



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.

Spark NH Quality of Early Childhood Programs and Services Committee

Tuesday, December 16, 2014 (and every 3rd Tuesday)

1:00 – 3:00, Delta Dental Building, 2 Delta Drive

Meeting Notes

Committee Charge: Advise lead agencies on issues relative to Federal and State program standards, review/revise as feasible quality standards for early childhood programs, ensure access to and coordination/collaboration among programs.

In Attendance: Amanda Berry, Kristin Booth, Kathleen Gray, Laurie Hart, Debra Nelson, Cathy Pellerin, Patricia Tripp

Chair: Kristin Booth

Note taker: Laurie Hart

1:00 Introductions and Housekeeping

Kristin

- Accept the November meeting summary - Accepted
- Update committee list – list updated

Agenda Items

1:10 Quality Definition Cards

- Report back on first dissemination of Quality Definition cards from Nov/Dec – Kristin reviewed feedback from the group and made suggested changes. The group reviewed. All
- Action plan: Kristin will fix the TBD on the letter. Cards are on the Spark website. Kristin
- Next steps for dissemination - Already distributed – Spark Advisory Council (23); Upcoming – Kindergarten Readiness Indicators Forum (5 sessions – 500/500); FCSS (172+ families); CCRP (at January meeting @ trainings and provider meetings – note: District Office – dissemination must occur after DO approval of the card/letter); ICC (Debra will check with Linda Graham – some already taken); DOE (Debra to SS/HS State Management, Laurie to EC providers); PIC (Michelle Lewis – to PIC staff and PTAN); Family Resource Connection/Family Resource Centers (Kristin to talk to John Harrington); NH Voices (Kristin to check); Project Launch (Amanda – program supervisors developed plan to distribute through home visiting programs); Manchester Community Health Centers (Amanda); WIC (Lisa Richards); Watch Me Grow Friday Agenda (Debra); UNH/Higher Ed (Leslie Couse and Betsy Humphries) All
- Update work plan – (New Hampshire's early childhood plan - developed 11/13) Our committee has four or five activities. Activity #5A: Develop and promote a shared definition of quality. Sub activities 1 through 4 are completed. Group added 5: to implement the plan. Sub activities to support the implementation of the plan are in process. Group reviewed next steps. Debra suggested that we collaborate with Communications and Public Awareness

Committee to further develop public awareness materials (seek Project Spark Dollars). All

- 2:00 Review the updated power point slides developed by Patty to be used as a way of introducing the definition of quality to providers – the group reflected on ways that they might use the slides with their groups in preparation for reviewing the power point. The following questions were generated: As the slides are used, should we get feedback – Are the slides useful? How are the slides being used?? Can they be enhanced to include thought-provoking questions? Kristin
Action plan: Test out the slides and how they are being used and get feedback. Kristin will make suggested changes/revisions on the slides. All
- 2:30 Review work plan and Laura's recommendation – The group reviewed activity 5D. This activity relates to the facilitation of sharing data between agencies. Group members brought examples of MOU's to share. Debra suggested that we continue to gather good, varied examples of MOU's, then the group can develop templates/examples of high quality documents for review. All
Action plan: Collect examples of MOU's over the next few months to share.
- 2:45 Spark NH Advisory Council Recommendations document Debra
Debra pulled some of the strategies (highlighted in yellow) for the group's review.
Follow up discussion at our next meeting.
Action plan: Add to next month's agenda for review and discussion Kristin
- 2:50 211 survey and work – follow up at next meeting. Kristin

Major/Relevant Updates from Other Committees – Patty – Early Head Start/Child Care Partnership grant awarded to Southern NH Services; Debra – Preschool Development Grant not funded. Will be revised and resubmitted. Mary Eric, DOE is fully committed to expanding Title I funds for preschool services. CCRR – Contracts will awarded to one program this round. Debra – Watch for funding opportunities that came out of the White House Summit.

Requests To/From Other Committees/Council

Recommendation from Laura

Next Steps/Action Items

- All
- 2:35 **Program updates from meeting participants** All
QRIS update
DCYF/CDB
- 2:55 **Evaluation** All
What worked well?
What didn't go well?
- 3:00 Meeting adjourns

Next meeting: January 20, 2015