

Building Bridges Action Plan



State: MINNESOTA

State Team Members: Diane Smith, CPNP (CCHC) and Laurel Wills, MD, FAAP (CCCC)

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. Capacity Building: The project seeks to recruit, mobilize, organize, and support MN-AAP members, (and NAPNAP, MAFP, SNOM=School Nurse Organization of MN) members to join this important EBCD work (in other words, build capacity within our health care provider "ranks"). Target residency program directors and continuity clinic preceptors, in particular, at the University of MN and the Mayo Clinic Pediatrics Residency Programs, as well as community pediatricians.
 - a. See project activity below regarding further education / energizing of these MN-AAP members by bringing at least 5 of them (via grant funds) to the White Earth Brain Development Conference---which will promote regional interdisciplinary networking.
3. Child Care Health Consultants (CCHC)---Diane's role with the RTT/ELC grant to MN---Develop and Sustain this important position/role in state-wide EC system and QRIS, and align with EBCD principles and evidence-base.

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. Disseminate existing knowledge: Use MN-AAP quarterly newsletters and annual meeting to disseminate EBCD information. Use communication / media tools within other health professional organizations to do the same.
 - a. Help Me Grow
 - b. QRIS / Parent Aware
 - c. Healthy Child Care America / Healthy Futures curricula

- d. Bright Futures
- e. Reach Out and Read

2. Work with Race to the Top grant-funded CCHC to develop CCHC regional network, and create/advocate for a sustainability plan (because MN used to have a CCHC position, but lost funding). Use our EC systems state-wide network, to partner with PHNs/LSNs and MN-AAP members in Greater MN to accomplish this.
3. QRIS “QI” / Make QRIS Stronger: Use AAP member EC network to support CCHCs and Child Care Quality Coaches on integrating Health/Mental Health Guidelines into MN’s QRIS “ParentAware” Guidelines and CC center preparations for site visits---See: www.parentawarering.org
4. ECAC: Work with leadership of Governor’s ECAC to secure a seat for a health practitioner (PNP or MD)

Project Activities:

1. Hire / contract with clerical support staff person to organize and support this work (e.g. set up spread sheet for contact lists and email distribution to MNAAP members, etc.)
2. Hire / contract with communications staff person to compose newsletter and media “messaging”, using existing EBCD materials, and MN-specific content.
3. Diane and Laurel---coordinate calendars in order to meet/communicate with key leadership / partners mentioned here: ECAC, ParentAware, MDH/MDE/DHS, CCR&Rs Child Care Aware of Minnesota, Race to the Top, MAFP/NAPNAP/SNOM, etc.
4. Contact organizers for the White Earth Brain Development Conference, Mahnomen, MN, regarding **CME/CEU credits** for doctors and nurses to “incentivize” attendance. Inform our MN-AAP members of grant supported seats at this conference (5 seats funded by our grant).

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: MN’s BUILD project was housed at Ready4K, but when they merged with MN Resources for Child Caring, and the two agencies became “Think Small” (See: www.thinksmall.org), the Project moved to joint coordination between the Office of Early Learning (Director, Karen Cadigan, PhD) and ECAC Chair, Barb Yates (who is also, Director of Think Small)_____

Role: Partner in the “oval” involving EC health and mental health _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Mainly through securing a seat on the ECAC / Meeting with Barb Yates (priority task)

Child Care and Development Fund Program: Children’s First Finance (Exec Dir: Jerry Cutts), and MinneMinds (See www.MinneMinds.com) which is a public-private advocacy partnership to fund high quality (aka: 3-4 star QRIS rated) child care access for all MN young children, Race to the Top grant funds professional development activities and access scholarships for child care and early education _____

Role: MN-AAP recently joined the Coalition of organizations endorsing MinneMinds _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Arrange a presentation to the MinneMinds steering committee on the role of the CCHCs and the MN-AAP in strengthening the health and safety guidelines in QRIS, professional development activities, as well as the child care referral process from health providers in the community _____

