for early childhood care and education professionals.
- **Tactic 7.1.2:** Study local zoning and homeowner associations across the state to identify laws that adversely affect the ability to operate a child care business in residential and commercial spaces.

Reports



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND BRIGHT SPOTS

****Bright Spots – Panel members are invited to share****

Reminder: 2023-2024 Agenda Items

- [Agenda/Resource form](#) available on Panel SharePoint Hub

Upcoming Meetings:

- Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund –October 6, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 - Livestream via [KCCTF YouTube](#)
- Early Childhood Recommendations Panel – October 20, 9:00 a.m.





Adjourn





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