

Illinois Commission on Equitable Early Childhood Education & Care Funding
December 8, 2020 Commission Meeting – Commissioner Feedback on Draft Final Report Outline

Regarding Racial Equity Working Group Report:

- It was so thorough and really captured both the specifics, the spirit, and the urgency/need to address these issues.
- I think provider was being used broadly-anyone serving in ECE when we discussed it.
- The how is really going to be important across all these recommendations in the report and putting the resources into our planning to support this and prioritize this important racial equity work
- We need to ask ourselves why or how we lost focus on our recommendations not being centered around a race equity lens

Feedback on Draft Outline

Strengths: *These focus on the comprehensiveness of the draft outline and appreciating the family/provider storylines.*

- Totally comprehensive.
- The report is comprehensive
- Quite comprehensive--showcases the journey of the Commission and how we arrived at the recommendations
- I think it was strong and the message of centralization was comprehensive.
- Strong- accurately reflects the work of the committees, Great detail.
- The background and case made for the importance of the need for transformational change.
- As others have said, thorough and comprehensive
- Overall, nicely done and thorough, naming both full funding number and methodology to calculate (and recalculate that) is strong, as is laying out needed changes to distribution strategies, as is call for centralization into a new agency and attendant changes needed to build capacity at local and regional level. Again - nicely comprehensive!
- I appreciated the way the family/child experience was used as an anchor to the whole report. They were noted up front, and then woven through as a thread so that we could understand how families and children were impacted within the new system. Keeps the family and child at the center.
- As for the report, I agree that it's comprehensive and reflective of our work -- an excellent consolidation of the work to date and a strong launch of the next phase.
- I like the inclusion of family stories that illustrate the needs and how the report tries to address the needs
- I like the inclusion of the family profiles and the references back to the families across the report. It helps to illustrate the policy impacts on children and families.
- The report was extremely thorough. It was good to see how all of the working groups' information tied together finally. Glad racial equity was included. The report is transparent.
- I liked the addition of family and provider perspectives along the way!
- Coherent set of recommendations that focus on children and families
- The family stories make it very powerful.

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- Provider stories will be a key component.
- I agree the report is comprehensive and a nice reflection of the work of the various workgroups

Areas to improve: *These focus on a need for implementation specifics and accountability, as well as a desire to demonstrate connection between stakeholder input and recommendations (note that this will be a focus of the January Working Group meetings)*

- I know we have discussed how the early learning work that this commission oversees is only part of the system of supports families with very young children need to succeed. I would like to see some framing in the final report that discusses the comprehensive needs and services and, in the governance/agency structure, some commitment to creating intentionality around cross system work; such as the work GOECD currently does and the Interagency team
- To the point others made, like the inclusion of family/child experience, would like to see the provider and workforce/educator experience and how that will change "on the ground" as the system strengthens.
- An outline of implementation steps and processes with time lines.
- I would appreciate clarity on what is considered an implementation detail, vs what is within scope of our work. This report had significantly more detail than I was expecting. I do think a section on unanswered questions from the commission that most inform implementation would be a useful appendix
- If I was reading for the first time, I would like to know a little more about the process to come these recommendations, the opportunity for public feedback and consideration of that feedback. Not a big section, just a good overview that is reflective and informative regarding the process.
- Show the intersections between family/child and providers--showcases points of opportunities and challenges that are shared.
- We will have to give some thought to how we make a handoff from the work of the Commission to whatever comes next. There is already some amount of that in the outline, but we will have to build that out as the actual content becomes available.
- The implementation and next steps need to be more detailed - hoping the work plan will help with that. It will be important to put in ways to hold ourselves accountable to moving this work forward - like timelines, workplans, etc.
- I think the report needs to include actual accountability. Who will be responsible? How implementation will be tracked?
- Accountability is a thread throughout on the findings of the Racial Equity Working Group
- If there are any final recommendations for which consensus is not reached, how will those concerns/dissenting perspectives be memorialized in the final report?
- Seconded on point about implementation timeline and accountability.
- In the outline phase of this process, I would also appreciate seeing a document that correlates the feedback we have received with the sections of the outline. I would like us to document where we have received feedback and used it to make revisions, and where we are intentionally not incorporating feedback and documenting why our original

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thinking holds. I would hope this is something we can do when we meet again in our working groups.

- The charge does ask about implementation recommendations, and while there are some thoughtful elements in the report on this front, I'd love to see the Commission propose some timelines and maybe even responsible parties to have a way to both guide next phase of work (per the charge), and to create some way of assessing progress. I'm also struggling a bit with how the recommendation on a new agency ended, but may be a drafting issue, not a substantive one.
- I think a crosswalk of the recommendations with the feedback we are gathering would help provide transparency and understanding as to why we either tweak or leave recommendations as they are. We want to show our due diligence in addressing all of the perspectives that have been shared over the course of the year.
- Would love a recommendation to create a higher profile committee appointed by the Governor to keep this work front and center as we move to implementation
- What is the accountability to finish the ECSE and EI work in the future?
- I like the idea of a cross walk document that summarizes the feedback of the stake holders as an appendix to the final report.