

# Building Bridges Action Plan



**State:** Alabama

**State Team Members:** Mary Blankson, MO, MPH, FAAP & Dawn Ellis, MPH, RN

**Goals:** *(What outcomes do we want to see?)*

1. The project seeks to establish leadership in early brain and child development (EBCD) at the state level in order to develop and implement sustainable connections between health care professionals and the state's early childhood systems.
- 2.

**Project Objectives:** *(What could my state team do to work toward these outcomes? Example: Provide 3 EBCD presentations using the Speaker's Toolkit by December 2013.)*

1. Provide a training session on EBCD to administrators and home visitors on Alabama's MIECHV program - an anticipated 10 administrators and 60 home visitors.
2. Provide a train-the-trainer session on EBCD to the nine nurse child care health consultants (CCHCs) employed by Healthy Child Care Alabama, who will in turn train child care providers on EBCD in 52 of Alabama's 67 counties.
3. Provide 6 additional presentation on EBCD at state-level meetings and conferences of child health and early childhood professionals: Head Start, Pre-K, Church Weekday Education Leadership, and AL-AAP.
4. Convene at least one conference call with the EBCD Leadership Team and representatives from AL-AAP Dept. of Human Resources, Dept. of Children's Affairs and the Alabama Partnership for Children. We hope to schedule ongoing calls after the grant.

**Project Activities:**

1. Schedule training sessions with MIECHV and CCHC staff.
2. Contact program planners for the major professional conferences to request a proposal to present and provide all required information.
3. Work with Alabama Chapter staff to plan and convene the conference call.
4. Review speaker's kit and prepare presentations and materials for target groups.

***Initiatives/Programs:***

*What initiatives/programs would be our best partners? Why these initiatives/programs? What steps would my state team need to take to establish/strengthen these partnerships?*

BUILD Initiative, if applicable: N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Role: \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: \_\_\_\_\_

Child Care and Development Fund Program: Good partner \_\_\_\_\_

Role: Fund health and safety training (including EBCD) through quality enhancement activities \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Meet with new Division Director (in process of hiring) and continue collaboration with Deputy Director \_\_\_\_\_

Child Care Resource and Referral: Good Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Role: They provide training to child care providers throughout the state \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Strengthen by providing information on EBCD \_\_\_\_\_

Early Childhood Advisory Council: Currently in state of flux – has not met for over a year \_\_\_\_\_

Role: Administer ECAC grant funds in Alabama \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Mrs. Ellis sits on ECAC. Provide information on EBCD \_\_\_\_\_

Early Childhood Comprehensive System: Mrs. Ellis is the state’s ECCS Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Role: Convenes and coordinates early childhood initiatives in the state \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Seek more representation from the Alabama Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Head Start: Good partner \_\_\_\_\_

Role: Has pediatrician on Health Advisory Committee; Participated in Infectious Disease Curriculum training \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Do training for Head Start staff on EBCD \_\_\_\_\_

Home Visitation - MIECHV: Good partner \_\_\_\_\_

Role: Provide funding to sub-grantees to provide home visiting services in target counties \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Train administrators and home visitors on EBCD \_\_\_\_\_

National Association for the Education of Young Children Affiliate: Not very active in Alabama \_\_\_\_\_

Role: \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: \_\_\_\_\_

Quality Rating and Improvement System: Just beginning the pilot \_\_\_\_\_

Role: Promoting quality in child care centers \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Continue participation on steering committee \_\_\_\_\_

Race to the Top: N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Role: \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: \_\_\_\_\_

State Education Agency: Very difficult to identify early childhood partners in the state agency \_\_\_\_\_

Role: \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: \_\_\_\_\_

State Public Health Department: Great partner \_\_\_\_\_

Role: ECCS grantee \_\_\_\_\_

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Continue to apply for ECCS funding \_\_\_\_\_

***Timeline:***

*What tasks are feasible to complete . . .*

Right now: Contact conference program planners to schedule presentations \_\_\_\_\_

Within the month: Review speaker's kit and prepare materials for different groups \_\_\_\_\_

Within six months: Complete at least half of proposed training sessions \_\_\_\_\_

One year from now: Complete all training sessions and conference calls \_\_\_\_\_

***Evaluation***

*Evaluation should be determined during the planning phase of any project and should be re-evaluated regularly just like the rest of the action plan. Consider how you want to measure needs, assets, and success. Consider multiple viewpoints.*

**Key activities to evaluate:** 1) Number of training sessions provided, and 2) conference call participation\_\_\_\_\_

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