

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting  
Call In: 1-802-828-7667  
Conference ID: 248 638 276#

Advisory Committee (AC) Members: **Monica Hutt**, State Chief Prevention Officer; **Janet McLaughlin**, Commissioner for Children and Families designee; **Ilisa Stalberg**, Commissioner of Health designee; **Laurel Omland**, Commissioner of Mental Health designee; **Alison Thomas**; Secretary of Natural Resources designee; **Nate Formalarie**, Secretary of Commerce and Community Development designee; **Nicole Miller**, Vermont Afterschool Executive Director; and **Kendal Smith**, Governor's Office.

### **DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**AC Members Present:** **Janet McLaughlin**, Deputy Commissioner, Child Development Division; **Laurel Omland**, Director of Child, Adolescent and Family Unit; **Monica Hutt**, Chief Prevention Officer; **Ilisa Stahlberg**, Director, Maternal and Child Health; **Nate Formalarie**, Secretary of Agency of Commerce and Community Deputy Commissioner of Housing and Community Development; **Nicole Miller**, Vermont Afterschool (VAS) Executive Director; **Kendal Smith**, Governor's Office.

**Agency of Education (AOE):** Zoie Saunders, Interim Secretary of Education; Johannes Haensch, Program Manager; Emanuel Betz, 21C CCLC State Coordinator, Maureen Gaidys, Administrative Services Coordinator.

**Members of the public/others:** Tara Howe, VR Regional Manager; Helen Mattheis.

#### **Call to Order/Roll Call/Amendments to the Agenda**

Smith called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. and welcomed members and asked them to introduce themselves. There were no amendments to the agenda.

#### **Approve [August 29, 2024, Meeting Minutes](#) and [September 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes](#)**

Miller moved to approve the August 29, 2024 minutes; Omland seconded. There was no discussion. Smith called the vote. The motion carried. The September 19, 2024 meeting minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

#### **Discussion: Afterschool Data Initiative Works -in-Progress Presentation**

Formalarie commented on the amount of work happening in the background and that progress is inspiring. Miller shared [slides from yesterday's presentation by the Wallace Foundation at the Building Bright Futures \(BBF\) – Vermont's Early Childhood Action Plan \(VECAP\) Data and Evaluation Committee](#).

Saunders commented on the heat maps and how helpful these were in identifying on areas where focused efforts and expansion are needed.

#### **Public to be Heard**

There were no members of the public to be heard.

### **Discussion: Capacity Building**

Saunders framed this discussion by sharing two potential pathways forward to building capacity: 1) thinking about some shorter term grant making process where we would be able to build up capabilities and 2) a strategy where we proactively identify those areas that are deserts in terms of after school and summer programming and offering more of an entitlement type of approach and building their capacity to be ready to apply for a grant.

Haensch spoke about the “why” of some desert areas. Betz spoke about the granting process for small, medium and large that is designed to meet people where they are at and offers flexibility. He shared the [Afterschool and Summer Learning Programs Readiness Self-Assessment](#) which is also posted on the AOE website and how he uses this to think about what is needed for success.

There was discussion on ability to sustain, funding sustainability and thinking about it differently, fee structures are allowed but programs must provide a way to accommodate those who cannot pay, Vermont has built a system that has been sustaining itself and been able to use initial \$6 million to build this to \$14 million, have 12 years of data across 5 areas, “sustain” means using federal funds and doubling that with local funds, historical data, good money follows good programs, opportunity to collaborate with school partners/Child Development Division(CDD)/those funded under ESSER to help communities get over the first hurdle, how to provide boots on the ground support, hearing from [First Children’s Finance](#) on some of the models they have to support capacity building for early childhood programs, how to model out the role that childcare financial assistance could potentially play, contract amendment, and braiding resources and how far that would reach.

Betz offered this [Summer Learning Program Considerations](#) and added that this resource is school-based, but the lessons are transferrable. Discussion continued on starting small, building off successes, grass roots efforts, proactive outreach to target communities with low afterschool and summer programming, prequalifying certain area/programs, importance of data and analysis to identify deserts, combining prequalification with technical assistance, non-school partners who could be primed, preapproval process being a passive approach, targeted approach with guidance to reduce the workload, differentiating support in the field, Identifying communities that could benefit from additional resources but don’t have the capacity and are underutilizing certain entitlement programs, preapproval process might create an extra hurdle, scoping work to a small group of communities, needing quality programs not just a program, whole system development model, needs sustained design, challenges with turnover of strong leadership.

### **Other**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2024, from 9-10:00 a.m.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Meeting Minutes recorded by: Maureen Gaidys