Child Care Policy Research Consortium 2011

Studying the Collaboration Process: Early Learning Challenge Grants

A Brainstorming Session November 17, 2011

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New Opportunities to Learn: State ELC Collaborations

Race to the Top—Early Learning Challenge 5 Foundational Areas

- Successful State Systems
- 2) High-Quality Accountable Programs
- 3) Promoting Early Learning and Development Outcomes for Children
- 4) A Great Early Childhood Education Workforce
- 5) Measuring Outcomes and Progress

Spectrum of Systems Collaborations

Comprehensive Early Childhood Systems Health Early Learning & Development Family Leadership & Support (Build Initiative; Early Childhood Systems Working Group) **Early Childhood Education and Care Systems CCDF** Head Start/Early Head Start **State Pre-Kindergarten IDEA**—Parts B & C Title 1—ESEA

(Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge)

Approaches to Evaluation of Systems Collaborations

Framework for Evaluating Systems Initiatives (Julia Coffman for the Build Initiative, 2007)

CONTEXT Successfully building a political context leads to resources that COMPONENTS Establish effective programs and services and CONNECTIONS Create better linkages between components and

Create supports that enable continuous improvement so that SCALE

he system can produce broad impacts for system beneficiaries

Systems Evaluations--Questions

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- Has the initiative changed the political environment through its activities?
- 2. Has the initiative produced changes to investment, policy, or practice that will enable changes in components, connections, infrastructure, or scale?

Duestions

- Did the initiative design and implement system components as intended?
- Did the components produce their intended impacts for beneficiaries?
- 1. Did the initiative design and implement connections and linkages as intended?
- 2. Did the connections 2. Did the and linkages Infrastru produce their support intended impacts? their ob
- Did the initiative establish infrastructure or supports that are consistent with its objectives?
- Did the Infrastructure or supports achieve their objectives for effectiveness, sustainability, and quality?
- Did the initiative enable system scale up with quality and fidelity?

SCALE

 Did scale up result In broad impacts for beneficiaries at a system-wide population level?

Coffman, A Framework for Evaluating Systems Initiatives, 2007

Systems Evaluations--Methodologies

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COMPONENTS CONNECTIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

- Theory of change evolution
- Case studies
- Public polling
- Policy tracking
- Key informant surveys

Methodologies

- · Coalition analysis
- Policy/bellwether interviews
- Media tracking

- Program evaluation methodologies (including experimental/quasiexperimental)
- Program monitoring
- Quality assessments
- Efficiency analyses
- Customer surveys

- Program evaluation methodologies (including experimental/quasiexperimental)
- System mapping
- Network analysis
- · Customer surveys

- Theory of change evaluation
- Case studies
- · Performance audits
- Management information systems
- Practitioner data collection

 Population-based demographic and service analysis

SCALE

- Program evaluation methodologies (including experimental/quasiexperimental)
- System/program monitoring
- Results-based accountability

CCPRC Support for Evaluation of Collaboration

Annual Meetings--Selected Sessions

2008-Aligning and Evaluating Services and Systems (Plenary) 2010-EC Collaborations: Definitions, Measurement, Next Steps (Plenary)

Working Meeting

Collaboration in Early Care and Education, 2010 Logic Model for State-Level Collaborations

Work Group

INQUIRE

Research Connections Key Topic Resource List

Early Care and Education Collaboration

(All available at www.researchconnections.org)