



Best Beginnings State Advisory Council

June 5, 2014 - 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Holiday Inn Ballroom - Last Chance Gulch
Helena, Montana

MISSION

The Best Beginnings Advisory Council's strategic goal is to ensure Montana has a comprehensive, coordinated, early childhood system that provides a governance structure and leads to strong collaboration in order to best meet the needs of Montana's youngest citizens.

AGENDA

- 8:30-8:45** **Welcome and Introductions**
Larry Wilkerson, Best Beginnings Advisory Council Coordinator
- 8:45-9:30** **Updates from the Governor's Office**
Siri Smilie, Communities and Safety Policy Advisor for Governor Bullock
Shannon O'Brien, Education Policy Advisor for Governor Bullock
Tara Ferriter-Smith, Early Reading First Specialist, Office of Public Instruction
- 9:30-10:00** **State Advisory Council Review**
Patty Butler, Early Childhood Services Bureau Chief
Larry Wilkerson, Best Beginnings Advisory Council Coordinator
- 10:00-10:15** **Break**
- 10:15-11:00** **State Advisory Council Discussion**
Sarah Corbally, Child and Family Services Division Administrator
Patty Butler, Early Childhood Services Bureau Chief
- 11:00-12:00** **Committee/Small Group Work - BBAC Structure and Organization Discussion**
- 12:00-1:00** **Lunch**
Best Beginnings Toolkit presentation, Larry Wilkerson
- 1:00-2:00** **Full Council Discussion - Recommendations for agency order to Governor's Office**
- 2:00-2:30** **Regional Referral and Service Coordination Meeting Update**
Dianna Frick, Maternal and Early Childhood Home Visiting
Michele Cushman, Maternal and Early Childhood Home Visiting
Wendy Studt, Part C
Caitlin Jensen, Child and Family Services Division
Larry Wilkerson, Best Beginnings Advisory Council
- 2:30-2:45** **Break**
- 2:45-3:45** **Lewis and Clark County Consent Referral System**
Drenda Niemann, L&C City-County Health Department, CHD Administrator
Brie Oliver, L&C City-County Health Department
Alexis Molineux-Gibbons, Helena School District
- 3:45-4:00** **Public Comment**
- 4:00** **Meeting Adjourned**

Americans with Disabilities Act - The Department of Public Health and Human Services is committed to providing meeting access through reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact the Early Childhood Services Bureau at (866) 239-0458.

Public Comment - in accordance with 2-3-103 (1), MCA, the Department will hold a public comment period. Please note that this is the public's opportunity to address the work of the Best Beginnings Advisory Council

Meeting Notes

8:30-8:45

Welcome and Introductions

Larry Wilkerson, Best Beginnings Advisory Council Coordinator

- Great Beginnings, Great Families conference this week was very successful
- General housekeeping

8:45-9:30

Updates from the Governor's Office

Siri Smilie, Communities and Safety Policy Advisor for Governor Bullock

Shannon O' Brien, Education Policy Advisor for Governor Bullock

Tara Ferriter-Smith, Early Reading First Specialist, Office of Public Instruction

- Early Edge – awareness campaign
- Main Street Montana project (economic development): 1st of 5 pillars is the training and education of the workforce, including early childhood
- 3 approaches
- Focusing on business leaders helps with legislative support
- Emphasis on high quality
- Recognition of professionalism

Questions and Suggestions/Comments session

9:30-10:00

State Advisory Council Review

Patty Butler, Early Childhood Services Bureau Chief

Larry Wilkerson, Best Beginnings Advisory Council Coordinator

See PowerPoint Presentation for details (Montana Best Beginnings Advisory Council)

- ACF 2013 summary of state advisory councils

10:00-10:15

Break

10:15-11:00

State Advisory Council Discussion

Sarah Corbally, Child and Family Services Division Administrator

Patty Butler, Early Childhood Services Bureau Chief

- Discussion with Patty Butler/Sarah Corbally and the council

11:00-12:00

Committee/Small Group Work – BBAC Structure and Organization Discussion

12:00-1:00

Lunch

Best Beginnings Toolkit presentation, Larry Wilkerson

1:00-2:00

Full Council Discussion – Recommendations for agency order to Governor's Office

- Leadership
- Membership
- Structure
- Communication

2:00-2:30

Regional Referral and Service Coordination Meeting Update

Dianna Frick, Maternal and Early Childhood Home Visiting

Michele Cushman, Maternal and Early Childhood Home Visiting

Wendy Studt, Part C

Caitlin Jensen, Child and Family Services Division

Larry Wilkerson, Best Beginnings Advisory Council

See PowerPoint Presentation for details (June BBAC Regional Meeting)

