
BEST BEGINNINGS STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL



January 7, 2015 – 10:00pm to 5:00 pm

January 8, 2015 – 8:30 pm to 3:00 pm

RED LION COLONIAL HOTEL – 2301 COLONIAL DRIVE
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.

JANUARY 7, 2015

AGENDA

9:30-10:00	Coffee – Networking
10-11:30	Welcome, Introductions, and Setting the Stage <i>Patty Butler, Early Childhood Services Bureau Chief</i> <i>Kathy Rich, Best Beginnings Advisory Council Coordinator</i> <i>Julie Benson-Rosston, Facilitator</i>
11:30-12:00	Break/Lunch
12:00-12:30	Governor's Office Update <i>Shannon O'Brien, Education Policy Advisor for Governor Bullock</i> <i>Siri Smillie, Communities and Safety Policy Advisor for Governor Bullock</i>
12:30-2:00	Legislative Updates - Division Administrators, DPHHS, and OPI
2:00-2:15	Break
2:15-4:45	Community Café – MIECHV, HSSCO, CCDF, ECCS, MT Preschool Development Grant, HMTTP, Montana PLI
4:45-5:00	Meeting Adjourned

MEETING NOTES

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND SETTING THE STAGE

GROUND RULES

- Be sensitive to technology
- Informal breaks (coffee, restroom, etc.)
- 1 person speaks at a time (no side bars)
- Honor our break times
- Fully listen to each other
- Have fun
- Raise hands when it is time to start up the meeting
- Participate
- Step back; step forward
- Ok to disagree

MOVING FORWARD BBAC

Kathy Rich, Best Beginnings Advisory Council Coordinator

KEY POINTS COVERED

- History
- Purpose
- Guiding Principles
- Organizational Structure and Roles

QUESTIONS FROM THE COUNCIL

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE UPDATE

Shannon O'Brien, Education Policy Advisor for Governor Bullock

Siri Smillie, Communities and Safety Policy Advisor for Governor Bullock

KEY POINTS COVERED

- Superintendent regional meetings
 - Attended 9 meetings to talk about early childhood and education
 - Handed out Early Learning standards
- Preschool standards approved by the Board of Education
 - Link for Ch. 63: <http://bpe.mt.gov/content/PDF/VariousDocs/HearingReportChpt63>
- Early Edge
 - Link for Early Edge Montana: <http://earlyedge.mt.gov/>

Question/Answer session from the Council was provided

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION

Sarah Corbally, Child and Family Services Division Administrator

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DIVISION

Denise Higgins, Family and Community Health Bureau Chief

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH BUREAU

Zoe Bernard, Children's Mental Health Bureau Chief

Novalene Martin, Developmental Disability Program Chief

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Tara Ferriter-Smith, Title I Instructional Innovations Specialist

