

**Early Education Taskforce Writing Subgroup  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, July 20, 2017  
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Milwaukee County Room**

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In attendance: Danae Davis, Shyla Deacon, Kiley Kurz, Tracey Sparrow, and Yolanda Tynes-Allison

Meeting convened: 2:00 pm

The subgroup defined the scope of age for the children to be served as pre-natal to three (0-3) and to focus geographically on the Promise Zones neighborhoods.

The subgroup agreed upon four priority areas and strategies for recommendations. The decisions made to approach the recommendations are as follows:

- 1) **Parents as Primary Educators** **Champion: Shyla Deacon**
  - a. Pre-natal (early literacy with a focus on oral language development and mapping), brain development, nutrition, sleep, and developmental milestones
  - b. Positive advocacy for your children (community buy-in)
  - c. Best practices already in place: Talk, Read, Sing (Too Small to Fail of Tulsa, OK); CDC developmental milestones; Reach Out and Read; Ready 4K! texting; Vroom (Betty Brinn)
  
- 2) **Policy** **Champions: Larry Miller and Yolanda Tynes-Allison**
  - a. Lower compulsory school age to 4 years old and offer full day 4K
  - b. TANNIF payments with focus on flexible use of resources and DCF grants for continued education
  - c. Subsidize cost for childcare teacher education
  - d. Educate policy makers (e.g. Child Workforce Pipeline, “12% increase by 2020 in child care jobs” – Bureau of Labor Statistics)
  - e. Best practices already in place: MATC Early Childhood Education track; Leading Men Fellowship (Washington D.C. Public Education Fund Program).
  
- 3) **Improving Quality Childcare** **Champions: Dr. Bonaparte and Tracey Sparrow**
  - a. Improve quality practices on brain development, educate child care staff and teachers on quality practices, integrate literacy curriculum, create and/or increase quality childcare standards
  - b. Re-direct resources to beef up already existing early childhood education certification and degrees (see MATC Early Childhood Education track)

- c. Best practices already in place: Frog Street: Sing and Read Literacy Collection; MATC Early Childhood Education track.

4) **Developmental Screening**

**Champion: Tim Coughlin**

- a. Ages and Stages Questionnaire, 3rd Edition (ASQ-3) developmental screening, a MCW and United Way Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program Project, be used as a standard practice among primary health care and child care providers to facilitate improvements in training, efficient processes and referrals, parental engagement, and cross-sector data sharing
- b. The ASQ-3 measures various domains of development (early detection and early intervention leading to better outcomes), engages parents in child's development (informs parents about milestones and developmentally-appropriate activities), overall improved management and outcomes for children in Milwaukee (WI DCF Youngstar provides financial childcare centers for ASQ-3 screening).

**Writing assignments:**

- Draft recommendations should be between 3 – 5 pages
- Parents as Primary Educators will be written by Shyla Deacon
- Policy will be written by Larry Miller and Yolanda Tynes-Allison
- Improving Quality Childcare will be written by Dr. Bonaparte and Tracey Sparrow
- Developmental Screening will be written by Tim Coughlin.

**Timetable:**

The EETF Writing Subgroup will reconvene in late August to review draft recommendations from each champion. These recommendations will go to the Taskforce for September's meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 3:40 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kiley Kurz, MKES Administrative Assistant

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**Meeting Results**

- Review Brainstormed Areas of Quality Early Childhood Care from EETF
- Agree on Categories of Recommendations
- Cull List of Priorities to an Agreed Upon Number of Recommendations
- Assign Writing Tasks Among Subgroup Members
- Agree on Timetable for Completing Draft Recommendations

**Meeting Agenda**

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| <b>1. Welcome and introduce assignment</b>   | <i>Danae Davis</i> | <b>2:00 – 2:10</b> |
| <b>2. Review EETF brainstormed list of quality early childhood care priority areas</b> |                    | <b>2:10 – 2:20</b> |
| <b>3. Discuss best practice strategies within culled priority areas</b>                |                    | <b>2:20 – 3:00</b> |
| <b>4. Discuss and agree on approach for writing draft recommendations</b>              |                    | <b>3:00 – 3:30</b> |
| • Assign writing tasks   |                    |                    |
| <b>5. Discuss and agree on timetable for completing draft recommendations</b>          |                    | <b>3:30 – 3:45</b> |
| • <i>Note: Dates should include subgroup review prior to sharing with EETF</i>         |                    |                    |
| <b>6. Meeting Evaluation and adjourn</b>   |                    | <b>3:45 – 4:00</b> |

**Next EETF meeting: Friday, July 21 from 2:00 – 3:00 pm at City Hall, Room 301-B**