2:30-2:45

Break

2:45-3:45

Lewis and Clark County Consent Referral System

Drenda Niemann, L&C City-County Health Department, CHD Administrator
Brie Oliver, L&C City-County Health Department
Alexis Molineux-Gibbons, Helena School District

See PowerPoint Presentation for details (Helena Consented Referral System)

3:45-4:00

Public Comment

- Anna Semple: Missoula's Early Childhood Resource Guide – available on the sign in table
 - Brie: Victoria – new HMHB director
 - PURPLE information on the sign in table
 - New program assistant introduced
-

4:00

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting date: October (exact day TBD pending availability at venue for 2-day meeting)

Best Beginnings Advisory Council

A portion of the work for which the Council is responsible must occur at the Council level, rather than in individual committees. These objectives or strategic directions span across multiple committees and broadly impact the child serving systems. The Council shares responsibility for many of the defined objectives with other stakeholders, including Council committees, DPHHS Administration, and local councils/stakeholders. The table below defines the overall objectives and associated milestones for the Best Beginnings Advisory Council.

Table 1: Best Beginnings Advisory Council Objectives and Milestones

1 Best Beginnings Advisory Council	
Objectives	Milestones
1.1 Use data to drive work of Best Beginnings Advisory Council and child serving systems	1.1.1 Data indicators and collection approach defined (e.g. ACE)
1.2 Develop strategies to sustain Best Beginnings work happening at State and local levels	1.2.1 Plan created to sustain State and local councils 1.2.2 Communication plan between local and State councils created
1.3 Continue to assess and respond to evolving needs in early childhood systems	1.3.1 Periodic comprehensive needs assessment plan created 1.3.2 Montana-specific cultural and linguistic competency framework for understanding and responsiveness across early childhood system created

Helena Consented Referral System



LEWIS & CLARK CITY-COUNTY
Health Department

1939 Ninth Avenue, Helena, MT 59601
Phone: 406.443.2584 ~ FAX: 406.457.8990





Safe Schools/ Healthy Students

- ▶ Promotion of early childhood social and emotional learning and development.
 - ▶ Promotion of mental, emotional, and behavioral health.
 - ▶ Connecting youth, families, schools, and communities.
 - ▶ Prevention and reduction of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use.
 - ▶ Prevention of youth violence and bullying.
- 



GEORGETOWN LAW



Protection Of Confidentially

- Memorandum of Understanding
 - Release of Information
 - HIPAA Compliant Server
 - Secure, Pass Word Protected Website
 - Limited Access
- 



Memorandum of Understanding

- ▶ Agreement to comply with all information sharing laws (FERPA; HIPAA; IDEA; Title 50, Chapter 16; Title 42; Title 52, Chapter 2; Title 41, Chapter 1; Title 41, Chapter 5).
- ▶ Understanding that periodic audits may be conducted to ensure compliance.
- ▶ Agreement to use and retain a copy of each client's release of information specified by this system, and to only exchange the information detailed there.
- ▶ Agreement to identify gatekeeper/ single point of contact within their agency.
- ▶ Understanding that client specific information will not be disclosed through any other channel of communication except as may be permitted by law.



Universal Release of Information

- Must be signed and retained by the agency making a referral
- Is voluntary and may be revoked at any time
- Specifies WHO and WHAT
- Acknowledges the client's right to exchanged information
- Indicates that certain information may be disclosed without consent



Secure, Pass Word Protected Website

- Housed on a HIPAA compliant server
 - Access may only be granted by the Site Administrator
 - Access may be revoked at any time
- 



Limited Access/ User Roles



User



Agency Gate Keeper



System Administrator

How does the Helena Consented Referral System work?

