



**Spark NH Vision:** All New Hampshire children and their families are healthy, learning, and thriving now and in the future.

**Spark NH Mission:** Provide leadership that promotes a comprehensive, coordinated, sustainable early childhood system that achieves positive outcomes for young children and families, investing in a solid future for the Granite State.

**Evaluation Committee Charge** - Work with the evaluation consultant to design and implement an evaluation plan that documents Council processes and outcomes relative to Federal requirements and other mandates and activities.

## **Evaluation Committee Agenda**

September 8, 2017

2:00pm – 4:00pm

Endowment for Health, One Pillsbury Street, Suite 310

### **1. Updates from previous meeting**

- EC met in June and talked by phone in June to discuss the Granite State Poll.
- No substantive updates since then.

### **2. Key updates & requests from other committees/Council**

- No major updates other than new committee plans. There will be some variance in the plans, with different capacities within each group to pursue work of different types.

### **3. SAMHSA Evaluation Requirements: Committee Member Survey & Levels of Collaboration Scale (Karen)**

- Committee discussed key findings from the Committee Member Survey:
  - Areas of concern/questions:
    - Some individuals feel they are not well informed of activities outside of the committee
    - Some concern about diversity of stakeholders needed to do the work, unclear committee goals, and committee structure not helpful. Karen to look to see if there are any patterns to this by committee.
    - Committee members noted that shift in the results related to “creating an effective coordinating structure for early childhood.”
    - Committee members also discussed whether the right questions [i.e., creating an effective coordinating structure] about impact are asked about in the survey and suggested reviewing this for next year’s survey.
  - Areas of positive change:
    - Work of the committee contributing to development of early childhood system: proportion responding “greatly” grew over past years but so did proportion responding “unsure.”
    - Committee members suggested looking deeper at these results for patterns

related to who has responded “unsure.”

- Perceptions of the impact of Spark has improved in certain areas.
- Committee members suggested that committees should go back to basic template for reporting out on meetings to enhance members’ awareness of other committees’ work.

#### 4. Levels of Collaboration Scale

- Committee reviewed history of the scale and use in Spark NH.
- The Spark Council met in August complete the instrument. Laura is following up on remaining folks to complete the emailed out version of the survey.
- Peter also conducts an annual early childhood leadership survey, that will be conducted again in September. Peter agreed to share past years’ results.
- Summary from all data collection needed by Maureen in November: Committee Survey (Karen), LOC Scale (Peter), and Early Childhood Leadership Survey (Peter).

#### 5. Spark NH Committee Draft Goals and Objectives (Peter)

Committee discussed the overall framing of the goals and objectives and the different levels of measures as suggested by Peter:

- **Micro Process Measures.** Track implementation of basic activities: # of agencies collaborating with Spark NH, # of people reached via presentations, website hits, # of presentations made, amount of resources identified, # of resources developed, # opportunities identified.
- **Macro Process Measures.** Track implementation of activities across the initiative: # of activities successfully completed, # of objectives completed, # of goals fully met.
- **Systems Level Measures.** Track changes experienced at the systems level which influence the delivery of services: # of agencies adopting unified data elements into their collection strategies, # of new studies launched among participating agencies, # of equity practices adopted among participating agencies, # of policy solutions adopted addressing equity, # of higher education facilities offering ECE administration courses, # businesses sponsoring professional development opportunities at local centers, # of higher ed facilities incorporating child development concepts in complementary study areas. Also suggested looking at who is using the data platform, and equity, look at # agencies changing practices versus count of practices.
- **Individual Level Measures.** Track behavior, knowledge, or other changes experienced at the individual level: # of people signing a commitment to action, # of people indicating a knowledge change as a result of a presentation, # of people able to clearly define difference between advocacy and education efforts, # of child care staff receiving credentialing as a result of ???, # participating in workforce registry, # staff receiving scholarships as a result of outreach efforts, # staff actually participating, # of (child care) providers adopting new evidence based practices, # of stakeholders reporting frequent use of the Policy Framework in their activities.
- **Population Measures.** Track mission critical changes we want to see at the individual level as a result of ALL our efforts (including efforts of those outside of, but working on similar missions to Spark NH), addresses the “so, what?” question: %

children entering kindergarten ready to learn, % of children with reading and math proficiency at 3rd grade, narrowing gap between different groups of children; % of children free from abuse and neglect (although challenges with this). Could also look at measures drawn from the GSP. Other suggestions included: children in quality child care; children receiving developmental screening; children receiving Part B / 619; expulsion rates for kindergarten.

The group discussed the importance of having indicators that are linked back to the strategic plan, policies for the Framework for Action. Peter will incorporate these and share for next meeting.

## **6. Granite State Poll Results (Peter)**

Committee members discussed at length and identified several important data points:

- Most people think that EC issues are worth pursuing.
- Messages about early childhood are not reaching all audiences.
- Senior citizens are a strong focus in NH.
- Need to make a connection between youth and early childhood.
- Surprise about North Country reactions despite work on this area (though note limited public awareness efforts).
- Still a majority across the spectrum supporting identification / services for children.
- 74% believe ECE has long term impact, but less support for investment.
- Split on children entering kindergarten ready to succeed; look at different ways messages may be split across various data points.

## **7. Requests to other committees/Council**

None.

## **8. Evaluation Committee Meeting schedule**

- Next 10/6 2-4, 11/3 2-4, then move to a bi-monthly schedule starting in January.

## **9. Report to Council: October 26<sup>th</sup> : Karen may also present on the committee member findings**

## **10. Meeting evaluation**

- Welcome newest member, Liz.
- Great to talk about data.