

ELEMENT FOUR / EARLY CHILDHOOD GROUP

Members present: Nicole White, Kris Miller, Stacy Loudermilk, Deitra Miller, Lee Williams, Tammie Shaw, Rick Phillips, Wendy Bleecker, Nikki Easterling, Barb Giachetti, Ulrike Kaufman

New: Joe Garza

SS/HS Grant Reporting Required Objectives:

Goal: Improve outreach and identification of children birth through age five and provide culturally responsive training to increase family access and engagement to high quality early childhood psychosocial and emotional development services

Objective 1: Increase access of children birth through age five to early childcare and education

Objective 2: Improve parents and caregivers understanding of positive parenting and family management that is culturally responsive

Objective 3: Provide outreach to county pre-schools, childcare providers, and early childhood programs

Agenda Item: Review Element’s Goals and Objectives

Related Grant Objective: All

<b><i>Needs Related to the Grant Goals</i></b> <i>Issues that must be resolved so you can reach program objectives</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify</li> </ul>

<b>Activities</b> <i>Actions, plans, meetings, discussions, etc., that this element or it’s members have had that resulted that resulted in some sort of strategy or plan to address the need</i>	<b>Accomplishments</b> <i>What this element or it’s members did as a result of the activity or what barriers that this element or it’s members had to overcome to use this strategy</i>	<b>Outcomes</b> <i>What happened as a result of the accomplishment or what people do as a result of the accomplishment</i>
Nicole White compiled a summary of Element Group’s successes to date  Nicole White shared the Element Group’s successes with meeting participants	Element group members requested a copy of the summary of Element Group’s	

	<p>successes to date</p> <p>Element Group members shared personal stories of individual or provider successes connected or impacted by SSHS initiative Early Childhood Element</p>	
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Discussion A: Element Group’s Successes

- Have had contact with 25 early childhood centers, including centers from the valley, nine mile falls, riverside and Cheney!
- Have had contact with 9 family childcare homes in the greater Spokane area, including the valley and a family childcare from Wilbur.
- Representatives from Spokane Public Schools preschool programs (Express and developmental preschools) and kindergarten recently attended the DECA training.
- Representatives from Riverside, Deer Park, and Cheney School District preschool programs and some birth to three programs, including Spokane Guilds Schools and Spokane Child Development Center attended the DECA training.
- Overall we have trained 27 public school employees from all but 2 of our target districts in the basic DECA
- We have trained 100 early childhood professionals from the greater Spokane county area on the basic DECA
- Of the 100 we trained on the basic DECA we trained 11 to become Local Program Mentors, which brings our Local Program Mentor total that we are aware of in the greater Spokane area to 24
- 25 people, including preschool psychologists and mental health professionals have been trained in the DECA C

Discussion B: Parent Education Successes

The trainings Barb and Mary did with provider in November distributed the following materials:

- November 2nd Training

23 Attendees  
 Playbooks: 350  
 KidBasics: 60  
 Posters: 40

- November 7th Training

19 Attendees  
 Playbooks: 230  
 KidBasics: 25  
 Posters: 20

Talaris “Parenting Counts”

- SPS licensing process completed

Discussion C: Other Element Members Success Stories

- DECA trained professionals in the community are navigating “systems care” model based
- St. Anne’s Children’s Home recently completed a protocol / process for working with special needs children and consultants – DECA played a major role in developing that

process
<p><b>Action Item:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nicole White will email a copy of her summary of the Element Group’s successes to Element Group members</li> </ul>

**Agenda Item:** Sustainability

**Related Grant Objective:** All

<p><b>Needs Related to the Grant Goals</b>  <i>Issues that must be resolved so you can reach program objectives</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure projects initiated under the Early Childhood element continue once SSHS initiative funding concludes</li> <li>Create a forum to discuss ideas and strategies for project sustainability</li> </ul>

<p><b>Activities</b>  <i>Actions, plans, meetings, discussions, etc., that this element or it’s members have had that resulted that resulted in some sort of strategy or plan to address the need</i></p>	<p><b>Accomplishments</b>  <i>What this element or it’s members did as a result of the activity or what barriers that this element or it’s members had to overcome to use this strategy</i></p>	<p><b>Outcomes</b>  <i>What happened as a result of the accomplishment or what people do as a result of the accomplishment</i></p>
<p>Element group members actively discussed ideas and strategies for project sustainability</p>		

<p><b>Discussion A:</b> Parenting Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How will we define “parent education” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Personal interactions between parents and providers – how do we track?</li> <li>Provide resources – “ready-made” materials for parents on common challenges</li> <li>“Lunch &amp; Learn” parent education during lunch time and at work environments</li> <li>Having materials and resources available in employee lunch and break rooms (self directed, individualized learning – possible “portfolio approach”)</li> <li>What motivates parents to seek education or information? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individualized need</li> <li>Who do they seek out for information? – Possibly childcare providers??</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Combining trauma framework and Love and Logic as coordinated training (ties parent education and mental health)</li> <li>County schools looking at Love and Logic (per request and feedback from parents and school staff) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some barriers include number of trained facilitators and time to facilitate the classes (staff time)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Other challenges or barriers to parent education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brainstorm ways to recruit and target parents</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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- Time and energy for parents of young children – small window of time between work and bed time
- Continued sustainability – time, staff, coordination
- Link with existing efforts such as “Thrive by Five” or “Kids Matter”
- Partners with employers – identify a “point person” to receive training or education and be a resource for other employees who are parents
- Spokane Regional Childcare Initiative (SRCCI) – create a “sub committee” focused on parent education. Have an existing structure and link with family and center childcare providers
  - What are the existing themes or topics of SRCCI?
    - Parent education is ongoing discussion within the group
  - Create a sub committee in SRCCI which focuses on parent education
  - Create an ongoing agenda item at regular SRCCI meetings
- Create a resource (electronic or paper copy) “book” which is organized, user friendly materials around common childhood challenges (biting, bullying, toilet training) and child development topics – Maybe imbed into Child Development Association (CDA) training, “Child Development Center” part of center lobby
- Look at a variety of options or strategies rather than focus on one single strategy to meet all needs
- When looking at sustainability – need to bring the conversation around to systems change
- Possibly look at best practice model or policies, procedures around feedback to families regarding child’s day or overall development or involvement of families, being more intentional in family involvement
- Link with existing training structures – such as STARS or other required training for accreditation

**Action Item:**

Topics for next meeting

- Sustainability of DECA and ongoing LPM’s meetings
- Sustainability of children’s mental health component



Hand Outs Distributed:

- Meeting Agenda
- Early Childhood / Element 4 Goals and Objectives

**NEXT MEETING:**

TUESDAY – MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>

12:NOON

LINDAMAN’S NONPROFIT BLDG