Studying the Collaboration Process: Early Learning Challenge Grants

A Brainstorming Session

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National Center for Children in Poverty
New Opportunities to Learn: State ELC Collaborations

Race to the Top—Early Learning Challenge

5 Foundational Areas

1) **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)*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>CONTEXT</th>
<th>COMPONENTS</th>
<th>CONNECTIONS</th>
<th>INFRASTRUCTURE</th>
<th>SCALE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Has the initiative changed the political environment through its activities?</td>
<td></td>
<td>1. Did the initiative design and implement system components as intended?</td>
<td>1. Did the initiative establish infrastructure or supports that are consistent with its objectives?</td>
<td>1. Did the initiative enable system scale up with quality and fidelity?</td>
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<td>2. Has the initiative produced changes to investment, policy, or practice that will enable changes in components, connections, infrastructure, or scale?</td>
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<td>2. Did the components produce their intended impacts for beneficiaries?</td>
<td>2. Did the connections and linkages produce their intended impacts?</td>
<td>2. Did scale up result in broad impacts for beneficiaries at a system-wide population level?</td>
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Systems Evaluations--Methodologies

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)