Child Care Resource and Referral: Child Care Aware of Minnesota, Child Care WORKS!, Think Small _____

Role: Logical connection point is the CCHC network building _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Meet with Child Care Aware leadership of: Val Peterson and Karen Fogelin, Ann McCully to let them know of this Building Bridges grant and this work, especially our efforts towards, training of child care health consultants and child care providers _____

Early Childhood Advisory Council: Barbara Yates, chair of ECAC (see above) _____

Role: Bring a health provider / practitioner to this table _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Secure a seat on the ECAC, in addition to the one held by an assistant commissioner of our Dept of Health (new member of the ECAC) _____

Early Childhood Comprehensive System: The MECCS has been housed in our MN Dept of Health, but key personnel (Kelly Monson) have moved to the Dept of Ed / Early Learning Division or retired (Penny Hatcher). We are not sure what will be happening to MECCS, but if it continues, it will most likely move (administratively) to the MN Office of Early Learning _____

Role: EC health and mental health advocacy in early learning, child care, and home environments _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: First, get info from former MECCS coordinator about any existing plans. Get in touch / stay in touch with new leadership. _____

Head Start: Strong network and the Commissioner of MN Dept of Education, and Exec Dir of MN Office of Early Learning are both very public about being Head Start graduates, themselves (Commissioner Brenda Casselius, and Karen Cadigan, PhD, respectively) _____

Role: Strengthen Health and Safety issues and firm up messaging about EBCD with the EcoBioDevelopmental Framework, professional development role (e.g. with medication administration and other curriculum areas) _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Connect with Exec Director of MN, Gayle Kelly and her leadership staff. Gayle wrote a letter of support for our medication administration curriculum grant. _____

Home Visitation - MIECHV: Multiple program models in place in different agencies / regions in MN (Nurse-Family Partnership / MN Visiting Nurse Association, HIPPI, etc.). There has been some competitive tension among the programs (funding-based, largely). _____

Role: Similar to the CCHC role---but not yet established, less critical for the NFP, but more important for the non-nurse staffed programs.

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Diane and Laurel will connect with Home Visiting coordinators in MN Dept of Health, Mary Jo Chippendale, RN _____

National Association for the Education of Young Children Affiliate MNAEYC _____

Role: CCHC and liaison between MN-AAP members and NAEYC _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Meet with Sharon Bergen, MN-NAEYC leadership (co-director?) to exchange info and resources

Quality Rating and Improvement System: In MN, called **Parent Aware**, though we would love to adopt the Utah phrase: Quality Recognition and Information System, www.parentawareratings.org _____

Role: CCHCs to work with CC Quality Coaches, using the Caring for our Children guidelines _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Currently, the MN child care licensing and NAEYC guidelines are stronger than the QRIS/ParentAware guidelines, so we will work toward a stronger presence of health/safety/mental health/EBCD; Diane works closely with Kimberly Stone (Quality Coaches hiring/training), Nara Topp (QRIS criteria clarification), Deb Swenson-Klatt (Dept of Human Services QRIS Project Supervision); Laurel available as liaison to MN-AAP _____

Race to the Top: Minnesota's RTT grant funds Diane's CCHC position until December 2014, and during this time, we will work with Karen Cadigan, PhD, Director of MN Office of Early Learning, on building partnerships to envision a sustainability plan for our MN CCHC lead and regional network, after the RTT/CCHC grant cycle expires. RTT also funds the position of Meredith Martinez in MDE---Meredith

is exploring implementation of an online, multilingual, audio version of the ASQ and ASQ-SE, to be available to primary care practices, among others in MN. Janet Olsted is MDH RTT Coordinator _____

Role: CCHCs and liaison to MN-AAP members to help with implementing the ASQ/ASQ-SE _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: Emphasize the importance of integrating health provider voices for pragmatic implementation of the online ASQ/ASQ-SE and ensure incorporation of CCHCs in RtT sustainability plans _____

