



## Children’s Working Group Give Every Child a Chance to Succeed

July 17, 2019  
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

**Attendees:** Aimee Neri, Jacqueline Hall, Hannah Holden, Jan Burns, Kaley Donaldson, Sarah Utkin, Lea Passage, Mary Goodwill, Lisa Neff, Rachel Grandits, Amber Slichta, Tieza Jonas, Robyn Wiktorski-Reynolds, Tiffany Malone, Heidi Milch.

**Recap of June Meeting:** Ms. Hall provided a review of the work completed during the June meeting of the Working Group.

**Presentation on Best Beginnings Partnership & LWE Group Connections:** Ms. Passage provided an overview of the work of the Best Beginnings Partnership (formerly the COIIN Initiative) and their connections with the Live Well Erie Children’s Working group member organizations.

**Round Robin Discussion about contributions to the Best Beginnings Partnership:** Ms. Holden led a round-robin discussion of individual member and organization contributions to the work of the Best Beginnings Partnership. The following charts summarizes that information:

Name	Role	Contribution
Catie Gavin	ECDSS	Ongoing monitoring and early intervention
Hsa Wah	Karen Society of Buffalo	Attending COIIN Meetings, open to more
Jennifer Levesque	Jewish Family Services	Partnering to make sure MH services are available to kids 5+
Johanna Caplan	Say Yes Buffalo	Early Childhood initiative, implement ASQ in BPS, Homegrown page

Kaley Donaldson	CCRN	Early Childhood Help Line, assessing challenging behaviors, adding trauma training for education specialists
Kelly Dodd	211 WNY	Bridge/address SDOH needs, create awareness for pediatric offices and child care providers
Broderick Cason	Univera	Reimbursement/payment for services; work with FQHCs & SNAPCAP; guidance on working with health insurers. He will be meeting with Univera CMO soon to talk about the initiative and who in the health plan needs to be involved. Is open to hearing from the other participants about what other needs they have.
Lisa Neff	American Heart Association	Resource library on healthy eating, physical activity, policy advocacy
Mary Ieraci	WNY Women's Foundation	Will speak with ED about what their role can be
Mary Comtois	United Way	Partnering with MOD on screening program, strengthen bond in mother/baby dyad, bring more programming into our community, GoBuffalo and trip chains, transportation is a big issue, housing too. Financial coaching program with Belmont.
Sarah Utkin	Jewish Family Services	Health Homes early intervention, refugees and mental health clinic
Tierney Smith	Boys & Girls Club of the Northtowns	work with 100s of families to improve parent literacy and link to resources, clubhouse available to other providers
Tieza Jonas	Peace of the City	POTC serves children 4+, 4 pillars are trauma informed care, restorative justice, transformation, and education. Long-term relationships are key to achieving goals.
Amber Slichta	Ralph C. Wilson Foundation	Interested in early childhood. Social Emotional learning. They support Help Me Grow. She is in Learning mode and interested to explore how she and the Foundation can be supportive
Jan Burns	ECCPASA	ECCPASA has begun positive parenting program mindful awareness initiative. She will connect with Lea.
Judette Dahleiden	WIC	Collaborate to encourage moms & teach them key points to develop mom/baby relationship

Mary Goodwill	Child care provider	Still exploring how she can contribute, Lea noted that it is helpful for providers to do developmental screenings like ASQ
Rachel Grandits	ITTIC	Working with suburban schools to implement a toolbox to assist kids to regulate behaviors. Also trauma informed trainings and walks. Since the pandemic they've tried to shift to virtual. They are looking to develop more in the K - elementary school space.
Tiffany Malone	Child care provider	Serves with an organization of child care providers, can help with communication with other providers esp re: ASQ.
Heidi Milch	CCRN	They are the organizational home of Help Me Grow WNY. Looking to transition to collective impact systems level console. Two projects in particular - the created of a centralized data and reporting system to a web-based data platform to visualize data from the ASQs. There are opportunities for input and targeting work in certain zip codes. The second project is developing online trainings for ASQ. There will be a user workgroup in late August to determine what additional data and visualizations are needed.

**Racial Equity Tool Introduction:** Ms. Hall presented an overview of the Racial Equity Tool and how it can be used to avoid disadvantaging any traditionally marginalized group as plans for future work are developed. Ms. Neri encouraged committee members to use the tool between now and the next meeting to evaluate efforts that their organizations are already undertaking and any future contributions they intend to make. Mr. Cason expressed skepticism about another tool, and how helpful it will be. He's been hearing similar conversations in other groups, and for a long time. It should be part of everyday practice, not a new tool. It needs to be incorporated into practice by people in authority, its difficult to be successful in the work on your own. Ms. Neri responded that we are committed to incorporating Trauma Informed Care in our work as a group, and we can't be trauma informed without being anti-racist. Both of those practices require behavior change, and it has to be part of everything we do and how we do it. Mr. Cason appreciated the discussion.

**Next Steps/Round Robin Discussion:** Ms. Neri advised the group that the work previously done on the Asset Inventory was waylaid by the advent of COVID 19 and the need to move swiftly to affect our indicators while balancing effort that with long-term work. That work is still valuable and is not lost. We need to rething the asset inventory, and how we use it, to elevate the two foci of the working group's work – the Best Beginnings Partnership and the African American Health Disparities Task Force.

Based on this direction, Ms. Neri asked the Working Group members what they need to feel useful in doing this work going forward. Responses are summarized below:

Name	Role	Need
Kaley Donaldson	CCRN	The next couple of weeks will be interesting to see what will happen in our work. It depends on what happens in the world. She can't identify anything new she needs, as long as we stay engaged and recognize change as it happens.
Sarah Utkin	Jewish Family Services	Open communication. Having each other as supports. Making sure we know about resources and share with the community.
Amber Slichta	Ralph C. Wilson Foundation	She is in listen and learn mode.
Mary Goodwill	Child care provider	Will continue to work with Tiffany on the Child Care Action Team.
Rachel Grandits	ITTIC	To make sure we're receiving emails and staying up to date. Sharing resources, esp with everything so up in the air. Communicate!
Tiffany Malone	Child care provider	The communication has been great. Keeping that going. She appreciates task direction and specific assignments. Clear guidance.
Robyn Wiktorski-Reynolds	Crisis Services	Apply the racial equity lens. She is finding the provider information useful, and hopes we will continue to share.

Lea Passage	Best Beginnings Partnership	Communication between meetings is important. Establishing partnerships and sharing them with the larger group. Sharing challenges that we're seeing. Identify ways we can help support one another.
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**NEXT MEETING:** August 21, 2020 at 9 AM