

Early Childhood Coach Collaboration Team Charter

Vision: All children in Nebraska have safe, stable, nurturing, relationships and environments.

Mission: Encourage the optimal development of young children in Nebraska by supporting high quality child care, home, and educational environments and experiences through the provision of effective coaching.

Purpose: Ensure the development and sustainability of cross-system early childhood professional development in Nebraska focusing on coaching as one delivery mechanism. Provide the backbone infrastructure needed to utilize the Collective Impact Framework (Common Agenda, Shared Measurement, Mutually Reinforcing Activities, and Continuous Communication) to achieve cross-system alignment.

Outcomes:

1. Nebraska has a sufficient workforce of qualified and effective coaches distributed and available across the state to assist programs through training and coaching in early childhood settings. Processes and practices are developed and written down to maintain an efficient and effective coordinated system of professional development training and coaching across the state.
2. A coordinated and centralized system is maintained to track available coaches, identify locations, contact information, education, specializations, training complete in specific practices.
3. Utilize strategies to ensure coach communication to reduce provider confusion related to multiple coaching initiatives.
4. Streamlined processes including financing and contracting for coaching, coordination and implementation across initiatives and within individual early childhood programs, and scheduling an annual calendar of training delivery.
5. Identify, collect, and share relevant data across initiatives to inform the process of implementation, and measure changes in agreed upon measures of quality, identify a baseline and measure growth in the participation and impact among early childhood programs and the children being served.

Actions:

1. Provide the space for communication flow from work groups (Coach Development Network and Systems Infrastructure).
2. Communicate progress made toward establishing and carrying out specific actions for each of the outcome areas and report regularly at meetings of the full EC Coach Collaboration Team.
3. Bring cross-team issues to the full team to resolve as needed.
4. Support on-going public private co-facilitation of the meetings and maintain group materials.

Group Composition: The EC Coach Collaboration Team is comprised of representatives from the Nebraska Department of Education; Offices of Early Childhood & Special Education; Step Up to Quality; Head Start/Early Head Start; Early Development Network; University of Nebraska-Lincoln Nebraska Academy for Early Childhood Research; University of Nebraska Medical Center, Munroe-Meyer Institute; Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, Rooted in Relationship and Sixpence Initiatives; Department of Health & Human Services; Buffett Early Childhood Institute; Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children; Regional System-Early Learning Connections Coach Consultants and any other initiative providing coaching across settings and programs.

Authority, Commitment, Decision-Making: Group members are collectively working within the mandates of their roles and decisions will be made by group consensus. Targeted groups include early childhood providers and program coaching partners across systems focused on professional development of all early childhood professionals. The commitment of this membership is to be accountable to one another for taking actions in accordance with assigned priorities, maintain a structure for improved communication at the state, regional, and community levels, and work together to review relevant data for ongoing informed decision-making. Members agree to be conduits for sharing information between and among this group, partners, and the various commissions or boards that provide oversight and support to the work of each member organization.

Group Time Requirements: Representatives from each partner agency will meet quarterly in conjunction with the Pyramid Leadership Team meetings to check in on progress made toward implementing strategies. Work on strategies will occur between meetings by work groups. Frequency and duration of meetings can change upon the consensus and needs of the group.