

# Partner ★ Plan ★ Act

an Illinois Action for Children Community Systems Development Initiative

## Agenda

June 13, 2017

### I. **Welcome**

Edna Navarro-Vidaurre, Assistant Director of Community Systems Development, Illinois Action for Children

Theme: *Sustaining Local Momentum: Strategies for Enhancing Collaboration Efforts*

**Engaging School Districts in Early Childhood Collaborations Toolkit**

<http://partnerplanact.org/wp-content/School-District-Toolkit/>

### II. **Plenary: Building Authentic & Successful Relationships Between School Districts and Local Early Childhood Collaborations\***

### III. **Workshop Session I\***

- Peer-to-Peer Conversations
- Engaging Local Collaborations in Advocacy
- Using Data to Understand and Address Community Needs

### IV. **Peer-to-Peer Networking Lunch**

### V. **Workshop Session II\***

- Peer-to-Peer Conversations
- Moving Towards Sustainability: Maximizing Funding Opportunities
- Tracking Outcomes through Benchmarking Strategies

### VI. **Closing**

Theresa Hawley, Senior Vice President of Public Policy and Innovation, Illinois Action for Children

\*Descriptions of Plenary & Workshops on pages 2 & 3

## Plenary

### **Title: Building Authentic & Successful Relationships Between School Districts and Local Early Childhood Collaborations**

**Moderator:** Theresa Hawley, Senior Vice President of Public Policy and Innovation, Illinois Action for Children

**Panelists:**

Aaron Mercier Regional Superintendent, Carroll/JoDavies/Stephenson County ROE #8  
Aminah Wyatt-Jones, Assistant Director Community Systems Development, Illinois Action for Children

Lee Ann Kelly, Co-Director, Champaign Urbana Cradle 2 Career Partnership

Linda Rios, Coordinator, Cicero All Our Kids Network

**Location:** Young Main Lounge Room

The plenary will discuss how to successfully and authentically engage and build relationships with School Districts and Local Early Childhood Collaborations, so that children and families continue to be positively impacted. Participants will gain applicable recommendations on how to work with both groups.

## Workshop Session I

### **Workshop: Peer-to-Peer Conversations**

**Presenter:** Chris Foster, Learning Facilitator, Foster What Matters

**Location:** Young Main Lounge Room

Participants, rather than the conveners, will have an opportunity to name and convene the conversations that are meaningful to them. We will be using a modified open space technology/peer-to-peer conversation format for these discussions.

Topics, questions, problems, and opportunities will be related to the overarching question: *How might collaboratives creatively evolve for greater impact?* You don't have to be an expert on your topic. You simply need to introduce your topic and engage in the conversation with others who share the same interest.

### **Workshop: Engaging Local Collaborations in Advocacy**

**Presenter:** Tommie Robinson & Megan Donahue, Community Engagement Associates, Illinois Action for Children

**Location:** Turfler Room

Advocacy is pivotal to protecting and increasing investments in early childhood programs and services that matter to local communities. This workshop will discuss how local collaborations can engage their members in advocacy efforts locally.

Participants will learn different strategies for local engagement and ways to deepen the local collaboration's involvement in advocacy.

**Workshop: Using Data to Understand and Address Community Needs**

**Presenters:** Renee Tetrick, Program Analyst, Illinois Action for Children, Agnes Markos, Program Coordinator, Illinois Action for Children & Dawn V. Thomas, Ph.D., Director, Early Childhood and Parenting Collaborative, University of Illinois

**Location:** Davidson Room

Participants will learn how they can acquire data on early childhood services in their community and receive hands-on support in interpreting their specific data. Participants will also receive helpful tips and strategies on how to ask critical questions of existing data and ideas for gathering more data to support their local efforts.

### Workshop Session II

**Workshop: Peer-to-Peer Conversations**

**Presenter:** Chris Foster, Learning Facilitator, Foster What Matters

**Location:** Young Main Lounge Room

Participants, rather than the conveners, will have an opportunity to name and convene the conversations that are meaningful to them. We will be using a modified open space technology/peer-to-peer conversation format for these discussions.

Topics, questions, problems, and opportunities will be related to the overarching question: How might collaboratives creatively evolve for greater impact? You don't have to be an expert on your topic. You simply need to introduce your topic and engage in the conversation with others who share the same interest.

**Workshop: Moving Towards Sustainability: Maximizing Funding Opportunities**

**Presenters:** Trish Rooney, SPARK Director, Fox Valley United Way & Candace King, Executive Director, DuPage Federation of Human Services Reform

**Location:** Turfler Room

Presenters will explore innovative ways to access and combine funding sources to support local collaboration work. Participants will be having the opportunity to reflect on their local collaborations' funding strategies and discuss ways to maximize resources that exist in Illinois.

**Workshop: Measuring Successes by Tracking Outcomes**

**Presenters:** Aminah Wyatt-Jones, Assistant Director Community Systems Development, Illinois Action for Children & Kristina Rogers, Senior Community Connections Associate, Illinois Action for Children

**Location:** Davidson Room

This workshop will focus on developing outcomes and methods to track them that support the local collaboration's strategies. Participants will discuss why outcomes are important and how to track their outcomes to ensure success.