



**Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council (BBF SAC)  
Meeting Minutes  
May 20, 2019**

Present: David Young, Cheryle Wilcox, Amy Johnson, Kim Keiser, Emily Merrill, Auburn Watersong, Nicole Grenier, Reevea Murphy, Janet McLaughlin, Breena Holmes, Stacy Weinberger

On the phone: Kate Rogers, Renee Swain, Chloe Leary

Absent: Sue Ceglowski, Sara Barry, Aly Richards, Katie Watts, Julie Cadwallader Staub,

Community Partners/Guests: Lee Lauber, Eddie Gale

Staff present: Katie Mobbs, Julia Andrews, Amanda Biggs, Beth Truzansky, Liz Hamel, Jay Austin, Darla Senecal, Carolyn Wesley

phone: Ellen Taetzsch, Morgan Crossman, Robin Stromgren, Dora Levinson, Linda Michniewicz

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**1. Welcome, Introductions & Other Business**

Cheryle Wilcox called the meeting to order at 12:10pm

**a. Welcome all in attendance, review agenda**

**b. Consent Agenda**

The board passed the minutes from the March 25, 2019 State Council Meeting. David Young made a motion to accept, with a second by Kim Keiser. All members voted in favor of approving.

**c. Role of SAC in supporting Pre-School Development Grant Birth-Five (PDGB5)**

Reeva Murphy gave the council an update on the PDG grant and BBF's roles within the grant:

- Convene and engage stakeholders including families
- Create needs assessment report
- Enhance Vermont Insights
- Update Vermont's Early Childhood Framework and Action Plan as strategic planning activity

Reeva and members of the PDG planning team had the first quarterly check in with the federal grant manager, she was impressed with where Vermont is in regards to planning, despite the fact that we have not received funding.

**d. FY20 Budget**

This is the same budget that was presented at the March 25<sup>th</sup> SAC meeting, there are not many significant changes from FY19; one personnel change with moving Bennington Coordinator to shared position with Sunrise.

Strategies Represented in the FY20 Budget:

1. Increase funding from diverse sources, private/community foundations.
2. Construct the FY20 Budget to meet the systemic needs of the Early Childhood System
3. Pre-School Development Grant supports ECAP priorities

4. Continue supporting the key programs of BBF:
  - a. 12 Regional Councils
  - b. Vermont Insights
  - c. Early Childhood Action Plan
  - d. Communications
5. Collaborate with partners and funders to sustain programs and personnel

Kim Keiser made a motion to accept the FY20 budget, with a second by Stacy Weinberger. All members voted in favor of approving.

## **2. Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Discussion**

This was a priority area identified by the State Advisory Council for 2019. Designated agencies were represented at the February meeting and in March there were continued small group discussions which led to suggestions of the creation of a small working group or task force to move this forward.

With help from video conferencing technology the Council was able to hear a parent's perspective in regard to a mom trying to navigate the systems and supports available to her in Southeast Vermont.

- a. Questions/Discussion- rich discussion ensued from Council members
- b. Beth presented the Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Task Force Proposal:
  1. Bring together people across disciplines on a state level to identify and affirm vision statements that speak to an integrated system of care.
  2. Identify existing forums that are doing similar alignment work related to ECFMH; identify intersections and opportunities with these groups.
  3. Review positive mental health frameworks in use across Vermont.
  4. Identify policy recommendations to reach this shared vision.

The full document can be found here:

<https://buildingbrightfutures.org/what-we-do/state-advisory-council-sac/>

Council members agree that common language and visual mapping is important. Next steps on this task force are more development work around concept, this will happen in the next couple of weeks with Beth and Cheryle Wilcox.

## **3. SAC 2019 Policy Priority- Early Childhood Workforce**

Janet McLaughlin, Co-Chair of Early Learning & Development Committee gave this presentation and how it ties to priority #3 from the Early Childhood Action Plan; All children and families have access to high quality opportunities that meet their needs. The ELD Committee's key priority for 2018/2019 has been to increase the number of childcare providers and the number of children and families that can be served across the state. In order to do this, strategies include:

1. Address barriers
2. Create a marketing campaign to recruit entrepreneurs into the early childhood field
3. Create a marketing campaign to recruit into workforce
4. Increase compensation and benefits
5. Conduct a demand study to inform what Vermont families need and want for childcare
6. Expand supports for business start-up and expansion

There is currently an implementation team and other projects in place to help complete this work.

#### **4. Early Childhood Action Plan**

The six results have been the focus of BBF's seven Early Childhood Action Plan Committees since 2014 and have driven real and tangible progress for Vermont's young children across sectors. ECAP committees are updating the document to reflect current priorities and strategies we will use to best support Vermont children and families.

Early Childhood stakeholders will gather at the July 23<sup>rd</sup> ECAP Summit to review accomplishments, policy requests and set priorities for the coming year.

#### **5. Adjourn**

2:50pm motion to adjourn by Kim Keiser. All members voted in favor

**Next Meeting- Monday July 22nd | 11-12pm**  
**ECAP Summit 12-4**  
**Vermont State House**