

Name of Group: Governance, Planning, and Administration

Date: September 8, 2009

Responsibility of Group:

The Governance, Planning, and Administration component group addresses issues related to the governance, planning, and administration of Iowa's Early Care, Health, and Education System. This group is responsible for designing and overseeing the implementation of governance, planning, and administrative structures that integrate the six system components to ensure that the results in the Strategic Plan are achieved.

Activities include:

- Serving as the point of accountability to assure that the Guiding Principles, Rules and other documents governing the operation of Early Childhood Iowa are followed.
- Securing professional development opportunities (such as cultural competence and results based accountability, etc.) for the Early Childhood Iowa Stakeholders as system development work continues
- Promoting effective collaborative leadership among the identified system components
- Ensuring that strong partnerships at the local level are formed and supported

Recent actions:

The governance component group continues to work on **diversity** issues and **structural** issues.

Diversity

The first meeting of the ECI Diversity Advisory Committee took place on May 13th. At that meeting, the group developed a purpose statement and a list of activities and work plans to guide it work in the future. The work plan is organized by five identified "diversity gaps:"

1. school readiness gap
2. access and participation gap
3. cultural competency gap
4. workforce gap
5. leadership gap

The group meets again on September 8. The group is working on a website which will be part of the ECI website that will house documents and other information to support efforts to address the five diversity gaps.

Rules

The Public Health Board has approved the administrative rules governing ECI structure and activities. ECI has also received formal recognition from the governor that ECI is the state advisory council for the purposes described in the Head Start Act (cf. Sec. 642B(b)(1)A)).

The governance committee will also provide some input into the application for Early Childhood Advisory Council funding now available from the Office of Head Start to fund ECI activities.