



ECRC Advisory Committee May 29, 2024 Meeting Summary

1. Agenda

- a. ECRC Executive Committee/ Strategic Plan Update
- b. Partner Updates
 - i. Workforce Services
 - ii. ECRC Strengthening Inclusion Symposiums
 - iii. Data Literacy Project
 - iv. Birth to Five
- c. City Updates
 - i. Chicago Early Learning
 - ii. Chicago Public Schools
 - iii. Chicago Department of Public Health
- d. Upcoming Events

2. ECRC Executive Committee/ Strategic Plan Updates:

- a. The committee reviewed the draft strategic framework action plan for ECRC, focusing on defining priorities and actionable steps for enhancing early childhood systems in Chicago.
- b. The strategic framework aims to:
 - i. Clearly define local early childhood priorities.
 - ii. Guide future resource investments.
 - iii. Highlight ECRC's potential impact areas.
 - iv. Provide a flexible, coherent foundation for stakeholders.

3. Partner Updates

a. Workforce Services:

- i. **Trinity Dobby, Supervisor of Family and Support Programs at DFSS**, introduced four program models focusing on job readiness, training, and wraparound services for unemployed or underemployed individuals, justice-involved individuals, and those recently returned to the city.
 - 1. Please review the **ECRC May 29th deck – Workforce Services updates** attached.

b. ECRC Strengthening Inclusion Symposiums:

- i. **Kyrsten Emanuel, Senior Policy Manager at Start Early**, will lead the Chicago Early Childhood Advisory Committee in planning the "Every Child Ready Chicago Strengthening Inclusion Symposium" on December 7th at Malcolm X College, focused on elevating issues impacting young children with disabilities and their families in Chicago.
 - 1. Please review the **ECRC May 29th deck – ECRC Strengthening Inclusion Symposiums** attached.



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c. Data Literacy Project:

- i. **Serah Fanni and Denali Descripta** discussed the development of freely available open access materials to educate providers, policymakers, and advocates on Chicago's early childhood data.
 1. Please review the **ECRC May 29th deck – Data Literacy Project** attached.

d. Birth to Five IL:

- i. **Edna Navarro-Vidaurre, Regional Manager at Birth to Five IL**, shared updates on the action plan based on the 2023 early childhood regional needs assessment, with a community meeting planned for June 17th to launch the action plan.
 1. Please review the **ECRC March 19th deck – Birth to Five** attached.

4. City Updates

a. Chicago Early Learning (CEL)

- i. **Gaddys Ybarra, Education Project Manager at EDYHS – Mayor's Office**, highlighted the Chicago Early Learning portal's role in providing equitable access to quality early learning opportunities and the collaborative efforts with partners like the Mayor's Office, CPS, and the DFSS.

b. Chicago Public Schools (CPS)

- i. **Leslie McKinily, Chief of Early Childhood Education at CPS**, shared updates on the Chicago Public Schools' early childhood programs, including enrollment data and application processes.

c. Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH)

- i. **Madeline Shea, Assistant Commissioner from the CDPH** provided updates on public health initiatives and resources for early childhood providers and families in Chicago.

5. Upcoming Events

- i. ECRC Strengthening Inclusion Symposium on December 7

6. Next ECRC Advisory Committee Meeting:

- a. The next ECRC Advisory Committee meeting date is still TBD.
- b. To review previous meeting agendas and recordings, please visit the [ECRC website](#).

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns at ECRC@cityofchicago.org. Thank you all for your active participation.



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