

Welcome to the SDA 4 RAC Meeting!



Purpose

SPARK needs you, your time, and your voice.

The purpose of the Regional Advisory Council is to strategically aid and advise SPARK Learning Lab about our services, so we can better support those who support Hoosier children and families.

We know your time is precious and thank you for joining us tonight.



These Hoosiers are worth it...



Meeting Overview

- Review Old Business
- New Business
 - Build Learn Grow/ARP Stabilization Grants
 - Indiana Early Learning Foundations Update
 - Indiana Learning Paths Training Course Collections
 - Indiana ECE Systems Partner Map
- Think Tank
- Public Comment
- Agreements and Action Items
- RAC Updates from around Indiana
- Agenda Items for Next Meeting
- Adjournment

**Public comment will be heard after each agenda item*

RAC Member Introductions

- Name
- Organization name and role

***Leave your information
in the chat!**



Review Old Business

- At the beginning of each meeting, the Council reviews action items and recommendations from the previous meeting and discusses progress made
- View meeting minutes for each SDA on the SPARK website
<http://indianaspark.com/regional-advisory-councils/>

Old Business – SPARK Resources

RAC Members requested for SPARK to create materials on how to best support staff and their return to work

Over the next two years, SPARK will be providing intensive Mental Health & Wellness services that includes the development of evergreen resources and training to support the ECE and OST workforce. These decisions will be driven by the trends that emerge from Provider Support Groups, Program Assessment, and local mental health needs.

Old Business – RAC Engagement

RAC members requested that SPARK allow RAC participation count towards training hours to OECOSL for consideration.

SPARK began a conversation with the Paths to QUALITY Policy Committee on January 19 regarding the acceptance of non-training leadership professional development experiences and on-the-job training such as coaching. While there is no decision, SPARK will continue to explore the possibility.

Old Business – Build Learn Grow

RAC Members requested that SPARK post the Facebook live webinars to the SPARK Learning Lab website.

The Facebook Live events were added to My SPARK Learning Lab and SPARK's YouTube channel. These are being taken down however with the launch of Round 2 funding and reporting. SPARK will be hosting live resource events via Zoom and promoted via email and social, much like the Facebook Live events.

Old Business – Build Learn Grow

RAC Members requested that SPARK share feedback around the communication after a provider submits their stabilization grant application.

OECOSL launched a subsequent communication that is sent via email to notify the program of next steps after application approval.

Old Business – Awareness & Resources

RAC Members want resources and materials to partner with other businesses and organizations within their community to garner support during this critical time.

SPARK is hosting local events that connect programs to local business and legal experts. The first was in Bloomington and other events are being added to SDA 4 region and statewide.

Check out the website for updated event schedule:

<https://indianaspark.com/build-learn-grow-community-events/>

Old Business

Questions?





SPARK

LEARNING LAB

New Business

OECOSL PROVIDER RECOGNITION

SDA 4: Provider Recognition



- Ellen Vaughn, Helping Hands Daycare
- Haley Davidson, First Friends
- Hannah Singer, ISU Early Childhood Ed Center
- Laura Dalton, Clark-Pleasant Preschool
- Shena Gordon, ISU ECEC Infant Toddler Program

Provider Recognition

- OECOSL finished the second round of nominations and received over 200 responses!
- We encourage your teams to think of providers that you have worked with that stand out for providing quality care and leadership to families and their communities.
- Stay tuned for more details on the next round of nominations.
- LINK: [Provider Recognition Nomination Form](#)

GRANT STABILIZATION UPDATES + RESOURCES

BLG Grant Updates

- Timeline for Grant Round 2
 - ◆ January 17th, 2022 - April 15, 2022
- Application Criteria Updates



Build Learn Grow Events

- SPARK is providing educational events with local partners throughout the state.
 - ◆ Each virtual event will provide access to professional experts within the business fields to assist providers in making an informed business decisions.
- SDA 4 Virtual Event Schedule:
 - ◆ Terre Haute: 2/18 at 7:00 PM
 - ◆ Anderson: 3/1 at 6:00 PM
 - ◆ Johnson County: 3/3 at 6:30 PM
 - ◆ Virtual Events Statewide Schedule
 - <https://indianaspark.com/build-learn-grow-community-events/>

INTENSIVE BUSINESS SUPPORT

- SPARK will be offering Live Resources to support grant recipients that are seeking Round 2 funding.
- Over the next month, SPARK is releasing new resources (EN & SP), video guides (EN & SP), and offering Live Resources on the following:
 - How to use and report Family First Coronavirus Response Leave
 - Grant Spending and Documenting Expenses
 - How to use the Employee Retention Tax Credit

