*All New Haven children, birth through 8 are healthy, safe, thriving in nurturing families*

*and prepared to be successful lifelong learners.*

Priority # 3 Infants and Toddlers

March 11, 2015

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Follow up for last meeting:

* *Janet – report on conversation with Cathy Lenihan at OEC about home visiting programs and the report released in January.*
  + *Updated committee on information from OEC report. Still have questions on most of the data. Will follow up with Cathy Lenihan & Mary Farnham at OEC for answers to our questions.*
  + *Kathy Hagearty suggested added that we should include all programs serving 0-3 that have a home based component.*
  + *The focus of the committee is Infants and Toddlers not just home visiting. We are clear in the description of our committee that we are looking at all matters related to Infants and Toddlers.*
  + *Gail stated that Kim Bohen is going to come to the April meeting to work with us to analyze and secure the goals and strategies for the committee.*
* Update on P2three meeting
  + *Galit Sharma gave an update about P2three network meeting-32 people participated in the meeting. She explained that the structure is strictly a network, not a committee. Just sharing information-sharing difficult cases, working with difficult families. Just networking opportunity. Anyone who works with this age is welcome. Meetings our quarterly and the next is in June. Galit will share a flyer with the committee with the date and agenda of the next meeting.*
  + *There may be opportunities within the P2three network for the identification of advocacy ideas and sharing for future advocacy work. There may be some interest for home visitors who work with the same target population to form sub-groups or interest area groups.*

1. Printed materials index – distribution plan ideas
   1. *How to distribute*
      1. *Students needing community service hours*
         1. *Kathy to check with Meadow street on connecting students to opportunities. Guidance*
      2. *Elders, grandparents*
         1. *So many of the families NHECC member agencies serve are grandparents raising grandchildren.*
      3. *Agency on aging*
         1. *See above*
      4. *Where to distribute*
         1. *Partner with-potential partners up for future discussion*
            1. *Faith based*
            2. *Reading-New Haven Reads*
            3. *Read to grow-Kyn Tolson*
            4. *Office of vital records*

*Is this possible? Can we disseminate some information through the office of vital records?*

1. Infants and Toddlers – How can we best serve them?
   1. *Hard to reach parents-how do we get to them? First priority is those that are not connected to anything*
      1. *Pediatricians*
      2. *Read to grow-works with peds. Invite to committee? Collaborate on some level*
   2. *Where do we put information & what information*
      1. *City buses-ct transit-inside the buses sign-book for a week.*
      2. *Commercial nickelodeon*
      3. *Mcdonalds, Dunkin Donuts*
   3. *Homeless families*
      1. *Home visiting does not miss the homeless families with newborns.*
      2. *In a school system-federal guidelines require counting folks that are doubled up*
      3. *Housing shortage/Housing Authority of New Haven*
         1. *Can we find out those hard to reach folks on the housing waiting list?*
   4. *Kith and Kin Care-informal, unlicensed care-not connected to resources*
      1. *Aok-moms partnership kith and kin care-can they help disseminate information?*
      2. *Christina-How does the relationship with AOK start?*
         1. *Free trainings-*
         2. *Word of mouth*
         3. *Caregivers are asked if they want to get licensed*
         4. *Families can still get all of the information about resources even if they aren’t interested in getting licensed.*
      3. *Trainings* 
         1. *First aid*
         2. *Literacy*
         3. *Materials in English & Spanish*
      4. *Most of the kith and kin providers are offering Infant & toddler care-*
         1. *Target these families*
         2. *Families trust their child care provider for information sharing*
         3. *How do we access*
         4. *Family engagement*
            1. *NHECC has had great success in increasing parent engagement for child care providers in New Haven.*
            2. *NHECC has great opportunity to increase parent engagement at the council level-ensuring that parents are informing, formulating and implementing policies that impact New Haven children and families.*
   5. *Care 4 kids-*
      1. *Is there a way to get information from OEC about families receiving Care4Kids. Can OEC disseminate information to those families? Do they already? If so, what information do they share?*
   6. *Relationship building is key*
      1. *It is important that families receive information from a trusted source. It is not just about giving some information.*
   7. *What materials should we use?*
      1. *Can we come up with something that helps families ask appropriate questions of their provider(s)*
         1. Ask Me 3­ Good Questions for Your Good Health.
            1. In summary: Ask your Doctor, Nurse or Pharmacist:

What is my main problem?

What do I need to do?

Why is it important for me to do this?

Link forPartnership for Clear Health Communication and the National Patient Safety Foundation.

[www.npsf.org/askme3](http://www.npsf.org/askme3)

* + 1. *Resources-what community resources are available?*
    2. *Preschool-process/*
       1. *What is coming out of pre-k committee that we could use?*
* SB 321 -*–*What could this committee’s role be in this project?
  + *We are in contact with Dr. Martha Okafor and have expressed interest in working with the city in this potential pilot program. We will keep in contact with her as this develops. It is dependent on state funding and has been successfully voted out of children’s committee.*
* Suggestion from Jennifer Heath:

If we think about the infants and toddlers in our community who are most vulnerable, I think of those whose families are homeless.  There is a resource from the Administration for Children and Families that is for shelter providers to do a self-assessment to make sure they are providing services that are supportive of young children and their families.  I do not know if our family shelters are already aware of this and doing this work -- they may be -- but it could be useful to find out, and see if there are ways for NHECC to be helpful to them in this assessment and/or to connect them to resources if those are lacking.  That resource is here:  <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ecd/ech_family_shelter_self_assessment_tool_120114_final.pdf>.

Another thought is that there is a large population of young children in the Housing Authority properties, and there are probably a bunch of other families working with other housing providers (Mutual, etc.).  Again, I would characterize many of these families as potentially vulnerable, given their limited income.  This document looks interesting because it pulls in housing providers to help with screenings and referrals for young children -- again, I don't know what folks are already doing, but if they don't see this as their role, it could be interesting to get them involved.  <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ecd/shelter_screening_guide.pdf>  Maybe the Council could reach out to them to see what they do, and to talk with them/give them guidance around how to do screenings?  I know other Council members do screenings, so it might be a matter of making connections (or some other assistance).

Just some thoughts about how to knit together different service providers in the community to work together on early childhood issues.

*We reviewed Jennifer’s suggestions and folks are going to review the links included in the notes in preparation for April 6th meeting with Kim.*

5. April 8th meeting – developing performance measures. Kim Bohen will attend the meeting.