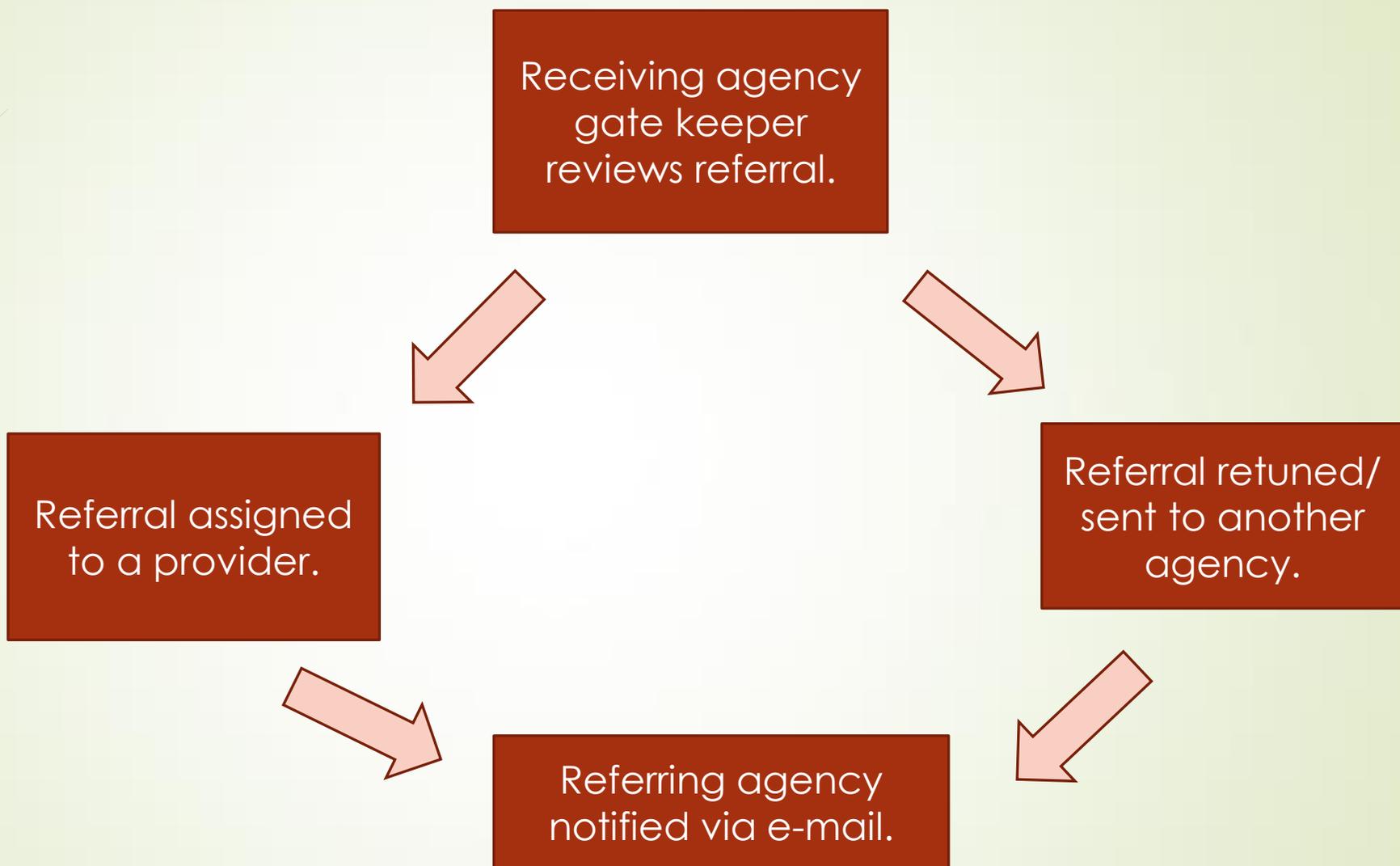
Individual identified by referring agency.