INTENSIVE BUSINESS SUPPORT

Business Cohorts

- Beginning in early February and will meet for three months
- Target Audiences
 - Programs that have not accepted funding from OECOSL previously,
 - Areas with limited high quality programming, and
 - Areas with highest closure rates
- Competencies
 - Learn the value of a budget and how to use it for decision making throughout the year.
 - Understand how to project business costs, generate additional income and plan strategically for future goals.
 - Identify how to strengthen the fiscal health of their child care business.
 - Strengthen program leaders business acumen and use of tools to create a sustainable business



Grant Resource Information

→ Key Resource Links:

- ◆ stabilization.buildlearngrow.org

→ SPARK Grant Support:

◆ Contact Information

- Help Desk 1-800-299-1627
- Live Chat is available on indianaspark.com and My SPARK Learning Lab
- Email Help@indianaspark.com

Build Learn Grow

- Do RAC Members have any additional questions or comments regarding the initiatives around the Build, Learn, Grow stabilization grants?
- Do public attendees have any additional questions or comments regarding the initiatives around the Build, Learn, Grow stabilizations grants?

EARLY LEARNING FOUNDATIONS UPDATE

Early Foundations

→ Timeline for updates

- ◆ Undergoing revision since July 2020
- ◆ The Governor announced the formation of the Office of Kindergarten Readiness in IDOE
- ◆ Foundations release delayed until this is complete

Discussion Questions

- What is the best way for you to learn the foundations?
- What supplemental trainings, resources, or supports items could SPARK provide to help with the implementation of foundation trainings?

INDIANA LEARNING PATHS UPDATES

COURSE COLLECTION

Welcome to the
Early Learning
Indiana Catalog

Course Collections >



SPARK! Colección de
Cursos para la



SPARK! Educator
Onboarding Course



SPARK! Educator
Onboarding Course

**STEP 1: Login
into ILEAD
Account**

**STEP 2: Start
Your Indiana
Learning Path**

**STEP 3: Course
Collection**

COURSE COLLECTION

- Educator Onboarding Part 1: Mandatory
- Colección de Cursos para la Inducción de Educadores Parte 1: Cursos Obligatorios/ (Educator Onboarding Part 1 Spanish)
- Educator Onboarding Part 2: Effective Teaching & Assessment
- Educator Onboarding Part 3: Connecting with Children and Families
- Leadership Onboarding Part 1: Quality Programs & Professionalism
- Leadership Onboarding Part 2: The Business Side of Early Childhood Education

COURSE COLLECTION

A few FAQs:

- When someone registers in ILP for the Course Collection, they are automatically registered for all of the courses found in that Part.
- There is no certificate for a Course Collection as a whole. People completing each course will still get their certificate for that course, just as they always have.
- If you click into a Course Collection you can see what courses that collection entails.

SYSTEM PARTNERS
(WHO TO CALL?)

WHO TO CALL?