State Education Agency: Minnesota Dept of Education (MDE) / Early Learning Division; Minnesota Office of Early Learning (inter-agency office commissioned by the Governor’s office, administratively housed within the MDE) _____

Role: MN-AAP input, CCHC _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: We still need to advocate with MDE and particularly, the OEL about inviting and integrating a health provider voice in policy discussions; they are well educated about the impact of toxic stress; MDE Staff Contacts: DebbyKay Peterson, Kelly Monson, Meredith Martinez, Deb Hewitt (core competencies for EC 0-5 teachers), Eileen Nelson (early childhood indicators of progress / assessment for K readiness), Barbara O’Sullivan (project supervisor) _____

State Public Health Department: MN Dept of Health (MDH) administratively houses Diane’s CCHC position, and also supports aspects of Parent Aware QRIS, Asst Commissioner Jeanne Ayers, RN—leads Prenatal-to-Three Planning Committee, Megan Waltz (0-3 focus, coordinates work of Prenatal-to-Three committee): Janet Olsted (MDH RTT coordinator) _____

Role: CCHC (Diane Smith), as well as bringing the “voice” of practicing pediatric provider to the public health officials in this Dept; advocate for EBCD to be a higher priority within the Dept of Health _____

How to establish/strengthen partnership: identify potential partners and coordinate our “messages” to engage MN-AAP members, and exchange info/resources. _____

Additional Resources in the Philanthropy Community: Early Start Funders, Minnesota Initiative Foundations (MIFs, affiliated with the McKnight Foundation): All have EC/EC Mental Health-focused program officers (Nancy Jost, Sara Carlson, Lynn Haglin)

Additional Resources/Potential Partners in the Internal Medicine Community: Internists, Cardiologists, Diabetologists in the “safety net” clinics and hospitals, particular those who are oriented toward Preventative Medicine, and who are active in the Minnesota Medical Association, may be very interested in this work in early childhood systems/pediatrics, and may be able to help us as co-advocates. LW to make contact/engage as time allows.

Timeline:

What tasks are feasible to complete . . .

Right now : Hire support staff, Coordinate schedules and make above-mentioned appts (prioritizing Parent Aware QRIS and CCR&Rs, and next priority will be the ECAC leadership)

Within the month : Generate newsletter article for MN-AAP quarterly newsletter, generate contact spread sheet of EC enthusiasts within the MN-AAP Chapter, Share list (with permission from MN-AAP members) with RTT coordinator of online ASQ/ASQ-SE to exchange pragmatic implementation ideas, Start process of generating CME/CEU credits for nurses and doctors for the White Earth Brain Conference

Within six months : August 2013---5 MN-AAP members (hopefully more) will attend the White Earth Brain Conference, ECAC will designate a seat for a practicing health care provider, CCHCs in Greater MN regions will be in place

One year from now : CCHC network sustainability plan will be underway, Health Practitioner will be on ECAC, Parent Aware will include satisfactory health and safety guidelines, MN-AAP membership will be more aware of the ACEstudy, Help Me Grow, and Parent Aware; UMN and Mayo residency program will incorporate EBCD information into the primary care and/or developmental-behavioral pediatrics rotations and continuity clinic preceptors will be engaged in educating residents about this work.

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: a) **Have we built capacity? Do we have EBCD-oriented MN-AAP pediatricians identified? Have they attended webinar trainings on EBCD, NCE, First 1000 Days? How many MD/NP/RN/LSN attendees were there at the White Earth Brain Conference? What feedback did we get with regard to the inter-disciplinary networking value of these activities?;** b) **Do we have a voice/a seat at the ECAC table?;** c) **Have we been able to improve the Parent Aware guidelines with respect to health/? d) do we have CCHCs hired and trained for the four transformation zones via RTT? how**



T and are they active in implementing these guidelines with CC Quality Coaches?