

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

***Residency Roundtable:
Birth to Three Indicators***

***Denver, Colorado
October 8th - 9th, 2003***

Participating States:

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

Purpose:

This meeting is the fourth 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 data and policy staff from state departments including Education, Health, Human Services and Governor's Offices as well as state school readiness team members from child policy organizations, universities, Early Intervention programs, Head Start and Early Head Start. The Roundtable will focus on school readiness indicators for children from birth to age three. The Roundtable will define and select indicators relating to a broad array of child outcomes as well as family and community supports and services.

Meeting Objectives:

- Identify issues that are critical to the development of children from birth to age three, including family environment, community conditions, child characteristics, and service systems for young children and their families.
- Consider a set of school readiness indicators that reflect child outcomes (physical well-being, social and emotional development, language and literacy, and cognitive development of infants and toddlers) as well as systems outcomes (disparities in access to services, state policies and programs that affect young children and families).
- Select priority indicators to track progress in supporting the development of young children from birth to age three.
- Identify potential data sources for indicators of children's school readiness from birth to age three.

*The School Readiness Indicators Initiative is supported by
the David and Lucile Packard Foundation,
the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and the Ford Foundation.
The 17-state initiative is managed by Rhode Island KIDS COUNT.
www.GettingReady.org*

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Agenda

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

- 8:30 – 9:00** **Breakfast and Registration**
- 9:00 – 9:15** **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Bruce Atchison, Vice President of Policy and Programs, Colorado Children's Campaign
Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Executive Director, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
- 9:15 – 10:45** **Developing Policies to Support Young Children and Families**
Joan Lombardi, Child and Family Policy Specialist, The Children's Project
- Ms. Lombardi will discuss the current context of policies affecting young children and families and share insight into policy development and implementation. A group discussion moderated by Ms. Lombardi will follow.
- 10:45 – 11:00** **Break**
- 11:00 – 11:15** **Update on State Early Childhood Policy Technical Assistance Network**
Charlie Bruner, Director, SECPTAN TA Network
- 11:15 – 12:30** **Promising Practices in Indicator Development: The Birth to Three Project**
Theresa Hawley, Zero to Three
- The Birth to Three Project has been selected as an exemplary model of early childhood systems development by both the Casey Foundation's Pathways Mapping Initiative and the National Center for Children in Poverty. Ms. Hawley will present the content of *Goals, Outcomes and Indicators for 0-3 Programs*, a document developed by the Project's Best Program Practices and Outcomes Committee. She will present issues to consider when choosing school readiness indicators for young children and their families.
- 12:30 – 1:45** **Lunch**
- 1:45 – 2:30** **Quality Child Care: Considerations for Infants and Toddlers**
Dianne Stetson, Project Director, National Infant & Toddler Child Care Initiative
- Dianne Stetson is the Project Director for the National Infant & Toddler Child Care Initiative at Zero to Three is a project of the Child Care Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services. It is designed to support State and Territory Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) administrators in their efforts to effect system-wide improvements in infant and toddler child care. Ms. Stetson will discuss the work of the project and its ramifications for choosing indicators for infant and toddler child care.

2:30 – 3:00

Break

3:00 – 4:30

School Readiness Indicators for Children Birth to Age Three

Facilitator: Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Executive Director, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

Participants will identify indicators of children's school readiness from birth to age three. Special attention will be paid to including indicators for all children, including high-risk populations. Critical gaps in knowledge about the family factors, community conditions, service systems, and child outcomes related to this age group will be explored. Information from this session will be used to guide discussion the next day.

5:00 – 6:30

Evening Reception

Thursday, October 9, 2003

8:30 – 9:00

Breakfast

9:00 – 11:30

Indicators as a Tool to Improve State Policies and Programs

Charge to the Group: Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Executive Director and Theresa Hancock, Policy Associate, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

Using the list developed the day before, 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 children from birth to age three and their families. The goal is to identify a priority 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 and action steps to fill gaps in knowledge.

11:30 – 12:00

Break, Check out of Hotel

12:00 – 12:30

Small Group Reports

12:30 – 1:30

Lunch, Wrap-Up and Next Steps

Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Executive Director, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

Participants will work to identify next steps both in their own states and as an initiative to improve data capacity to effectively communicate about the family factors, community conditions, service systems, and child outcomes that reflect the school readiness of children from birth to age three. Next steps to fill gaps in knowledge will be explored.

1:30

Adjourn