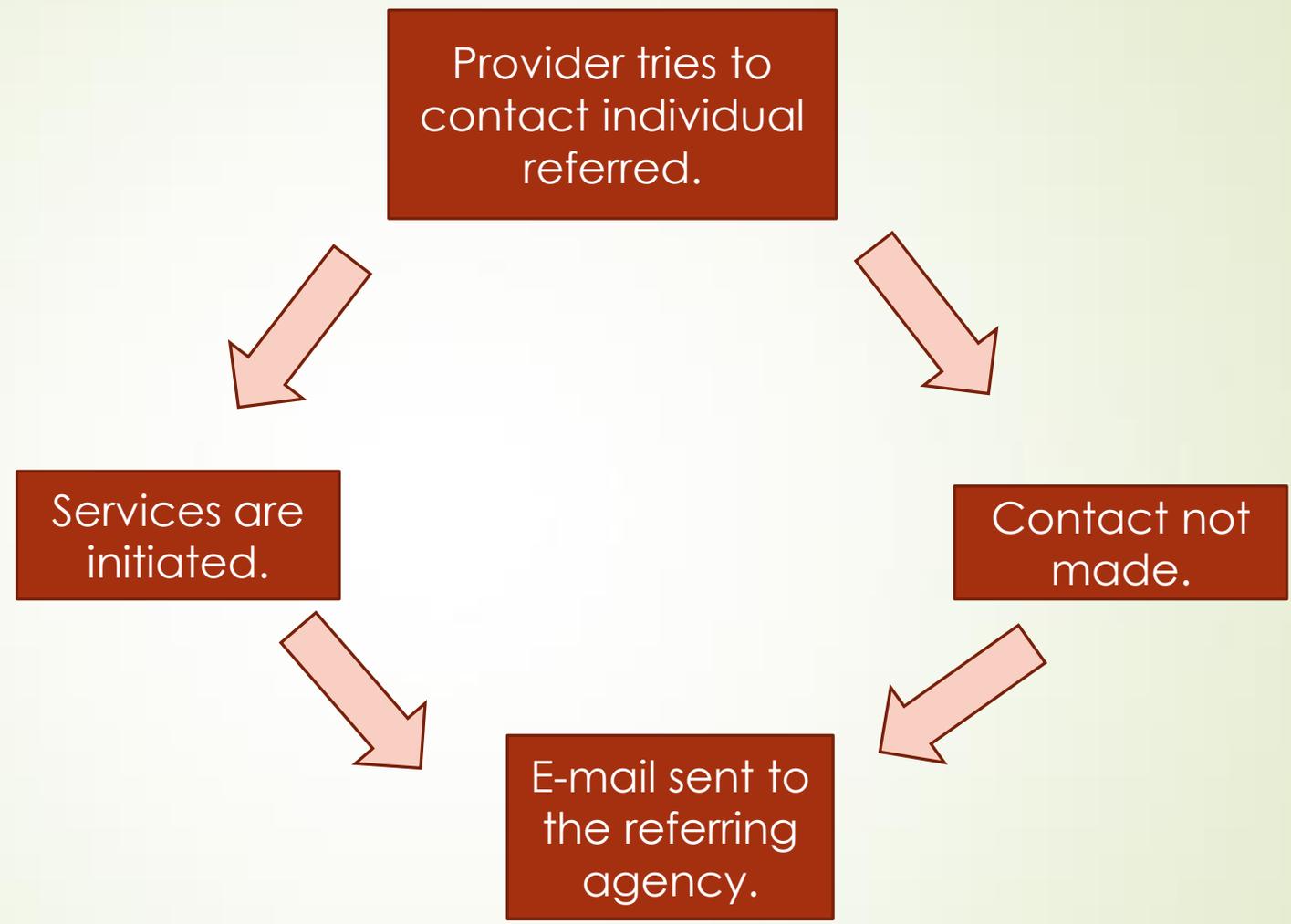


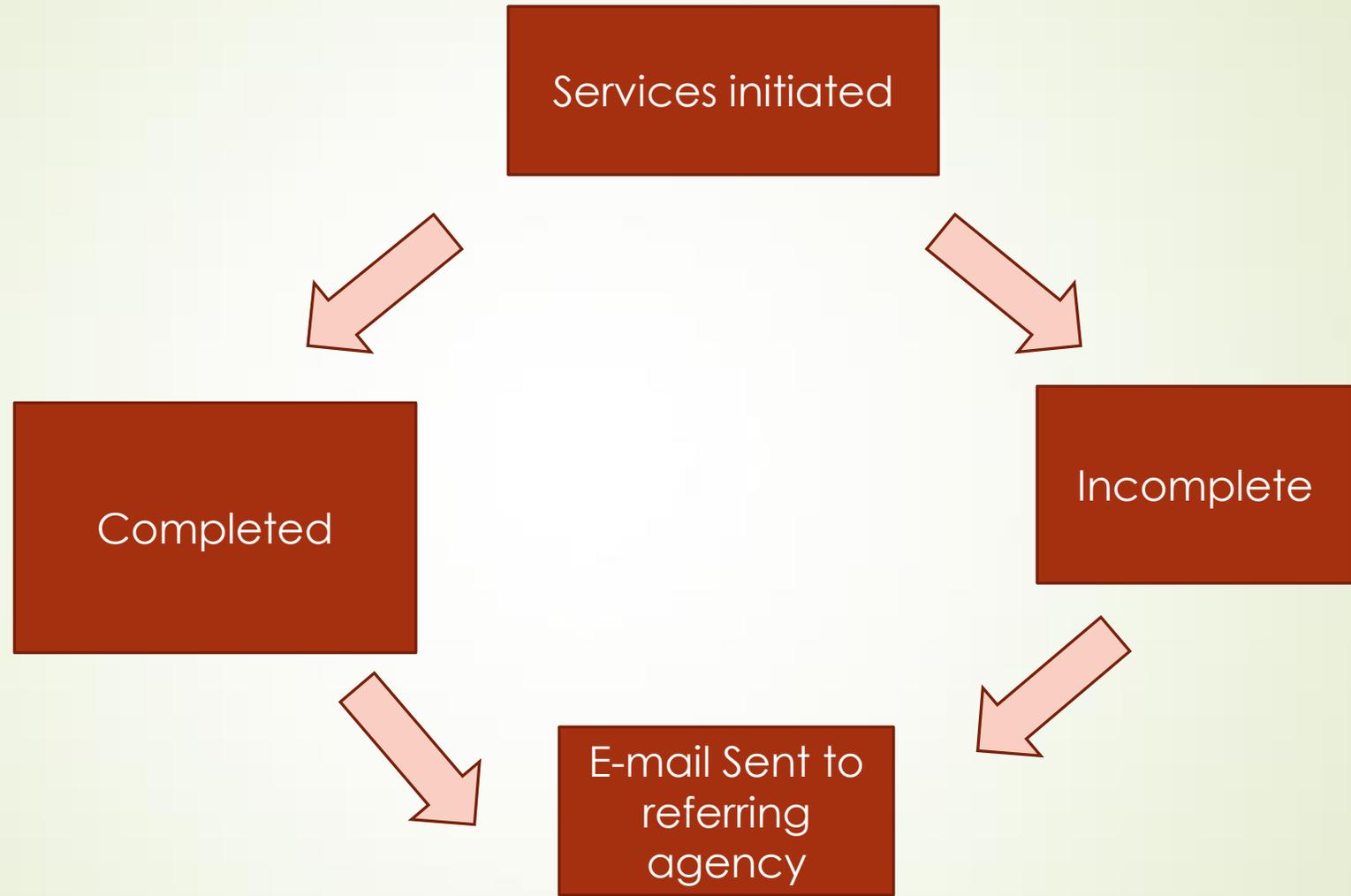
Referring agency: obtains and enters an ROI, and submits an online referral.



Receiving agency is notified via e-mail.









Current Reporting



- Number of referrals made/ received, and to/ by who
- Number of days between a referral and initiation of contact/ services
- Number of days on a waiting list
- Percentage of referrals contacted, completed services, referred for additional services, etc.
- Number of referrals resulting in incomplete services



Benefit and Successes of the Helena Consented Referral System

- Connects people to services
 - Provides data
 - Opens communication between providers
- 



Challenges of the Helena Consented Referral System

- Concerns:
 - Replaces Human contact.
 - Why fix what isn't broken?
 - Is it secure?
 - Too time consuming.

Challenges of the Helena Consented Referral System

Sustainability





The Future of the Helena Consented Referral System

- New Version Released June 30, 2014
 - Customizable referral form.
 - Increased reporting capabilities.
- 



Future of the Helena Consented Referral System

- ▶ Lewis and Clark County Health Department
 - ▶ Expansion to other service areas
 - ▶ Expansion to other communities
- 

Questions?

Drenda Niemann

Community Health Division Administrator
Lewis and Clark City-County Health Department
DNiemann@lccountymt.gov

Alexis Molineux-Gibbons

Resource and Referral Coordinator
Helena School District
agibbons@Helena.k12.mt.us



