

All In For Kansas Kids



Early Childhood Recommendations Panel

MEETING APRIL 16, 2021



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 agenda and March 19, 2021 meeting minutes
- Kansans' Open Forum
- Follow-up from previous meetings
 - Child Care Development Fund State Plan 2022-2024 Update
 - Kindergarten Transitions Toolkit Dissemination Plan
 - Our Tomorrows – Unheard Voices

10:00 – Break (10 minutes)

- 2021-22 Recommendations Panel Application Announcement
- Survey to evaluation Panel collaboration
- Requests for future agenda items, bright spots and upcoming meetings



ACTION ITEMS:

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

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of March 19, 2021 meeting minutes



KANSANS' OPEN FORUM

Kansans may email Debbie Deere (ddeere@ksde.org) by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 15, to share written comments or to sign up to share verbal comments with the Panel during this portion of the meeting.





FOLLOW-UP FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS



FOLLOW-UP FROM MARCH MEETING

- Strategies for Engaging Providers workgroup - discussions regarding an acronym list and a visual early childhood system graphic
- Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition



CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND STATE PLAN 2022-2024 UPDATE

- Six facilitated feedback sessions
- Feedback being used to help inform the recovery and relief funds
 - Assist providers
 - Support the Workforce
 - Build Quality
 - Expand Subsidy

What we're doing



KINDERGARTEN TRANSITIONS TOOLKIT DISSEMINATION PLAN

- Approval from the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund on 4/9
- The Toolkit is available for use and dissemination to the following groups:
 - Early childhood service providers, local and state partners, and all stakeholders for **use** of the Kindergarten Transitions toolkit in their communities.
 - Early childhood stakeholders, to include state partners, organizations, and initiatives, in the Kansas mixed-delivery early childhood system, for the purpose of **disseminating** the toolkit for use throughout Kansas communities.



KINDERGARTEN TRANSITIONS TOOLKIT DISSEMINATION PLAN

- The final toolkit is now available and living on the Children's Cabinet website.
- <https://kschildrenscabinet.org/project/mou-toolkit/>

We need your help! Please reference this toolkit and share out, as needed, to your early childhood partners!



OUR TOMORROWS – UNHEARD VOICES

JENNY FLINDERS

A facilitated discussion for Panel members to create “action plans” to engage Kansans in sharing their stories to the Our Tomorrows story bank.

Follow up actions



OUR TOMORROWS – UNHEARD VOICES

Question 1: Why do you think collecting stories from Kansans is important to our work?

Follow up actions



OUR TOMORROWS – UNHEARD VOICES

Question 2: What are some barriers or challenges in collecting stories from all Kansans?

Follow up actions





BREAK



*The Kansas Early Childhood Recommendations
Panel will return following a ten minute break.*



