



Service Delivery Area 1 Regional Advisory Council Meeting Summary February 2, 2022

View the recording of this meeting here: https://youtu.be/_Pbya_PTMZM

1. Call to Order and Meeting Overview:

- a. SDA 1 RAC Chair, Betsey Hostettler, made welcoming remarks orienting participants to the purpose of the Regional Advisory Council (RAC) meeting, called the meeting to order, provided an overview of the agenda items and meeting goals, and discussed meeting systems and procedures.

2. Introductions:

- a. Members introduced themselves by sharing their names and professional role.
- b. Members present included: Erika Watkins, Jackie Allison, Nina Burton, Terri Kosik, Pat Joyner, Betsey Hostettler, and Sherry Searles.

3. Reviewed Old Business:

- a. At the beginning of each Regional Advisory Council (RAC) meeting, the Council reviews action items and recommendations from the previous meeting and discusses progress.
- b. You can view past meeting minutes, recommendations, and their related action plan for each Service Delivery Area (SDA) on the SPARK website: <http://indianaspark.com/regional-advisory-councils/>. In addition, you can find more information about these recommendations and updates on the [SDA 1 website](#) and in the meeting slide deck.

4. New Business

- a. OECOSL Provider Recognition Program:
 - i. To acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Indiana's early education teachers and out-of-school-time professionals, OECOSL released an opportunity for colleagues, families, and system staff to nominate those who showed exemplary skills and are making a difference in their community.
 - ii. In this initial round, over 180 nominations were received. As a result, we are pleased to recognize individuals throughout the state as Outstanding Educator Award Certificate and funds to purchase additional materials for their classrooms.
- b. Build Learn Grow Stabilization Grant:
 - i. Build Learn Grow launched the second round of grant funding. Applications will be open from January 17th, 2022, through April 15, 2022. In addition, the website and frequently asked questions have all been revised (stabilization.buildlearngrow.org).
 - ii. 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 informed business decisions. Statewide Build Learn Grow Community Event Schedule: <https://indianaspark.com/build-learn-grow-community-events/>
 - iii. RAC Members requested data from OECOSL regarding the Build Learn Grow Stabilization Grants. Krystal Robinson from OECOSL provided several resources for review.
 1. [Build Learn Grow Review and Future Looking Priorities 2021](#)
 2. [OECOSL 2021 Program Impact](#)
 3. [Build Learn Grow Dashboard](#)
- c. Indiana Early Learning Foundation Updates
 - i. The Early Learning Foundations have undergone revision since July 2020. The Governor announced the formation of the Office of Kindergarten Readiness in IDOE, and the



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- updated Foundations release was delayed until this is newly formed office is complete. SPARK and industry partners will continue to monitor the progress and provide RAC updated information as it is released.
- ii. SPARK will build off the IDOE training. RAC provided the following suggestions regarding potential resources to help providers with training and implementation of the Foundation training: align with core k-12 curriculum, offer training webinars, provide shorter refresher courses, share examples of how it applies in the classrooms, and create lesson plans describe how the content is conveyed to children, and assessments evaluate children's acquisition of the content.
 - iii. The Foundations should be regularly utilized to evaluate a program's curricula for strengths and weaknesses to drive continuous improvement.
 - iv. From the Foundations: "The Foundations are not a curriculum, a lesson plan, or an assessment tool. Programs must select a curriculum based on their philosophy of how children learn. Curricula contain both contents that children should learn and methods to teach the content."
- d. Indiana Learning Paths Course Collections
- i. The Course Collections were created in ILEAD based on the recommendations of RAC. The training collections will support onboarding learning paths for new educators and leaders. Course collections have all required training for new educators and leadership positions.
- e. Power of Peer Program
- i. Training will help you get families excited about what you do every day. A way to promote high-quality parent/child interactions at home.
 - ii. Families in your program will have access to various additional time-friendly opportunities to engage with their children, which will ultimately result in positive relationships and powerful connections between home and your program. By building these connections and advocating for quality family experiences, your program will be strengthened, and families will have the building blocks for maintaining home-school connections as their children grow.
 - iii. All participants who complete the training will receive a free PEER Activity Cards book.
 - iv. You can register by logging into your I-LEAD account and registering in Indiana Learning Paths for SPARK! Power of PEER Training Level 1 (Virtual or Face to Face).
 - v. For additional information regarding the program you can review the website: [The Power of PEER](#).

6. Think Tank

- a. During this time, RAC members will speak about ideas and topics compiled among council members.
 - i. The RAC discussed an issue regarding the CDA FAST Track meetings are happening at 12 or 12:30 (CT Time zone) and the timing is very difficult logistically for covering classes. The provider was hoping the meetings could be moved to the evening. The partners on the call will convey the message regarding the issues with CDA Fast Track.
 - ii. INAEYC & nonformal CDA Class:
<https://inaeyc.org/programs/indiana-non-formal-cda-project/>. Please feel free to reach out with questions and more information on upcoming courses and opportunities to earn the CDA Credential. Emily Roth, NF CDA Project Senior Director, eroth@inaeyc.org and Rachael Grissom, NF CDA Project Coordinator, rgrissom@inaeyc.org.

7. Public Comment



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- a. Invite public comments and questions that have not been covered by an agenda item. Attendees are encouraged to enter comments/questions into the Zoom chat if they are more comfortable.
 - i. RAC Members discussed the TEACH Scholarship opportunities:
<https://inaeyc.org/programs/teach/inquire-about-teach/>
 - ii. RAC Member wanted an update on inviting Dr. Jenner to a RAC meeting. SPARK has followed up regarding this opportunity; however, no response has been provided at this time. SPARK will continue to pursue additional avenues and connect with the new Office of Kindergarten Readiness in IDOE.

8. Agreements and Action Items

- a. Based on what was presented, RAC discussion, and public comment, the RAC brought forth the following recommendations/agreements for SPARK Learning Lab and/or partners to consider:
 - i. Member recommends that SPARK communicate with Early Learning Indiana fast-track CDA classes are very difficult for providers to send staff. In addition, the classes are in the middle of the day, and it has been tough to keep operations going while training staff.
 - ii. RAC requested OECOSL Data regarding the funding being distributed.

9. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a. SDA 1 RAC Meeting will be on April 27th, 2022 at 7:00 EST.
- b. The RAC members had no additional comments or agenda items for the next meeting.
- c. Stay Connected with SPARK
 - i. Sign up for SPARK newsletter: <http://indianaspark.com/>
 - ii. SPARK Group Features
 - iii. Follow SPARK on social media!
 - 1. [Facebook](#)
 - 2. [Twitter](#)
 - 3. [Instagram](#)
 - iv. Email RAC@indianaspark.com with questions

10. Adjournment