

BBF Professional Preparation and Development Committee

Meeting Notes 7/18/2023

Meeting Attendees: Becky Millard, Deb Norris, Christie Binzen, John Cipora, Beth Truzansky, Lynne Robbins, Adri Taylo-Behrman, Joanne Rouleau, Tammy Bates, Didi Harris, Nicole Sener, Joanna Houston, Kelly Hayes, Rebecca Bishop Ware, Staci Otis, Joanna Vaczy, Amy Wheeler-Sutton, Erin Roche, Paula Nadeau, Julia Wayne, Cheryl Atwood, Rachel Wallace-Brodeur, Didi Harris joined

Meeting Summary:

- Meeting introductions
- Parent Child Center Network Information and Updates (Nicole Sener – Christie Binzen)
 - o Share who they are and what they do and updates and then have a discussion about ways to possibly collaborate with this group (PPD).
 - o 15 centers across 12 Regions serving all families – spread out for continuity of care
 - o Mission – provide collaborative leadership, advocacy, and support to achieve outcomes for VT Youth and Families.
 - o VT Statute in 1988 which codified the 8 core services and peer review process.
 - o PCCs are service hubs – families always welcome to come get support – universal access – supports for vulnerable populations
 - o FY22 PCCs served over 55000 caregivers children and youth!
 - o 8 Core Services described: Home Visits, EC Services, Parent Ed, Playgroups, Parent Support Groups, Concrete Supports, Community Development and Information and Referral.
 - 8 core pre dates SF – rich history of community based development and program offerings and they inform larger concepts that then comes back to feed PC center network offerings... rich cycle.
 - Uses SF Framework and have a two gen approach to mitigate and prevent ACEs.
 - o Part of National Family Support Network – statewide network of family resource centers PCCN is the state member. – adopted the Nat'l standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support – continuity of care, high quality services and continuous quality improvement and assessment process. Each center has a director and one staff certified in the standards and use a self-assessment process.
 - o Use collaboration and local partnerships – childcare/schools, mental/physical health and business sector, shelters and food shelves etc. Many are CIS providers, Active in VT legislature and Child Care referral etc.
 - o Food shelves, diaper banks, Perinatal programs some of the offerings...
 - o Legislative Ask: Increase Base Funding – received \$2 Million increase in base funding award. Will help increase wages/benefits to be competitive in the workforce marketplace
 - o **BBF PCC Collaboration – (1) CEUs for our conference and BBF participation and (2) participation in the calls.**
 - o **PCCN Opportunity – (1) Share Quality Standards insights and potentially training – National Family Standards Network connections. – (2) Supporting Staff recruiting pipelines for PCC**
 - o **Questions/Comments:** *Paula – Are the training opportunities referenced here preapproved thru NL? Becky will look into if they will meet UTC. PD is the root of quality support per Paula. *There

is a lot of alignment per Becky... with these trainings and potential great interest. *Beth and Christie – access to other opportunities for PD and cross pollinate with interconnect with others to collaborate. *Identify training gaps – Nicole. Lynne – Explore CIS PD opportunities further. *Julia – how to align work – bring back CIS institute... offer to collaborate *John – cross pollination events are just remarkable.

- Relevant Links:
 - Scbinzen@vpccn.org and nsener@miltonfamilycenter.org

Next Steps: DETAIL NEXT STEPS IF IDENTIFIED

- Touchpoints in Vermont (Rachel Wallace-Brodeur)
 - VCHIP – Early Relational health – Touchpoint trainings
 - As young children devel their early emotional development become embedded in the architecture of their brain.
 - GOALS: Optimal child development, Healthy functional families, Competent and healthy professionals and Strong communities.
 - APPROACH: a way of providing care by understanding development and supporting relationships. –
 - Systems Theory approach – Extended family and community – Parents, Providers, Caregivers – disruption in one can disrupt another... and disrupt the system, cannot look at one in isolation.
 - Cultural Responsiveness: parenting is a cultural practice and culture shapes and impacts connection so meeting families where they are and support their cultural systems
 - Reflective Practice – self care

 - DEVELOPMENTAL FRAMEWORK, not linear – development includes regression, bursts and pauses. Predictable and can help parents help with the regressions as part of development and relieves parental anxiety by presenting as a normal part of development. – Disorganization in one system can disorganize other. If working on one skill – that may take so much effort – it could cause regression in another. – Disorganizing for the parent as well...relationship can be strained and beliefs and feelings can be affected during a time that can be confusing –

 - Tthis is what we mean by a Touchpoint – key skills children are working on and what themes tend to come out and how to support the parent.

 - RELATIONAL FRAMEWORK: Touchpoint – opportunity for professional to join with parent to form supportive partnership and collaborate.

 - **Touchpoint Tools: Assumptions and Guiding Principles**
Parent and Provider Assumptions: attitudes parents intentionally choose to operate from.
Guiding Principles: Intentional choice of words to use with a family based on values and culture

 - **Paradigm Shift** – Deficit – Positive Model, Linear to Multidimensional development, Prescriptive to Collaborative, Objective to Empathic, Strict Discipline boundaries to Flexible Discipline boundaries.

