Minnesota PN-3 Policy Planning Meeting

Summary Actions
September 19, 2018

Meeting Objectives
1. Build relationships & encourage honest dialogue
2. Solidify potential advocacy, policies, and legislation positions for PN-3 Coalition of Coalitions
3. Identify governance wishes and needs to support and/or engage in the PN Coalition of Coalitions in 2019

Opening Circle & Review of Decisions To-Date

Shared Values
• We value every single child
• Listening to families
• Challenge the systems
• Take risks for real solutions that will work

Shared Principles
• We will not recreate what exists.
• Develop or use best practices that combine knowledge of science, the experiences of practitioners and the wisdom of communities.
• Babies have history and memories in their bodies (epigenetics).
• Quality will consider equity of outcomes for the whole family. It will consider who is being served and challenging who we see as experts.
• Quality and affordability for families and providers.
• Focus on racial, economic & geographic equity in strategies, policies and practices.
• Culturally responsive early childhood programs make a difference for children.

Shared Vision
By focusing on children facing racial, geographic, and economic inequities, all children in Minnesota will be born healthy and able to thrive within their families and communities.

PN-3 advocacy, policy, and legislative Opportunities

Advocacy (Communications or Public Will Building)
A decision to focus on building public will to invest in children and families during this time is essential to our success for all early childhood.

Policy (Administrative) & Legislative Positions
These were identified in the following areas:
• Maternal health and wellness
• Infant Health and wellness
• Family health and wellness
• Safe & stable housing
• Diverse Decision Makers
• Flexibility & creativity
Issues for Further Discussion
This list represents issues the planning team wants to review as it develops its advocacy, policy and legislative strategies.

- Treat development in holistic context (health, early learning, family support, early intervention) that embraces whole child, whole family, and community in a cultural context
- Co-creation of policies or advocacy efforts
- Equity = Trust & investment in those who are most impacted (poor, communities of color, thinking outside the box/taking risks related to the status quo in our processes, access & outcomes)
- Child centered [safety issues sometimes force adults to respond specifically to the child]
- Familial access to knowledge and awareness of mental health, toxic stress & historical trauma
- Investing in sustainable business model that supports early childhood programs
- Focus on facilities, infrastructure and workforce

Solidifying PN-3 advocacy, policy, and legislative positions
Participants divided into three groups to further refine position statements or needs based on previous conversations. After the August meeting the following focal areas were identified for consideration.

1. Prenatal Health & Wellness
2. Infant Health & Wellness
3. Family Health & Wellness (whole family responses)
4. Equity & Diverse Decision-Makers
5. Data Sharing & Tracking
6. Safe & Stable Housing
7. Flexibility, Creativity & Innovation

The following priorities emerged during discussions in September and in consequent conversations with planning team members who were not present. These positions adhere to the shared values and principles

Advocacy (Public Will Building &/or Communication Campaign)
Identify advocacy positions we can support to build public will through communications and/or community engagement to improve conditions (and change mindsets) to better position PN-3 as a priority for MN citizens.

1. Communication Campaign or Public Will Building promoting development and experiences
   1. Audience: Legislators, NEW Administration, & Decision-makers
   2. Audience: Parents & Pregnant Woman & Fathers to-be
2. Media (Radio & Print & Social)
3. Legislative Breakfast

Policy (Administrative) Positions
Identify policy (administrative) positions that will positively impact implementation of PN-3 policies that currently exist.

1. Equity & Diverse Decision-Makers
   1. Equity Note on Legislative Proposals
   2. Equity Officer each State Agency
2. Prenatal Health & Wellness
3. Infant Health & Wellness
4. Family Health & Wellness – Whole Families
   1. Flexibility (Address Cliff Effect in MFIP & CCAP & Health Care)
   2. Tracking outcomes
5. Data Sharing & Tracking

Legislative Positions
Identify legislative positions that will positively impact and address PN-3 needs for children and families statewide.

1. Diverse Decision-Makers
   1. Community driven solution (Community Solutions Fund)
   2. Flexibility in how grants address needs
2. Prenatal Health & Wellness
   1. Reduce Maternal Death
3. Infant Health & Wellness
   1. Infant Mortality
   2. Infant & Toddler Care
      1. Specifically FFN (financial & quality)
4. Family Health & Wellness – Whole Families
   1. Home Visiting
   2. Flexibility (Address Cliff Effect in MFIP & CCAP & Health Care)
5. Safe & Stable Housing
6. Data Sharing & Tracking

**How a Coalition of Coalitions Might it Work**
A brief overview of purpose and potential structures to be considered were provided.
   1. An Individual Coalition – using the existing fiscal host (West Central Initiative) and staffing (LaCroix-Dalluhn Consulting).
   2. A Group of Coalitions - 2 or 3 existing Coalitions (with current fiscal host) as lead with staffing for shared work.
   3. Create a new Coalition/structure to manage the shared work of the Coalitions.

The planning team did not make any final decisions. Planning team members will receive information after the meeting seeking their input into one of the above structures or identifying a new structure.

**Roles & Responsibilities of the Coalition of Coalitions**
This discussion will be moved to the October meeting.

**Next Steps**
The next meeting is October 26th. We will attempt to finalize a policy and advocacy plan for Coalitions to consider and support. We will host a luncheon on October 26th with Brandy Jones Lawrence of Pritzker Children’s Initiative and other key funders and stakeholders in Minnesota.

Coalitions will be asked to support, or sign onto, the shared policy and advocacy plan for 2019. A meeting in December will be scheduled to finalize plans for moving forward together.