

**Early Care and Education
Minutes from Chart Paper
November 20, 2007**

Early Care and Education Issues:

1. Funding for special needs
2. Universal Pre-K
3. Disconnect between Head Start and the childcare industry
4. Engaging Head Start and public education providers (Head Start and MSRP)
5. Lack of funds for quality assurance.
6. Fragmented professional development strategy for educators

Goals:

1. An effective and efficient professional development system (review TEACH project)
2. Define and assure quality of care in all settings
3. Educate parents on what quality care is and how it benefits children

Strategies:

1. Improve coordination/alignment of career/professional development, from those who train and prepare for CDA through Bachelor's Degree. Emphasis on including infant/toddler and special needs population, support/training
 - a. Identify specific tools to assess quality.
 - b. Outreach and support for all settings.
 - Coops
 - Home-based providers
 - Private preschools
 - Head start
 - MSRP
 - Faith-based
 - Kinship
 - Full day center based
 - Care by stay at home parents (Parent Support and Ed. Workgroup?)
2. Training, materials to engage parents with educational opportunities

Objectives:

1. A. Develop a career lattice for Early Care and Education and promote implementation-
 - Year 1-Identify the resources and opportunities currently available
 - Year 2-Identify gaps and potential alignment (potential pilot alignment)
 - Year 3-Implementation of aligned system.
2. A. Distribute quality description/definitions to

- B. Implement a pilot rating system in development with ECIC
1. Develop an incentive strategy to evoke and support a QRS. (year 1)
 2. Expansion of the pilot (year 2 & 3)
 3. Developing communities of practice unique to contextual setting that will promote increased capacity and sustainability. (Year – identify/form capacity building early care and education groups.

Populations:

Young children

Parents

Early Care and Education Providers

Trainers

Children with Special Needs

Co-op early care providers and parents

Relatives/

Stay at home parents

Next Meeting – December 17, 2007, 2:00 – 4:15