 - **Touchpoints in Vermont** – established Jan 2022 - Create a shared approach and common language across early childhood sectors to promote well-being for Vermont’s families.

- **Touchpoints Training:** Instructor as facilitator, Interactive exercises and activities, discussions and conversations and reflection on what aspects of their work can be improved by integrating the information from the training. **Content of the training reviewed. Training is followed by Reflective Practice Sessions.**
- **Target Audience, Early Childhood Sector – anyone who works with Children and Families.**
- 33 hours: 22 core hours followed by the reflective hours. Have completed four trainings – 3 Virtual and 1 Hybrid, can customize the 22 hours.
- What's next: Oct 9-Nov 13 next training – link below.
- Questions: Who is taking the training? NE comminty action group, CIS providers, mix of parent advisors, educators and CIS. Hybrid – Family Room staff. Open to anyone...
- Both these presentations relate closely to the Family and Youth Engagement and Responsive Practice Elements of Quality in STARS.- Johanna states, Becky – both of these topics give opportunity to learn about something relevant and new and related to each other and then to continue to talk and reflect more deeply!
- Relevant Links:

DULCE:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2020/WorkGroups/Senate%20Health%20and%20Welfare/Bills/S.7/Written%20Testimony/S.7~Scott%20Johnson~Overview%20of%20DULCE~2-19-2019.pdf>

<https://redcap.link/VTTouchpoints> – training link

michelle.rovnak@med.uvm.edu or Rachel.Wallace-Brodeur@med.uvm.edu for more information

National Brazelton Touchpoints Center Family Page:

<https://www.brazeltontouchpoints.org/programs-services/parents-families/>

Next Steps: DETAIL NEXT STEPS IF IDENTIFIED

- Updates

- Paula - VTAEYC - starting interviews and hiring for SPARQ positions. 18 interviews. Turnout huge! Doner opportunities but need staff to be able to spend it!
- Johanna - Stars Revision has gone live. This year is the pilot year. Paradigm shift – looked at how much you do something in old system... and now how well are you doing something and what are you doing to improve and then take info and devel a plan and goals and send that in and then are you making progress?

Providers are wondering why to participate if families don't get a higher reimbursement rate....so those are conversations ongoing. There is communication happening – targeted emails to programs asking regarding renewal... reactions are mixed. Continuous quality improvement model – if it doesn't feel relevant you can choose not to participate. More engaged in Quality improvement than the old system... and some universal pre K and CIS provider have to have a certain star level. More information on Stars: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/providers/care/STARS>

Information for parents...? Need to develop a new communication strategy for parents.

Will the Stars be listed in CDD website if doing a search? Yes it will be there – not there yet. Directors are stressed out – whole new system and could feel overwhelming and we need patience and grace and support thru the process Joanna Houston – People likely do want to improve quality but just feeling overwhelmed

- BBF Annual priority setting – identify top two priorities and create a map – Capacity and Quality is one of the priority – blog Link to Regional Council Priorities and other BBF news on our blog <https://buildingbrightfutures.org/news/>

State advisory meeting Monday – Act 76 implementation and more SAC Agenda
<https://buildingbrightfutures.org/wp-content/uploads/July-2023-BBF-SAC-Agenda-1.pdf>

Annual meeting to Identify policy recommendations – identify gaps and policy needs.

- First Children’s Finance – Erin Roche – finished a group of trainings. They are not recorded need to be there. More Board related trainings – won’t do summer trainings. Did some videos to help programs figure out how Act 76 affects their business – adding more videos on a variety of topics. Available to provide assistance for flood relief and help with applications for child care and after care programs.
- Adri: Exploring Anti-Bias Education training: <https://northernlightscv.org/trainings/exploring-anti-bias-education-2-copy/>
- Fall Fundamentals – registration opens Aug 1st, 5 sections start dates, Aug, Sept and Oct. Hiring in Northwest and a curriculum manager position – knowledge in instructional design. Job postings on the NL and CCV Website.
- Amy Wheeler-Sutton We have a training coming up for Administrative Assistants around relationship building, deescalation, and conflict-resolution strategies. Feel free to pass along to any programs/schools that might be interested:
<https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=750762&>
- Julia - CIS Orientation sessions – orient around CIS. Developing Safe home visiting and One Plan training – PD newsletter if you’d like to receive email: julia.wayne@partner.vermont.gov
- Info about today's Act 76 training at 1:00 - <https://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd-blog/postponed-act-76-h217-cdd-webinar-rescheduled-july-18>

Future Agenda Items:

1. Amelia come to discuss Prog Dir Credential – possibly in the fall when NL is fully staffed.

Next Meeting: will be in September, new link coming. No meeting in August.

<https://northernlightscv.org/resources/vermonts-ecpd-system/ppd/>