

Next Steps for Early Education

Presented by:
Indiana Office of Early Childhood and Out of
School Learning



Webinar/Teleconference

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Agenda

1. Momentum from Readiness Process
2. What worked? What didn't?
3. Potential Funding for PreK
4. Utilizing Current Resources
5. Additional Pathway to PTQ for Public Schools
6. We want to stay connected and help!

PRE-K PILOT OVERVIEW

- HEA 1004
- Purpose: Serve low-income 4-year olds in high quality preschools
- Goal: kindergarten readiness
- Longitudinal evaluation
- 5 County pilot

MOMENTUM GAINED

- County Collaboration
 - Local, county-wide responses
- Commitment of Funding
 - Public-private commitments
- Community Outreach Efforts
- Family Engagement / Full Continuum
- Plans for sustaining

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

- What worked about this process locally?
- What did not work as well?
- What are the most critical areas of need within your county?
- What were some of your “ah-ha” moments during the process?

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INCREASING READINESS

What was missing?

- Local Infrastructure
- Coordination with schools (Title 1 and Special Education) and Head Start
- Countywide scope
- Enough capacity to meet the need
- Family Engagement
- Realistic plan and timeline

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE ON MOMEMENTUM

- ➔ Has awareness around current local status of early childhood programs and the need for high quality early education increased among your county?
- ➔ What would assist in building/continuing local momentum?
- ➔ Are there any new partnerships in development based on the recent work?

UTILIZING CURRENT RESOURCES

- Paths to Quality- promote enrollment and level advancement, recognize local achievements, encourage community engagement and help to inform families on the important of high quality learning experiences
- Partner with the local Child Care Resource and Referral Offices
- Utilize the resources available through CCRR, IAEYC, others
- Look at new ways to partner – community, schools, community based programs

POTENTIAL FUNDING FOR PRE-K

- Early Education Matching Grants (EEMG) – Year 2
- Local Schools
 - Title 1: To support low-income children
 - Special Education (Part B, Section 619): To support students with identified needs
- Potential new federal grant: “Preschool Development Grant”
 - Would support low-income children’s enrollment in high quality programs

Common Theme: Funding is linked to **high-quality programs** and to serve **low-income children**.

ADDITIONAL PATHWAY TO PTQ

In Indiana, a high quality program is defined as Level 3 or Level 4 in Paths to QUALITY (PTQ).

- Priority this fall is to roll out pathway for traditional public schools (LEAs)
- Second priority will be to create a pathway for charter schools (also LEAs)
- Third priority will be to create a pathway for non-public, private schools

Bottom line: Goal is to increase capacity of high quality programs to meet the need for families.

BUILDING CAPACITY NOW

1. Continue to convene local partners and expand partners to include at a minimum:
 - Funders (community foundation, united way, local businesses and others)
 - Schools (traditional public, charter, and private schools)
 - Early Childhood Programs (current PTQ and non-PTQ) and Partners (local CCR&R)
 - Special Education (First Steps and Providers)
 - Higher Education
 - Business (Local Chamber and Others)

2. Develop / Revise/ Implement Readiness Plan
 - Increase capacity of high quality programs
 - Connect families in need to high quality programs

QUESTIONS?

- ➔ How can we help you move forward?
- ➔ Please contact us with any questions or if we can assist your readiness efforts within your county!

Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning

Melanie Brizzi, Director

melanie.brizzi@fssa.in.gov or 317.234.3313

Beth Barrett, PreK Program Manager

beth.barrett@fssa.in.gov or 317.234-8882