

NHECC Monthly Council Meeting Agenda  
Virtual Meeting – <http://bit.ly/nheccMonthlyMeeting>  
February 3, 2021 – Time: 3:00-4:30 pm

Present: Jennifer Heath, Co-Chair NHECC; Sherri Killins Stewart, Chair Family Partnership; Eliza Halsey, Chair of Access Committee; Wendy Simmons, Chair Quality Committee; Denise Duclos, School Readiness Director and Grant Manager; Sara Fabish, Community Foundation Greater New Haven; Randi McCray, Consultant NHECC; other NHECC Members At Large

Meeting called to order at 3:04 P.M. by Jennifer Heath, Co-Chair

Welcome: J. Heath extended welcome to attendees

Approval Meeting Minutes for January 2020. **Motion to Accept January 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes with the following change** *page one, title ‘Announcements – Open,’ fourth bullet point, second sentence should read “... following: expanding earned income tax ...”*. **Sherri Killins Stewart/MOVED Eliza Halsey/SECONDED Motion Carried.**

School Readiness Updates by D. Duclos

**OEC: FY 2021** – providers will receive full payment for February 2021; has developed a new system reporting, Early Care and Education (ECE) Reporter; Re-Crediting/New provisional The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) has institute changes in accreditation due to COVID. Concerns/recommendations to address funding for providers were raised – this subject continued and was addressed in the Access Committee Report (see below). Nit was determined that the concerns/results would be shared with OEC, the Alliance and School Readiness Liaison. **FY 2022** – same funding as 2021; the application process will be different for new programs vs existing programs.

Supporting New SR App – update from Sheryl Sadinski. The common thread noticed with the three programs are: shared work plan; needing help creating required handbooks with school readiness policies; getting staff documents and uploading accreditation registry.

An overview of data (*see February 2, 2021 and October 2020 reports*) was provided to attendees. The following was discussed: COVID Data: Program On-Site vs Remote, Capacity vs Utilization, Program/Classroom Closure; Families Served-Income Data; October Data Children Served: Race & Ethnicity.

- A discussion ensued on the following: equity issues, cost of care to children and families, and providers resulting in the development of a NHECC Finance Committee. Committee members include: Allyx Schiavone, Tomi Veale, Sarah Fabish, Pamela Augustine, Wendy Simmons, and Eliza Halsey

### Announcements – Open

- W. Simmons – working on Kellogg Application
- A. Schiavone – Friends Center is working on Teacher Housing Initiative for Friends Center Teachers

### Finance Update by Sarah Fabish

Financial update – no changes; however, note the following:

- Audit – United Way Greater New Haven is conducting an audit; estimated that it will be available by next NHECC Meeting
- Committees are working on their respective budgets

### Equity in Early Childhood by S. Killins-Stewart

An update of the January NHECC Meeting; where attendees were asked for feedback on the subject header. The results included the following on “Equity In Action” were “activities are sorted in four areas of discussion: Workforce; Program Support; Council Government; Families.” At the conclusion of the update, resulted in a request to add “housing and equity” as part of the list.

### Committee Updates (information)

**Access Committee, Eliza Halsey Chair** – at the January 27, 2021 meeting the 2020 Goals for 2021 were reviewed for relevance. At the conclusion of the meeting the following was determined to: (1) add new goal “Program Viability and Sustainability”; (2) recommendations (a) NHECC Executive Committee send a letter to OEC and other stakeholders on funding issues (b) NHECC Executive Committee send letter to New Haven Public Schools about timeliness of payments to providers on School Readiness Funding (see below); (3) engage families about possible opportunities and options that currently exist; (4) how to promote/marketing and get support in virtual, and social distance environment.

### Access Committee Recommendation I

**MOTION** requests that the New Haven Early Childhood Council send a letter to OEC, governor, legislature and key stakeholders to propose that school readiness programs are paid in full until all providers are vaccinated and that the cap on the number of children per classrooms are lifted. **Eliza Halsey/MOVED Karen DuBois-Walton/SECONDED.** Discussion ensued **MOTION AMENDED** request that the New Haven Early Childhood Council forward a letter to OEC and other key leaders to which request that state funded early childhood programs are fully funded for the next six months and to resend the policy of month to month decision making, and that the Access Committee and New Haven Early Childhood Council leadership work on outline the other particulars based on the discussion at the February 3, 2021 Council Meeting. **Eliza Halsey/MOVED Sherri Killins Stewart/SECONDED – one abstention Motion Carried.**

### Access Committee Recommendation II

**MOTION** requests that the New Haven Early Childhood Council send a letter to New Haven Public School requesting that the current payment practice be *CHANGED* to a practice of 'timeliness' of payments to the community of providers on School Readiness Funding. **Eliza Halsey/MOVED Sarah Fabish/SECONDED**. Discussion ensued **Motion Carried**.

**Quality Committee**, Wendy Simmons Chair – an electronic update to be sent

**Family Partnership Committee**, Sherri Killins Stewart – robust committee meeting; has information on 'Baby Bond' to raise at next meeting.

NHECC Project Updates (information)

Table – an electronic update to be sent

**MOTION to Adjourn Sherri Killins Stewart MOVED/ Eliza Halsey SECONDED** meeting adjourned at 4:49 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cynthia Watson, Secy Pro-Tem