

ECRC June Working Group Meeting
June 29th 2021

Meeting Goals:

- To introduce Regional Council initiatives and alignment with ECRC
- To share proposed governance structure and solicit feedback
- To elevate any considerations, concerns, or gaps
- To discuss next steps in the development of the ECRC advisory council

Discussion Questions:

- What are your thoughts on combining the regional and ECRC councils?
- Does the proposed governance structure meet our desired outcomes?
- Family Council and/or Full Inclusion – pros and cons?
- What are the challenges you anticipate and what mitigation might you propose?
- Other concerns or considerations?

Feedback:

- From a researcher's perspective It depends on the details of the rollout.
- ECRC Working Group members will all have to commit to this
- Important to engage families—we don't do enough of that
- Need strengths-based approach that centers family expertise and provides preview of what is to come; ensure parents have the widest possible latitude to contribute
- Guardrails on participation—needs to create a safe, welcoming, authentic space
- This will take time to do right
- Family Council fantastic idea—COFI has helped build out this structure for other initiatives
- It is critical to value and center lived experience prioritized over education/credentials
- We must ensure geographic and cultural diversity—especially neighborhoods that are most often left out of the conversation
- Parent/caregiver compensation should be through stipend rather than per hour so parents know how much to expect each month. Compensation should include prep, meeting time and debrief
- Translation important to support diversity and full inclusion
- Training is essential not only for parent leaders but steering committee members, council members, etc. This requires funding, time and effort.
- It will be important to think about power dynamics with parents/providers—this will require full group discussion about power dynamics and history of racial equity
- On the list of stakeholders, maternal/Child health should include infant and early childhood mental health. Also, Can the list of ELs be more explicit?
- When we're discussing family council vs. full inclusion, having a separate family council could be objectifying.
- Should it be a both/and so parents are at table where work is happening and decisions are being made? Underscores the importance of having families as full partners.
- Also need to ensure ECRC is inclusive but not limited to work of regional councils—some of the ECRC work will go beyond what the regional councils address.
- We may need a both/and approach—a separate family council and full inclusion at every level
- The key is ensuring parents have a safe space and truly feel at the table

- The Mayor's Office is focused on culture change to shift power dynamics to value lived experience
- We may need to start with family council, but the ultimate goal is to have strong family voice at every level and table
- Recommendation that parents comprise 20% of steering committee
- Need to schedule meetings at times that are convenient for parents/caregivers.

Next Steps:

- We will be digging more deeply into governance structure and how to populate each group during the July meeting
- Expect an email shortly to volunteer to help define the family/community engagement strategy.
- Upcoming events:
 - Planning Meeting – TBD
 - Next Working Group Meeting: Governance Structure – 7/28
 - Launch of ECRC Council – 8/26