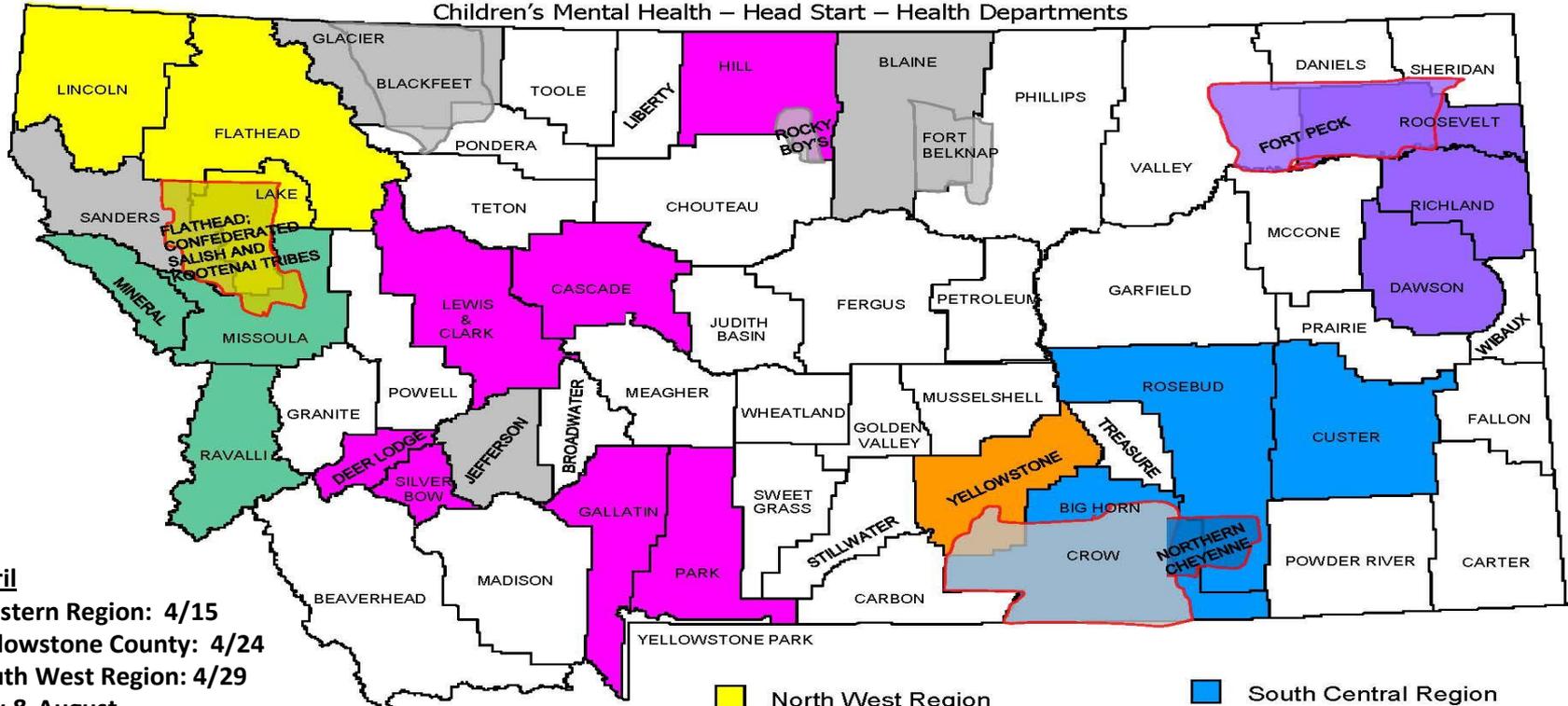
Collaborative Connection 2014 Regional Meetings