QUALITY ASSURANCE DIVISION

QAD representative absent

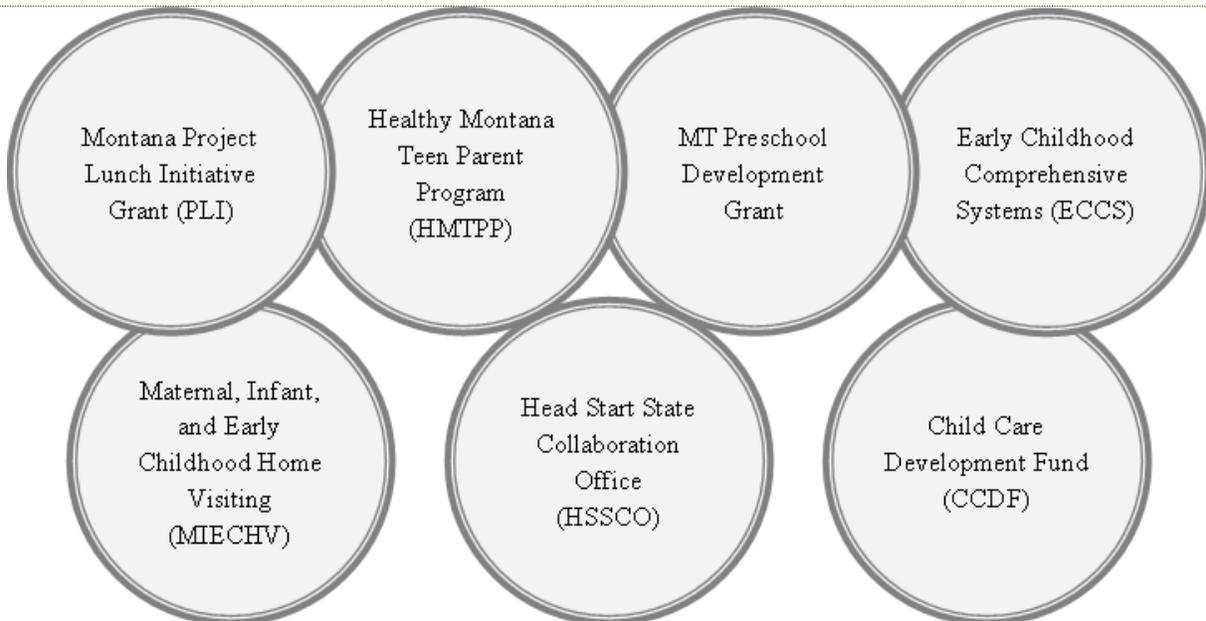
- Website: <http://dphhs.mt.gov/qad>

HUMAN AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

Jamie Palagi, Human and Community Services Division Administrator

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

OVERVIEW



- Members visited each table for a summary of information
 - Grant information
 - Opportunities for question/answer

WRAP UP

PUBLIC COMMENT

Danica Jameson, CEO Greater Gallatin United Way

- Thank you for having us.

Carrie Leu, Early Childhood Services Bureau Child Care Program Manager

- Great approach with the table activity.

JANUARY 8, 2015

AGENDA

8:00-8:15	Continental Breakfast
8:15-8:30	Welcome and Announcements <i>Montana Children's Trust Fund</i>
8:30-10:15	Breakout Sessions
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-11:30	Identification of Priorities from small group discussions
11:30-12:00	Break/Lunch
12:00-12:30	Preschool Development Grant Overview <i>Tara Ferriter-Smith, OPI</i>
12:30-1:30	Facilitated Discussion – Establish work groups
1:30-1:45	Break
1:45-2:45	Work Group Development- leadership, action steps
2:45-3:00	Public Comment
3:00	Adjourn

MEETING NOTES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jamey Peterson, Children's Trust Fund Grant Manager

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

The council broke out into small groups to discuss the following:

- Themes
- Issues/Concerns
- Priorities
- Goals/Hopes
- Action items

The group will report back to council.

IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITIES FROM SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

ISSUES/ CONCERNS

THEMES

PRIORITIES

GOALS/ HOPES

ACTION ITEMS

PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT OVERVIEW

Tara Ferriter-Smith, OPI

KEY POINTS

GOALS

- 1) Expand and Develop High Quality Preschool Programs
- 2) Expand the number and percentage of *eligible children* in *high-needs communities* served by *high quality preschool programs* and who are ready for kindergarten as determined by a valid and reliable assessment for kindergarten readiness
- 3) Develop and implement a *Kindergarten Entry Assessment System* for participating children by the end of Year 3 of the grant
- 4) Support targeted early learning providers and gather data about the implementation of structural elements of high-quality preschool programs as identified in the Montana Preschool Education Standards

SUPPORT FROM BBAC: YEAR 1
SUPPORT FROM BBAC: ONGOING

QUESTIONS FROM THE COUNCIL

FACILITATED DISCUSSION – ESTABLISH WORK GROUPS

- **Local Coalitions:** Sustainability and Support for Early Childhood Local Coalition

WORK GROUP DEVELOPMENT – LEADERSHIP/ACTION STEPS

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given