C3: *State Early Childhood Integrated Data System: System Building and Utilization*
Wednesday, June 28, 2023
4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. | *Gallery I*

1. Descriptive Information

C3: State Early Childhood Integrated Data System: System Building and Utilization
 	
This interactive session will discuss challenges and successes related to creating a state early childhood integrated data system, focusing particularly on data governance, collaborating with agencies and researchers in system building, and the utilization of data, including community and user voices in developing the data system and current and future directions that states are taking to improve their integrated data system (e.g., making longitudinal data). At the end of this session, we will compile lessons learned when building and utilizing an integrated data system.
	Presenters
	
	   Susan Jekielek, University of Michigan
	
	   Van-Kim Lin, Child Trends
	
	   Bentley Ponder, Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
	
	   Herman Knopf, Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies, University of Florida
	
	   Rebecca Bulotsky-Shearer, University of Miami
	
	   Elizabeth Howe, University of Miami
	
	Scribe
	
	Hannah Reutter
	
	Number of Attendees: 26

2. Documents/Presentations Shared (Please list any electronic documents, PowerPoint presentations, or web links used during the session.) *Collect presenter PowerPoints or other documents on the flash drive provided.*

3. Brief Summary of Presentations

Summary of Presentation #1: Overview of Early Childhood Integrated Data Systems (ECIDS) - Van-Kim Lin - Child Trends
- What are Early Childhood Integrated Data Systems (ECIDS)?
  - Being able to merge data is what is called ECIDS, you get more data than you would at just one agency
- Building ECIDS is a top priority for states
- ECIDS can be built differently
  - Centralized Model: data is integrated into one database. This requires lots of work on the front end to standardize data.
  - Federated Model: every system maintains ownership of their data, but they sign an MOU to link their data.
  - Hybrid Model: data generally stay in original sources, but a standard data linking process is determined and applied for every data request

- Intentional strategies can center equity
  - Think about the questions, establish a governing body, ensure that children are present throughout all the data
- Example of equity in preschool
- Final Thoughts
  - ECIDS can help program and policy leaders answer critical questions about children, families, and the workforce across the early childhood system
- How an ECIDS is constructed depends on feasibility and applicability and influences how data can be used
- ECIDS can advance and address issues related to equity for children, families, and the workforce

Summary of Presentation #2: Georgia's CACDS - Bentley Ponder - Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
- Georgia's CACDS
- Contextual
  - Infrastructure:
    - Has 400 unique, matched data elements across programs
    - Utilizes business intelligence to identify gaps, enable analysis and research, and serve the needs of young learners effectively.
    - Housed within Georgia's Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) and is managed by an internal Research Team
    - Partnered with Head Start to facilitate communication within the Head Start community.
  - Ongoing:
    - Data sharing agreements with UGA CVIOG, ChildPlus, EasyTrack
    - CVIOG demonstration project) data and research questions)
- Ideal World
- Acquire foster care data (DHS)
- CACDS data remains consistently current and refreshed.
- Stronger cross agency partnership in CACDS
- Improved data validation processes
- Better usage of data by our partners/agencies
- CACDS is more accessible to the public.
- Secure a strong champion for CACDS
- In-person engagement with our agency partners
- Next steps
  - Fully staffed internally with an ECIDS lead, Research lead, and IT lead
  - Re-engagement with stakeholders/partners
  - Data results and answers to research questions from CVIOG Demonstration project
  - A trustworthy data system that is a fully operational and efficient ECIDS

Summary of Presentation #3: The Sunshine Portal: An Integrated Early Childhood Data System for the public good - Herman Knopf and Anita Zucker - Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies at the University of Florida
- The Sunshine Portal
  - Project to create an early childhood integrated data system to:
    - Better understand the relationship between service-use, family characteristics, family economic mobility and kindergarten readiness
    - Support child care subsidy program implementation
    - Describe the current state of early learning systems' areas of successes and needs for improvement
- Recent Products
  - Public Assistance Program Participation FL Legislature
  - Child, Family, Service Use and Kindergarten Readiness
    - (Random Forrest Regression & Conditional Inference Trees)

- o Other recent Reports:
  - Child Care Provider Survival Analysis
  - Describing Florida School Readiness Program Service-Use Among Children who are At-Risk
  - Florida School Readiness Program's Utilization of Child Care Capacity
  - Examining Associations Between CLASS Scores and Gold Seal Accreditation
  - Florida Index of Child Care Access

Summary of Presentation #4: Miami-Dade IDEAS Consortium for Children - Rebecca Bulotsky-Shearer and Elizabeth Howe - University of Miami

- Miami-Dade IDEAS Consortium for Children
- Our Shared Goal
  - o Build partnership and data sharing capacity to integrate, align and improve services for all children (0 to 8) in Miami-Dade County.
  - o How can we use data from public systems to improve child outcomes in a complex urban environment?
- History & Structure of the IDEAS Consortium
  - o Initiated in 2014 with IES Research-Practice Partnership Grant Award
  - o Ongoing infrastructure support from the local Children's Trust in Miami-Dade since 2018
  - o Formal governance committee and MOU, data integration and storage capacity, and privacy protections
  - o 2020-2021 updated MOU to incorporate 2-stage process (best practices)
- Challenges and Wishlist
  - o Sustainability, utility and capacity (how long can we sustain in a University-supported IDS?)
  - o How to bring community voices into IDS governance and use? Exploring ways to bring community partner voices to the research review stage and as part of formal governance
  - o Co-create shared mission and values statement with a focus on equity with partner agencies from which we operate internally and across partner systems
- Next Steps
  - o Who are we centering in our research?
  - o Is our work contributing to progress? Promoting equity?
  - o What are our assumptions about children's school readiness? Community assets?
  - o New grant-funded projects to move this work forward (Spencer foundation, RWJ Foundation, The Children's Trust)
- Centering Racial Equity throughout the Data Life Cycle
  - o Racial Equity in
    - Planning
    - Data Collection
    - Data Access
    - Algorithms/Statistical Tools
    - Data Analysis
    - Reporting and Dissemination
- Act - Plan - Do - Study
- Community Perspectives Equity & Resilience
  - o What are the top 3 neighborhood factors that support children and families in your community?
- Community Feedback & Guidance
  - o *How should our work begin to center racial equity in our data integration work? Choose as many as apply.*
  - o Having race equity as an agenda item in Governing Board / Planning meetings - 20.4%
  - o Partnering with people whose data is in the system - 22.8%
  - o Partnering with race equity experts from other disciplines to contextualize data sets - 27.5%
  - o Educating self/staff on history and structure of racism and implicit bias - 27.5%
  - o Other - 1.8%
- Community Perspectives: What is the value of access to integrated data for your role in the community?

4. Brief Summary of Discussion

Q: How if at all, have you centered equity in your data integration work?

A: Human centered approach is how you come up with questions. From the user perspective, consider what is their experience

Comment: The government digital service has a long document of framework