Community Regions for Collaborative Meetings

Best Beginnings – Home Visitors – Child & Family Service – Part C –

Children’s Mental Health – Head Start – Health Departments



April

Western Region: 4/15

Yellowstone County: 4/24

South West Region: 4/29

July & August

South Central Region: 7/30

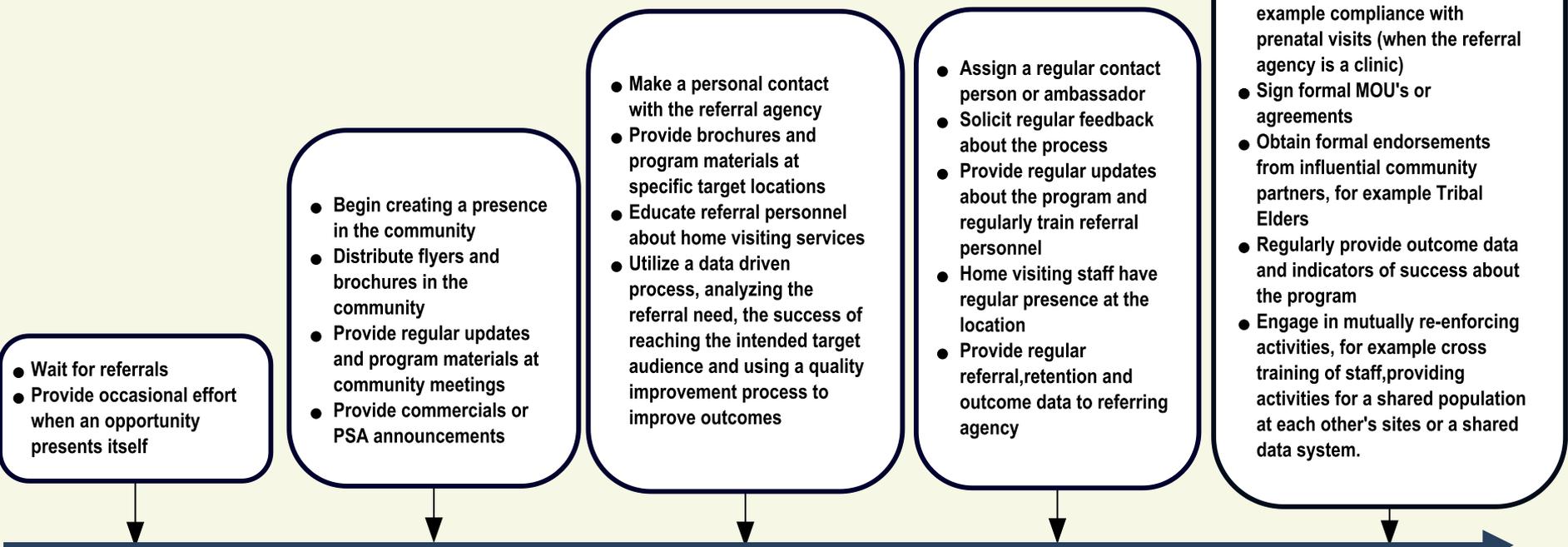
Eastern Region: 8/14

North West Region: 8/21

- North West Region
- Western Region
- South West Region
- South Central Region
- Eastern Region
- Yellowstone County

Regional Meetings >

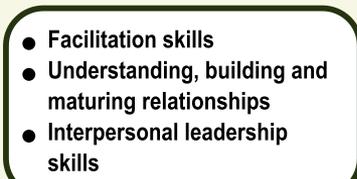
Continuum of Recruitment/Referral Effort



Each subsequent effort builds upon the success of the previous efforts



Leadership Competencies →



Develops into a Sustained and Long-Term Reciprocal Referral Relationship

MONTANA BEST BEGINNINGS ADVISORY COUNCIL



WHERE HAVE WE BEEN
WHERE ARE WE NOW
WHERE ARE WE GOING



Patty Butler, Early Childhood Services Bureau
Larry Wilkerson, Early Childhood Services Bureau



Overview

- **History**
 - Creation of Montana's Best Beginnings Advisory Council
 - Goal of Montana's Best Beginnings Advisory Council
 - Decision Making
- **Purpose**
 - Strategic goal
- **Guiding Principles**
- **Current Structure**
 - Committees
 - Leadership
 - Leadership Team
 - Committee Chairs
- **Other States' Structures**
- **Accomplishments**
- **Future**

History

Creation of Montana's Best Beginnings Advisory Council

- The Montana Best Beginnings Advisory Council was formed in 2011 as a successor to the Montana Early Childhood Advisory Council in compliance with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.
- The Agency Order establishing the Best Beginnings Advisory Council under MCA 2-15-122 was signed by Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services Director Anna Whiting Sorrell on June 23, 2011, and by Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer on June 28, 2011.

Goal of Montana's Best Beginnings Advisory Council

- The Best Beginnings Advisory Council will serve as the comprehensive early childhood advisory council and will serve as the collaborating entity for the early childhood system.
- The Advisory Council will also serve as the connector, especially through key appointments and staff to the council, to the Governor's Office subcabinet, the DPPHS branch management structure, and other early childhood work groups.

Decision Making

- No fewer than 30 voting members appointed by DPHHS Director
- Ex-officio non-voting members
- Consensus

Purpose

Strategic Goal

Montana shall have a comprehensive, coordinated early childhood system that provides a governance structure and leads to strong collaboration in order to best meet the needs of Montana's youngest citizens, and includes four system principal objectives:

1. Children have access to high quality Early Childhood Programs.
2. Families with young children are supported in their community.
3. Children have access to a medical home and health insurance.
4. Social, emotional, and mental health needs of young children and families are supported.



Guiding Principles



Best Beginnings Advisory Council Guiding Principles

- All families can benefit from education and support.
- All parents are in the process of developing their skills and abilities as parents.
- A diverse approach to service delivery must be innovative, empowering, and inclusive.
- Every child deserves to have quality early childhood experiences.
- Accessible and appropriate health care is a crucial component of an Early Childhood Comprehensive System (ECCS).
- An ECCS must have poverty reduction, economic development and job skills training as core components.
- The private sector must be included and encouraged to become a key partner in ECCS development.
- Community provides supporting environments for families.
- Services must be linked for maximum effectiveness.

