

## Early Childhood Meeting Notes

12.2.22

Hannah White opened the meeting welcoming attendees. She gives a review of the agenda and presenters for today's meeting.

Hannah provided several updates in the early childhood system including the Community Partnership Grant, Child Care Workforce Appreciation Bonus, KPATA New Monthly Training Series, Child Welfare Racial Equity Collaborative.

- **Community Partnership Grant**
  - Initial Child Care Coalition Building Funds: eligible Kansas communities may request up to \$2,000 to support initial child care coalition building activities
  - Child Care Capacity Building Funds: eligible existing Kansas child care coalitions may request up to \$45,000 to implement plans to address access to affordable, high-quality care
  - Funds are awarded on a first come, first served basis until all funds have been awarded
  - Visit Child Care Aware of Kansas to learn more about the application process, eligibility requirements, and available technical assistance. Open through June 2023.
- **Child Care Workforce Appreciation Bonus**
  - Application period for all eligible personnel will close December 10, 2022. If providers have not yet applied they need to do so in order to not miss out on their one time appreciation bonus.
- **KPATA New Monthly Training Series**
  - Monthly training opportunities are FREE to all KPATA members and will include different topics each month.
  - Each month will feature a different topic relevant to early childhood and family issues
    - December 15 – Positive Supports Impact on Family Well-Being
    - January 19 – Oral Health
    - February (TBD) – Racial Equity: A Foundation of Understanding
- **Child Welfare Racial Equity Collaborative**
  - Be sure to watch Debunking Myths Around Racial Inequities in Child Welfare (session recorded January 26, 2022) and Forward Movement: Shifting from Control to Support for Black and Brown Families (session recorded February 23, 2022), recorded sessions from 2022.

- **Cabinet Meeting**
  - ECBG Purpose: To provide early childhood services for Kansas children and families ages birth to kindergarten entry, as well as services for prenatal and family supports
  - Program Requirements intended to provide supplemental funding to fill gaps, programs must show evidence they are investing in other funding sources and community support. Programs that provide direct services to at-risk children aged birth to five
  - Eligible application include 501c(3), county and city governments, and Unified School Districts.
  - Strong Proposals: Plans based on community needs and data aligned with the goals of the strategic plan. A focus on outcomes. Public-private partnerships. A commitment to evidence-based, data-driven practices. Increase the availability of high-quality child care for infants and toddlers experiencing factors that may make them at-risk.
  - Applications due December 16, 2022 (by 5pm)
  
- **Career Pathway Update**
  - Why a Career Pathway?
  - Career pathways play a critical role as Kansas seeks to:
    - Recruit new talent – Kansas needs more child care professionals to support children and families.
    - Retain existing talent – child care professionals are leaving the field
    - Increase quality of programs – All Kansas children deserve to reach their full potential – quality early childhood environments provide the foundation.
  - Career pathways serve as a roadmap for workforce growth and advancement. The Career pathway does not change/replace licensing or employer requirements.
  
- **Overview & Design Principles of the Career Pathway**
  - Equity driven – values both community-based learning and higher education
  - Recognizes experience and leverages existing opportunities
  - Builds from a set of locally-adopted core competencies
  - Provides accessible onramps (multiple entry points) with the option for sequential and/or non-sequential progression. Includes job-embedded coaching and mentoring as foundation supports to support a strong, connected workforce
  
- **Phase 1 Version: What's changed?**
  - Removed Levels 8 & 9 from initial version.
  - Alternate levels end at level 5 (options to be identified)
  - Included a preprofessional level
  - Removed Certificate of Mastery (future design)
  - Integrated existing opportunities (credentials, accreditation)

- The goal is to release the career pathway with core content to increase awareness, engage the workforce, and streamline the system.
- Related Systems Work: Core Competencies, Individualized Planning, Career Guide, Career & Technical Education, Professional Supports & Assistance, Workforce Registry
- **Questions?**
  - [hwhite@ksde.org](mailto:hwhite@ksde.org)

Hannah White wrapped the meeting up with the schedule of upcoming meetings:

- **Biweekly Webinars**
  - December 14, 12:00pm
  - [Register on the Children's Cabinet website](#)
- **Recommendations Panel: December 16 – via Zoom (third Friday of the month from 9:00-11:30 a.m.)**
- **Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund:**
  - December 2, 9am – 12pm / Stakeholders Group 1:30 – 3:00pm
  - All meetings will be held virtually until further notice.