→ Review Indiana Early Care & Learning System Partner Map

→ Find Partner Map: My SPARK Learning Lab

Indiana Early Care & Learning System
Partner Map

						
Contact Information	1-800-299-1627 www.indianaspark.com PTQ@indianaspark.com	Locate your local Child Care Resource and Referral Agency by visiting Brighter Futures	1-800-299-1627 leadhelp.org BrighterFuturesIndiana.org	1-855-484-2392 www.inaeyc.org	1-317-822-8211 www.indianaafterschool.org	1-877-511-1144 Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning oeosolproviderinquiry@fssa.in.gov
Description	Spark Learning Lab is the statewide technical assistance provider. Spark offers coaching, training opportunities, Indiana Self-Assessment Tool (I-SAT) support and a multitude of technical assistance opportunities for early childhood education programs. In addition, Spark manages Paths to QUALITY™ (levels 1 – 4). My SPARK Learning Lab serves as the centralized access point for all resources and Indiana Learning Paths houses all of the training that is accessible to providers throughout the state.	Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) are the experts in connecting families, communities and providers to the resources they need in order to ensure that they have access to high quality early experiences that meet their needs. They also provide child care referrals, parenting support and engagement activities for families. They work with their local communities to identify needs and work to develop plans to address those needs. The local CCR&R agencies also work with potential providers to become licensed.	Early Learning Indiana (ELI) is on a mission to ensure every child is empowered with essential skills to be successful in kindergarten and beyond. They operate high-quality early learning centers, help families find quality child care, partner with teachers and providers to improve program quality and advocate for greater access to early educational opportunities for all Hoosier families. Through their partnerships, they have also created the Brighter Futures Indiana website.	Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children (INAEYC) offers information on accreditation, formal/non-formal CDA, On My Way Pre-K, T.E.A.C.H. grant, and the Christine Fisher ECE Grant. They also have Workforce Coordinators who engage with community stakeholders to strengthen the ECE workforce throughout Indiana.	Indiana Afterschool Network (IAN) works to connect afterschool and summer programs with the support they need to create positive youth outcomes.	The Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning (OECSOL) oversees early child care, education and out-of-school-time programs. They manage the system partners in order to ensure that every Indiana community will have a strong network of Early Care and Education and Out-of-School Time programs that support Indiana. Programs will be high quality, affordable, and accessible to enable families to work effectively to obtain economic self-sufficiency. Children will thrive in programs that meet their developmental and educational needs and make them feel welcome, encouraged, and supported. Professionals teaching and caring for children will have the resources, including training and education, needed to operate and maintain high quality programs.
Paths to QUALITY™	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Introduction session★ Enrollment★ Level maintenance-technical assistance★ Level advancement-technical assistance★ Rating requests★ Insufficiency support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Inform new programs about Paths to QUALITY™ through Orientation, cohorts, intakes, and updates. Referrals to state partners to receive support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Materials: signs, decals, certificates, letters, and non-cash incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Cash awards for Level 3 advancement, Level 4 advancement, and Level 4 maintaining		<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Contracts with TCC to complete Paths to QUALITY™ ratings★ Inactive Voluntary Status (IVS) processing★ Rating appeals★ Policy Committee★ Oversight Committee

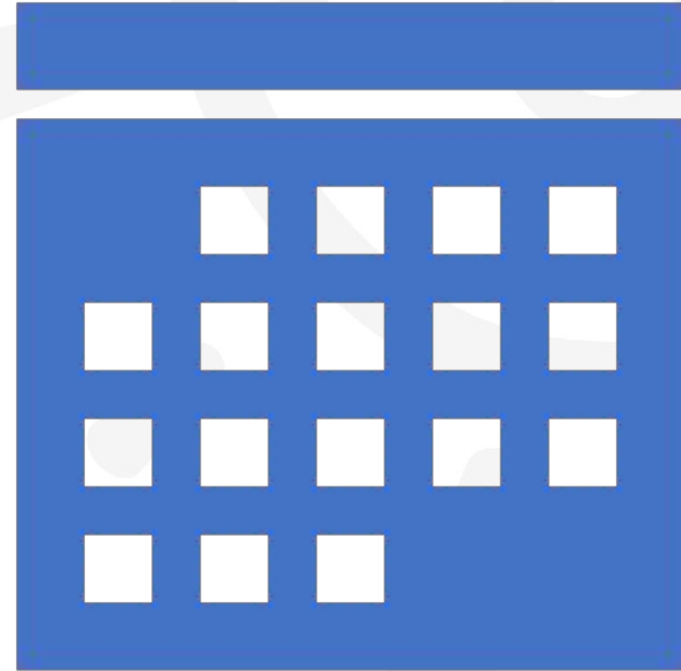
Think Tank



FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

SDA 4 Meeting Schedule

- RAC meeting dates:
 - April 20th, 2022
 - September 21, 2022
- Location
 - Determine In-person/ Hybrid option
 - Establish a meeting location



Public Comment

- We want to hear from you!
- What questions/comments do you have for SPARK and the Council?



Agreements

Based on what has been presented, RAC discussion, and public comment, what suggestions and perspectives need to be captured for SPARK Learning Lab or partners to consider?

Old Business Items

Build Learn Grow/ARP Stabilization Grants

Indiana Early Learning Foundations Update

Indiana Learning Training New Course Collections

Indiana Early Learning Care System Partner Map

Think Tank

Future Meetings

Future Agenda Items

Agenda Items for Next Meeting



What topics and/or SPARK supports would the Council like to discuss in April?

Stay Connected with SPARK

- Sign up for SPARK newsletter: <http://indianaspark.com/>
- SPARK Group Features
- Follow SPARK on social media!
 - [Facebook](#)
 - [Twitter](#)
 - [Instagram](#)
- Email RAC@indianaspark.com with questions



Let's Spark a Conversation!