All In For Kansas Kids



Kansas Quality Network

MICHELLE ALLEN AND JEVAN BREMBY

Kansas Quality Network Discussion

Early Childhood Recommendations Panel

April 16, 2021



KANSAS QUALITY
NETWORK



Introductions

Michelle Allen

QRIS Supports Manager
Department for Children and Families



Jevan Bremby

Research Project Coordinator
KU Center for Public Partnerships &
Research



Background

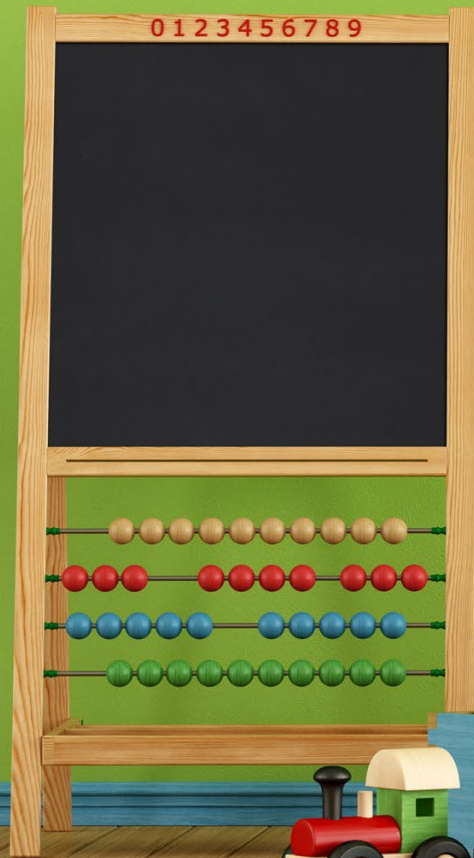
- ❖ Launched early 2017
- ❖ Branding update
- ❖ Clarification of purpose, vision
- ❖ KQN strategic planning



Discussion Overview

- ❖ What is the Kansas Quality Network?
- ❖ What does KQN have to be?
- ❖ What is KQN doing now?
- ❖ What could KQN be moving forward?





What is KQN?



And what does it *have to be*?



Kansas Quality Network

A website that helps families, child care providers, and communities find resources available for the advancement, support, and recognition of continuous quality improvement efforts in child care in Kansas.



Where did KQN come from?

CCDBG Act requires that certain information is made available to **parents, providers**, and the **general public** through a website or other electronic means.

This information must be:

- Accessible
- Consumer friendly
- Available for those who do not speak English
- Available for individuals who have disabilities



What does KQN have to be?

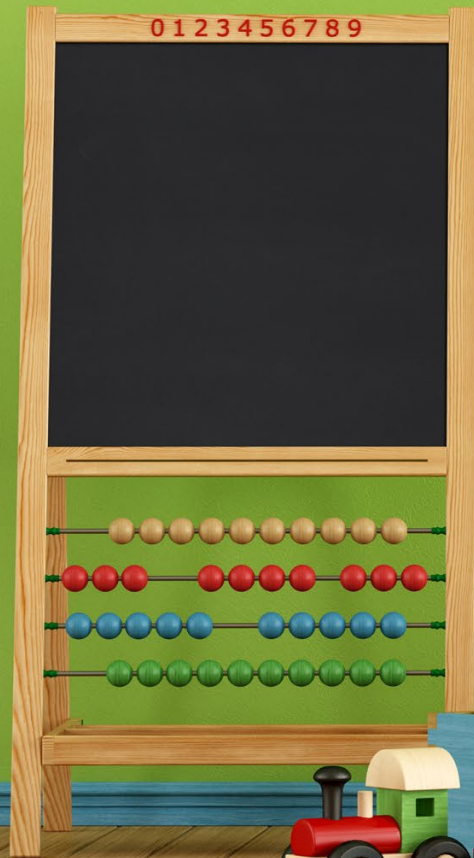


Requirements include:

- Social support information
- Safety information related to child care
- State policies and procedures
- Provider-specific information
- Aggregate annual data
- Child care referrals



What is KQN doing now?



KQN Philosophy & Approach

Provide education, not just a “land o’ links”

- How to become a provider
- How to access subsidy
- Foster care subsidy

Be responsive to and reflective of each audience

- COVID-19 Response



Current Reach & Impact

January 1, 2021 – March 31, 2021 (Q3)

Total users

1998 users

Average monthly users

689 users (Q2, 553)

Top search terms

Head Start, Subsidy, Group Home, TANF



All in for Kansas Kids Alignment

Goal 1: State-Level Collaboration

The early childhood care and education system is structured and aligned for maximum impact.

Goal 2: Community-Level Coordination

Communities are empowered and equipped to create the best environments to raise a child.

Goal 3: Family Knowledge and Choice

Families have what they need to make informed decisions and can get services where they live and work.

Goal 1: State-Level Collaboration

Outcome Statement

The early childhood care and education system is structured and aligned for maximum impact.

