

Every Child Ready Chicago
October 18th 2022, 10-11am

- Introductions
 - Candace Moore is the new Director of Early Learning at the Mayor's Office (began in July)
 - Edna Navarro Vidaurre is the Birth to Five Region Council Manager for Region 1-A (Chicago)
- ECRC began in 2019 and has endured through the COVID-19 crisis, produced a landscape and strategy document, and made collaborative efforts to align with state initiatives and leadership transitions
 - April of this year marked the launch of the joined ECRC/Birth to Five initiative to maximize impact on children and families
- ECRC/Birth to Five meetings are always open to the public, due to the Open Meetings Act
- Review of ECRC vision statement, created by the collective ECRC and wish to reaffirm
- Review of proposed purpose, role, and goal of ECRC/Birth to Five collective
- Where ECRC will be going next:
 - Meeting cadence: monthly executive committee and strategic planning committee meetings; quarterly advisory council meetings
 - Finalize governance structure
 - Create a one-year action agenda that sets priorities to support the field
 - Finalize selection for Family and Action Councils in collab with Birth to Five
- ECRC has been identified as more of an advisory council than working group
- Governance structure intended to be more collaborative instead of hierarchical
- CECIDS (Christina Krasov)
 - Chicago Early Childhood Integrated Data System
 - Cloud based platform, allows for more real time and interactive data sharing and analysis
 - Relevant/transparent data helps justify additional resources to unmet needs
 - Three pronged infrastructure:
 - Public/Private governance
 - Modern technology
 - Connecting data to people and communities
 - Have just released the Alpha version that looks at the entire city
 - Governance structure includes data governors at CPS and DFSS
- Employer Council of Early Childhood: Workforce Partnership
 - Three key strategies of initiative:
 - Create pathways for incumbent workforce to increase degree attainment
 - Advocate for increased compensation

- Both of these previous strategies work to create a pipeline of increasing people in the workforce
- Chicago Early Learning Workforce Scholarship (Sandy De Leon)
 - Aims to support Chicagoans and current early learning workforce to earn credential, degree, licensure, or endorsement to work in Chicago Early Learning programs (birth to pre-k)
 - Each scholar paired with an advisor (who also works in ECE)
 - “Last dollar scholarship”, pays for what other scholarships do not cover
 - Application will open again in January 2023, there is an open period once per year
 - Can be found on Chicago Early Learning website under “scholarship”
 - Recipients must work in a Chicago Early Learning classroom/environment for three years after degree completion
 - Variety of different degrees and pathways this scholarship can support, in response to comprehensiveness of ECE field
 - 2021-22 academic year saw 192 students complete their degree/pathway
 - Biggest year so far!
 - Each degree/certificate/etc has an equivalency to gateways credential levels
 - 95% of CELWS scholars identify as non-white/34 is the most common age
 - Working on mapping data: across 77 community areas, work commitment, and employment results
- Birth to Five is focus on enrollment for the immediate future
 - Selecting members for their council and recruiting for family council
 - Data and lived experiences will be the foundation of work going forward
- Next steps:
 - Next meeting will be in January
 - Provide information for people to sign up for committees (can sign up for more than one)
 - Will provide a space for feedback and submit questions
 - Will be updating the ECRC website
 - Updating distribution list