



Director's Report April 26, 2018

Council Configuration

Governor Sununu has offered to re-write the Spark NH Executive Order based on our recommendation to make the organization more effective in meeting our mission. This presents an exciting opportunity for us.

The Spark NH Executive Committee has been considering options and has identified the following goals as we consider the best approach:

1. Create more opportunities for Spark NH to advise key players in the state;
2. Maintain and strengthen committee work;
3. Promote the importance of the early years and make early childhood visible in the state.

With those goals in mind, the Executive committee recommends we re-write the Executive Order to do the following:

1. Keep the current Council membership as is. The Council will continue to oversee and coordinate the work of the different committees and task forces and work to better coordinate early childhood programs and services across health early learning and family support.
2. Create a new influencers group – commissioners, business leaders, law enforcement support leaders -- call it the Spark NH Executive Cabinet (or other name TBD). This group creates an opportunity to bring together people who could make change for young children and families through their power, budgets, etc. This group also would allow us to elevate the importance of early childhood to increase public awareness and strengthen support for young children and families. The group would likely meet two times a year. It would be linked to the Council because members of the Executive Committee would serve on both groups.
3. Increase opportunities for Spark NH to report to important groups we want to influence:
 - NH Legislature
 - Commissioners of State Departments
 - Governor

We will have a facilitated discussion about these changes at the Council meeting on April 26th.