

***School Readiness Indicators Initiative:
Making Progress for Young Children***

***Residency Roundtable –
Indicators of Social and Emotional Development of Young Children***

***Omni Berkshire Place Hotel
New York City
April 10th and 11th, 2002***

Participating States:

Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maine, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin

Purpose:

This meeting is the first in a series of small work sessions to help states make accelerated progress in selecting and/or developing school readiness indicators in priority areas. Participants include state agency data and policy staff from Early Intervention, Early Childhood, Education, Health, Mental Health, Human Services and Governor's Offices as well as state school readiness team members from child policy organizations, universities, and Head Start. The roundtable will focus on indicators related to the healthy social and emotional development of children from birth to age eight. Indicators will reflect state investments in programs and policies for young children and families as well as child outcomes. Participants will receive background materials prior to the meeting in order to inform the discussion.

Meeting Objectives:

- To identify the issues that are critical to the healthy social and emotional development of young children, including family environment, community conditions, child characteristics, and service systems for young children and their families.
- To develop a set of school readiness indicators that reflect child outcomes (healthy social and emotional development of infants, toddlers, pre-schoolers and early elementary school children) as well as systems outcomes (state policies and programs that affect the social and emotional development of young children and families).
- To select core indicators to track progress in supporting the healthy social and emotional development of young children from birth to age 8.
- To identify potential data sources for indicators of the healthy social and emotional development of young children.

The School Readiness Indicators Initiative is supported by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, and the Ford Foundation. This 16-state national initiative is managed by Rhode Island KIDS COUNT.

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Final Agenda

Wednesday, April 10th, 2002

8:00 – 9:00 **Continental Breakfast and Registration**

9:00 – 9:30 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

*Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Executive Director, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
Marie Young, Senior Program Manager, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Lisa Klein, Senior Program Officer, The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation*

9:30 – 10:45 **Services and Systems to Support the Healthy Emotional Development of Young Children**

Presenter: Jane Knitzer, Deputy Director, National Center for Children in Poverty

Jane Knitzer will provide an overview of key stages of child development from birth to age eight, present key findings from the research, and outline effective interventions to promote the healthy social and emotional development of young children. State participants will share early childhood mental health strategies that are in place or in development in their states.

10:45 – 11:00 **Break**

11:00 – 12:30 **Mapping the Influences on Young Children’s Social and Emotional Development: The Framework for Indicator Development**

Facilitator: Catherine B. Walsh, Deputy Director, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

Participants will identify the family factors, community conditions, and service systems that influence the healthy social and emotional development of young children from birth to age three, during the preschool years, and from kindergarten through third grade. This map will be used to guide the selection of indicators to track progress in supporting the healthy social and emotional development of children from birth to age 8.

12:30 – 1:30 **Lunch**

1:30 – 3:30 **Indicators of Social and Emotional Development in the States: What Do We Have and What Do We Need?**

Facilitator: Martha Moorehouse, Director, Division of Children and Youth Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Participants will discuss the indicators that are currently in place in their states and the ways the indicators are used to inform policy and planning. Special attention will be paid to including indicators for all children as well as high-risk populations. Critical gaps in knowledge about the family factors, community conditions, service systems, and child outcomes related to healthy social and emotional development will be explored.

3:30 – 3:45 **Break**

3:45 – 5:00

National Indicators of Children’s Social and Emotional Development

Moderator: Ann Segal, Action Strategies

Panelists: Elizabeth Hair, Research Associate, Child Trends

Sharon Vandivere, Senior Research Analyst, Child Trends

Panelists will present an overview of national work on indicators to track family factors, community conditions, service systems and healthy child outcomes related to social and emotional development of young children. The panelists will present information on the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study of Kindergartners and the National Survey of American Families. Participants will discuss the implications for indicator development in the states.

Thursday, April 11, 2002

7:30 – 8:00

Continental Breakfast

8:00 – 10:30

Indicators as a Tool to Improve State Policy and Programs

Facilitator: Martha Zaslow, Senior Scholar, Child Trends

Participants will prioritize indicators needed to measure progress, influence policy change, and maintain state investments in programs for young children and families, with attention to supporting the healthy social and emotional development of young children and families. The goal is to identify a core set of indicators that could be tracked at the state level and in local communities. Potential data sources available in the states will also be identified. Participants will explore barriers to indicator development in this arena and action steps to fill gaps in knowledge.

10:30 – 11:00

Break

11:00 – 12:00

Wrap-Up and Next Steps

Catherine B. Walsh, Deputy Director, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

Participants will work to identify next steps in their own states and collectively to improve data capacity to effectively communicate about the family factors, community conditions, service systems, and child outcomes that reflect healthy social and emotional development in children from birth to age 8. Next steps to fill gaps in knowledge will be explored.

Noon

Adjourn