

**State Policy Action Team Meeting
Moving an Infant-Toddler Policy Agenda
May 21 – 23, 2013**

May 21

5:00 pm Registration – *Collins*

5:30 pm *Welcome, Overview of Meeting, and Introduction of National Resource People – Pinnacle B*

Facilitator: Barbara Gebhard, ZERO TO THREE

5:45 pm *Introduction of Team and Overview of Strengths and Challenges by Each State – Pinnacle B*

Each state team leader introduces team members and gives an overview of their state's strengths and challenges in moving an infant-toddler policy agenda.

Facilitator: Barbara Gebhard, ZERO TO THREE

Team Leaders:

- Tracey Campanini – Pennsylvania
- Diane Dellanno – New Jersey
- Nancy Radner – Illinois
- Chris Pond – Massachusetts
- Megan Waltz – Minnesota

6:30 pm Dinner and networking – *Pinnacle A*

May 22

8:00 am Breakfast – *Collins and Pinnacle A*

9:00 am Large Group Session

Developing an Infant-Toddler Policy Agenda – Pinnacle B

Unless states have an intentional focus on infants and toddlers, the needs of the youngest children may not be met. This session will highlight various processes and tools useful to states as they develop a manageable list of policy priorities. It will also discuss strategies for embedding infant-toddler priorities in broader early childhood initiatives and the importance of evaluating progress in moving policy priorities.

Stage-setters:

- Barbara Gebhard, ZERO TO THREE
- Carey McCann, Ounce of Prevention

Respondent:

- Lori McClung, Advocacy & Communication Solutions, LLC

10:30 am Break – *Collins*

10:45 am Two Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Engaging “Hard to Reach” Families – Pinnacle B

Connecting the most vulnerable families to services is often very challenging. This session will explore strategies for identifying and engaging the highest need children and families, such as building relationships with individuals and organizations that can facilitate access to target populations; ensuring outreach and service delivery is culturally responsive; and establishing a presence in disconnected communities.

Facilitator: Maria Mayoral, ZERO TO THREE

Stage-setters:

- Mary Orr, Minnesota Department of Human Services
- Abby Thorman, Thorman Strategy Group

Developing an Integrated Professional Development System – Pinnacle C

A coordinated, cross-sector professional development system is vital to building a strong infant-toddler workforce. This session will discuss the key components of an integrated professional development system – such as training registries, core competencies, and career lattices – and how to work with representatives of higher education on course development and articulation. It will highlight state systems that have successfully included a focus on infants and toddlers.

Facilitator: Gail Nourse, Ounce of Prevention

Stage-setters:

- Beverly Lynn, Programs for Parents (New Jersey)
- Maureen Murphy, Pennsylvania Key

12:15 pm Lunch – *Pinnacle A*

1:15 pm Two Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Establishing a Coordinated Screening and Referral System – Pinnacle B

Infant-toddler services often operate in silos with little connection. Implementing initiatives that work across systems to serve young children in multiple settings and situations can improve the reach and quality of services. This session will explore how to do so through discussion of state examples: creating a cohesive developmental screening plan that effectively reaches all infants and toddlers; and implementing the Help Me Grow model.

Facilitator: Carey McCann, Ounce of Prevention

Stage-setter: Gail Piggott, Alabama Partnership for Children

Effectively Communicating Your Infant-Toddler Policy Agenda – Pinnacle C

You have an infant-toddler policy agenda; now what? Policymakers and the public often do not understand the needs of infants and toddlers. Educating them is essential to create a system that effectively supports families. This session will explore how to develop messaging that successfully communicates what your state’s infant-toddler policy agenda is and why it is important. Participants should come ready to discuss specific communication issues they are facing.

Stage-setter: Lori McClung, Advocacy & Communication Solutions, LLC

- 2:45 pm State Team Time – *Pinnacle B, Pinnacle C, Collins*
- 3:45 pm Adjourn (teams can continue to work in the room until dinner if they choose)
- 6:00 pm Dinner and networking – *Pinnacle A*

May 23

- 7:30 am Breakfast – *Collins and Pinnacle A*
- 8:30 am Large Group Session
Leveraging Funding Sources to Support Infant-Toddler Services – Pinnacle B
Comprehensive services—including health, mental health, nutrition, and family economic support—are not inexpensive. In order to pay for the range of services needed by vulnerable infants, toddlers, and their families, state policymakers and service administrators have to coordinate and leverage existing funding sources. This session will provide an overview of federal funding streams and focus on how Medicaid can be used to support infant-toddler services.
Facilitator: Charlie Bruner, Child and Family Policy Center/BUILD Initiative
Stage-setter: Ron Benham, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- 10:00 am Break – *Collins*
- 10:15 am Two Concurrent Breakout Sessions
Including Data on Infants and Toddlers in the Development of Data Systems – Pinnacle B
States are increasingly interested in improving the accessibility and use of data and in developing longitudinal data systems. This session will explore what data related to infants and toddlers are currently being collected and how they can be included in an integrated data system.
Facilitator: Jamie Colvard, ZERO TO THREE
Stage-setters:
 - Tracey Campanini, Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning
 - Theresa Hawley, Illinois Office of Early Childhood Development

*Improving the Quality of Existing Services for Infants, Toddlers and Their Families
– Pinnacle C*

The quality of services for infants and toddlers varies considerably. Those that are high quality help promote children’s healthy development, while those that are poor quality can have little to no positive effects. This session will explore what quality looks like and delve deeper into specific strategies for improving quality including: broadening QRIS beyond traditional early care and education programs; developing quality standards for infant-toddler care; and raising the quality of consultants.

Facilitator: Gerry Cobb, BUILD Initiative

Stage-setters:

- Dan Haggard, New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department
- Chris Pond, Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care

- 11:45 am State Team Time – *Pinnacle B, Pinnacle C, Collins*
- 12:15 pm Lunch and Continued State Team Time – *Pinnacle A*
- 12:45 pm *Reports from State Teams on Action Plans – Pinnacle B*
- 1:15 pm Adjourn