

**Notes for NC Early Childhood Data Advisory Council Meeting
May 27, 2021, 11:30am-1:30pm, Zoom**

Next Steps for Data Development

Regarding families paying 10 percent or less of their income on childcare...

- Michelle Ries asked will the 10 percent be per child or total? Is there any need to differentiate families based on the number of children?
 - Becki shared that this is a national measure and does not recall any differentiation based on number of children – will follow up with Early Childhood Action Plan source (Childcare Aware America)

Opportunities and barriers with moving forward with the two measures:

- Clara: Census data is good for calculating indices based on poverty measures, but is difficult to get contemporaneous measures so there will be some time lag which could be a challenge if we are estimating eligibility in the current year.

Who needs/wants to be involved in the workgroup?

- Rich: engaging people from North Carolina Child Care Resources & Referral Council
- Vicki offered to join the workgroup
- Clara: Carolina Demography would be a good resource
- Amy Hawn Nelson offered to join the workgroup/provide input on collecting race/ethnicity data
- Mary will send out an email asking the larger group for feedback
- Hayley will find out who would be the best contact from DHHS
- Ronny Bell at ECU does work in capturing data (and working on data collection barriers) specifically regarding Native populations
- Kristi offered to be a part of the group

COVID-19 and NC's Early Childhood Data

Discussion during Dr. Lanier's presentation:

- KC shared in the chat: couple of areas where NC DPI has seen significant impacts by COVID/remote learning has been economically disadvantaged and discipline data (including down to pre-k level). When kids are learning remotely, no one is writing them up for not being at the dinner table. There is significant impact in the discipline data and this was one of the data points early childhood was looking at.
- Getting data from the parents on economically disadvantaged is missing (e.g. there is no paperwork going home, no one in the office working on the paperwork).
- DPI does have SNAP data but would be missing any children that have filled out applications or are categorically eligible.
- Hayley shared that this is being used as a tool to strategize going forward with the Early Childhood Action Plan and the Early Childhood department's work as they move from one phase of the pandemic to another
- Paul shared that it is important to update the data if other sectors are using it; would be helpful to expand what Paul's team has done

- Amy is worried about using metrics in ways that are problematic; there is a role for groups like this to give guidance and go beyond early childhood (e.g. K-12 or post-secondary); also worried about the use of data longitudinally in the future (data quality issues)
- Data quality campaign report on SLDS (**need link**)
- Jackie said Labor Market Information Division one of their practices is to publish outcomes on workforce and training programs; bring in subject matter experts to review before publishing

Do you think it's a good next step for the ECDAC to take a look at (continue exploring) NC's early childhood data during COVID-19, potentially building off this work with the NC Early Childhood Action Plan measures?

- Yes! (all but one response)
- Rich: I think it is a great idea if we can stay in our lanes and each of us can comment on data we are familiar with.
- Paul: Agreed Rich, [here is a link to the site again](#), if you click on the COVID-19 box, there are links to 10 individual reports

Black Parent Voices Report Findings

During Dr. Iruka's presentation:

- Jackie: How would you suggest a researcher build in focus groups, gathering other information, who you are talking to and how so that the grantor see it as important?
 - Pre, post, parallel focus groups; have the data lead you, what is the narrative? The more you can understand the context of the data, the more equitable the narrative will be
- Rich: Can you comment on how you use qualitative methods when developing surveys to make sure the language and position of the surveys in free of biased language?
 - Bring a larger group together, meet before the questions are even identified; have a conversation with the questions in mind; have an open discussion; invite people from different linguistic background, races, diversity of people and places; there's no such thing as a perfect question; do your due diligence ahead of time

Next Steps

- Next meeting will be September 15, 2021 @11:30am
- Poll:
 - Would you prefer to meet virtually or in person for our next meeting?
 - 60% Virtually, 40% In Person, 10 respondents
 - Will likely do Zoom, but may check with more people
 - Was attending this meeting a good use of your time?
 - 56% Strongly Agree, 44% Agree, 9 respondents