Current Structure

Committees

- Professional Development
 - Chair: Libby Hancock
- High Quality Early Care and Education
 - Chair: Rhonda Schwenke
- Family Support
 - Chairs: Kelly Hart & Caitlin Jensen
- Health
 - Chair: Shelly Meyer
- Social, Emotional, Mental Health
 - Chair: Christy Hill-Larson
- Strategic Communication, Outreach and Public Awareness
 - Chair: Sara Groves

DPHHS Leadership

- Jamie Palagi, Human and Community Services Division Administrator
- Sarah Corbally, Child and Family Services Division Administrator
- Lindsey Krywaruchka, Public Health and Safety Division Interim Administrator
- Rebecca de Camara, Developmental Services Division Administrator
- Patty Butler, Early Childhood Services Bureau Chief
- Larry Wilkerson, Best Beginnings Advisory Council Coordinator

Other States' Structures

State	Council Name	Designated State Agency	Members	Committees	Projects Tasked
Arizona	Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board	Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board	12 on state board 341 on regional councils	4	Needs Assessment QRIS Development Early Learning Guidelines
California	California State Advisory Council on Early Learning and Care	Department of Education	10	0	Needs Assessment Workforce/Professional Development
Colorado	Colorado Early Childhood Leadership Commission	Governor's Office	35	4	Race to the Top Grant Seamless Services Collaboration. with Department of Education and Department of Human Services
Delaware	Delaware Early Childhood Council	Interagency Resource Management Committee	19	5	Strategic Plan Early Learning Guidelines Kindergarten Readiness Assess. Unified Data System
Hawaii	Hawaii Early Learning Advisory Board	Governor's Office	19	6	Collaboration and Coordination Early Learning Standards Research QRIS

Other States' Structures

State	Council Name	Designated State Agency	Members	Committees	Projects Tasked
Idaho	Governor's Early Childhood Coordinating Council	Governor's Office	20	7	Coordinated Collaborative Care Family Access to Support Quality Childcare Social and Emotional Care
Iowa	Iowa Early Childhood Stakeholders Alliance	Iowa Department of Management	300 20 (Steering Committee)	8	Needs Assessment Unified Data Systems Development Public Engagement Early Learning Standards
Kansas	Kansas Early Childhood Advisory Council	Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund	21	2	Assessment of Statewide Collaboration School Readiness Framework
Minnesota	Minnesota Early Learning Council	Minnesota Department of Education	30	5	Early Learning Standards QRIS Unified Data Systems Development Underserved Population
Missouri	Coordinating Board for Early Childhood	Missouri Department of Social Services	17	5	Early Learning Standards Strategic Plan Unified Data Systems Home Visiting

Other States' Structures

State	Council Name	Designated State Agency	Members	Committees	Projects Tasked
Nebraska	Nebraska Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council	Nebraska Department of Education, Head Start Collaboration Office	32	8	Parent Engagement & Public Awareness Unified Data Systems Development
Nevada	Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council	Nevada Department of Public Health and Human Services	14	6	Needs Assessment Kindergarten Readiness Assess. Unified Data Systems Comprehensive EC Plan
New Mexico	New Mexico Early Learning Advisory Council	New Mexico Children, Youth, and Families Department, Child Development Board	15	1 Task Force 1	Early Learning Guidelines & Plans Alignment Data Warehouse Financing
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Board	Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness	32	10	Needs Assessment Quality Workforce Sustainability
Oregon	Oregon Early Learning Council	Governor's Office	18	5	Outcomes Alignment Screening and Readiness Other

Other States' Structures

State	Council Name	Designated State Agency	Members	Committees	Projects Tasked
Texas	Texas Early Learning Council	Children's Learning Institute, University of Texas-Houston, Health Science Center	18	4	Needs Assessment Early Learning Standards Alignment of Standards QRIS
Utah	Early Childhood Utah	Utah Department of Health, Bureau of Child Development	18	4	Unified Data Systems Early Learning Standards Increased Development Screening
Washington	Washington Early Learning Advisory Council	Washington Department of Early Learning	23	1	Early Learning Plan Early Learning Standards Kind. Entry Assessment Alignment & Collaboration
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Early Childhood Advisory Council	Wisconsin Department of Children and Families	28	8	Strategic Planning Early Learning Guidelines Health and Screening Assessment Unified Data Systems
Wyoming	Wyoming Early Childhood State Advisory Council	Wyoming Department of Family Services	26	3	Needs Assessment Early Learning Guidelines School Readiness Framework

Future

- The Best Beginnings Advisory Council Charge ends June of 2014
- Future Structure and Organization
- What, Where, Who?



Questions?