Strategy 1.3

Implement an integrated set of tools and practices at the state level that support families and providers with connecting to the right service at the right time.



Goal 2: Community-Level Coordination



Outcome Statement

Communities are empowered and equipped to create the best environments to raise a child.

Strategy 2.1

Build meaningful and inclusive family engagement into community decision-making about programs and services.

Goal 3: Family Knowledge & Choice

Outcome Statement

Families have what they need to make informed decisions and can get services where they live and work.

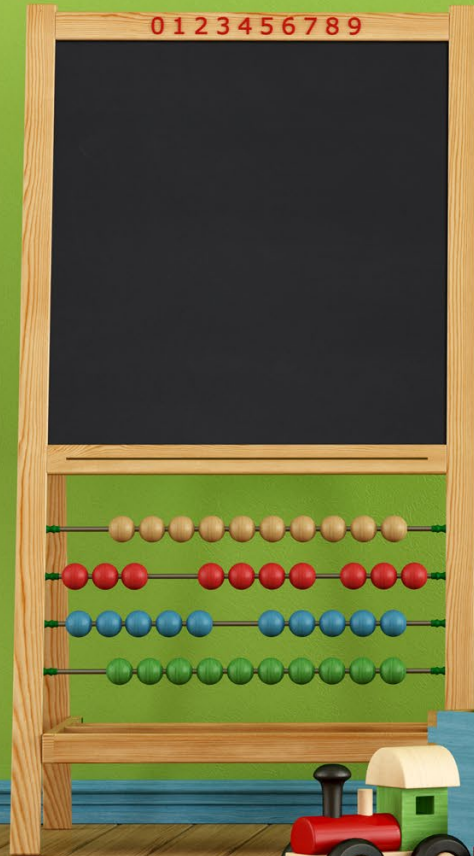
Strategy 3.1

Provide families with tools and information to support their children's interests, healthy development, and learning.

Strategy 3.2

Build a culture throughout the early childhood care and education system that respects and strengthens family voice.





What can KQN be?



Current & Future Opportunities



Current Opportunities

CCDF State Plan Feedback (Section 2: Outreach & Consumer Education)

- Overwhelming amounts and sources of information
- Providers are often the go-to, trusted source for information

Questions

- What other needs are you seeing at the systems-level?
- What has worked to address those needs that KQN could strengthen?
- How might we build upon/reconfigure what KQN is to meet those needs?



Future Opportunities

Considering state and local plans moving forward...

Questions

- What role do you see KQN playing more broadly?
- What future endeavors could KQN strengthen? How?
- Who will need to be involved as we develop KQN further?



Thank you!

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Kansas Department for
Children and Families

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KU Center for Public
Partnerships & Research





2021-22 Recommendations Panel Applications

2021-22 RECOMMENDATIONS PANEL APPLICATIONS

- Applications will be accepted April 10 – May 1, 2021 for the one-year term beginning on July 1, 2021.
 - [Apply on the Children's Cabinet webpage.](#)
- All Kansans are welcome to apply so that the Panel can represent a diversity of perspectives.
- Current Recommendations Panel members are welcome to apply for a second term.
- The Children's Cabinet will consider recommended appointments for approval on June 4, 2021.



SURVEY TO EVALUATE PANEL COLLABORATION

REBECCA GILLAM

*Recommendations Panel members should complete the survey based on the Wilder Collaboration Factors Inventory and the Levels of Collaboration Scale **this month** to establish a beginning/end analysis of collaboration among Panel members.*



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND BRIGHT SPOTS

Requests for future agenda items

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

Upcoming Meetings (all via Zoom):

- Early Childhood Recommendations Panel: Friday, May 21- 9:00-11:30 a.m. (Third Fridays of the month, 9:00-11:30 a.m.)
- Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund meeting – Friday, June 4 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Early Childhood Stakeholders Group meeting – Friday, June 4 – 1:30-3:00 p.m.





Adjournment

