



# Family Support and Literacy: Our framework to put young children on the pathway to success

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Summit

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FIRST THINGS FIRST



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# Introductions

Please introduce yourself by stating:

- Your name
- The organization with which you work
- Description of your work with children and families



# Discussion for today

- BUILD National Initiative
- Coffman's Framework/ Systems Building
- FTF Strategic Initiative/ Family Support and Literacy Work



# Discussion – Family Support

- What is family support?
- Who are the key players/organizations in family support?
- How do we work together?



# Family Support and Literacy

- Foster the optimal development of children, youth, and family members
- Grassroots, community-based programs designed to prevent family problems
- Preventative, responsive, flexible, family-focused, strength-based, holistic and effective
- Movement for social change



# Julia Coffman (2007) A Framework for Evaluating Systems Initiatives



# Why Coffman's Framework?

- Valuable in identifying assets and gaps
- Organizing recommendations across FTF
- Focus on achieving 2020 benchmarks SRI



# Context

- Changing the political environment that surrounds system and affects its success
  - Policy changes that expand or enhance systems, strategies and programs
  - Public engagement or mobilization
  - New knowledge and perspectives
  - New advocates or champions





# Group discussion

- What are examples of what is currently driving “context” in family support?



# Components

- Establishing high-performing quality programs and services
  - Expanded program reach or coverage
  - Continuous improved program quality
  - Increased operational efficiency (e.g., maximize use of technology)





# Group discussion

- What are examples of high performing family support “components” within your organization or community?



# Connections

- Creating strong and effective linkage across the system
  - Collaborative approach among and between partners, agencies, regions and grantees
  - Joint planning across systems components
  - Shared data systems for measuring progress
  - Outcome data used to drive decision making





# Group discussion

- Why are “connections” valuable in family support?
- What other opportunities are there to make connections in family support?



# Infrastructure

- Developing the supports the system needs to function effectively and with quality
  - Consistent and expected standards of quality across the system
  - Education and training to ensure an appropriately skilled systems workforce
  - Technical assistance to support systems development





# Group discussion

- To do your work better, what additional supports (infrastructure) are needed in the community?



# Scale

- Ensuring the system is comprehensive and works for all children
  - Availability of programs and services throughout a geographic region
  - A comprehensive array of programs and services for systems beneficiaries





# Group discussion

- What single program in your community do you think more children and families should access and why?



# School Readiness Indicators



## CHILD DEVELOPMENT & EARLY LEARNING

- Kindergarten Readiness
- Quality Early Education
- Quality Early Education – Special Needs
- Affordability of Quality Early Education
- Developmental Delays Identified in Kindergarten
- Transition from Preschool Special Education



## CHILDREN'S HEALTH

- Healthy Weight
- Well-Child Visits
- Dental Health



## FAMILY SUPPORT & LITERACY

- Competent Families



# Family Support and Literacy School Readiness Indicators

- **Indicator #1:** Number/percentage of children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical
- **Indicator #10:** Percentage of families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health and well being



# Family Support and Literacy

## Regional Strategies

### Community-based

- Parent Education  
Community Based Training
- Family Resource Center
- Parent Outreach and Awareness
- Native Language Preservation
- Food Security

### Home-based

- Home Visitation
- Family Support Coordination



# Family Support and Literacy

## Statewide and Multi Regional Strategies

- Parent Kit
- Birth to Five Helpline
- Reach Out and Read



# Systems Building Initiatives

1. Saturate families with information, resources and supports
2. Build families' capacity to support their child's health and development
3. Infuse early literacy throughout all system work
4. Expand access to high quality early learning
5. Develop and connect components of a comprehensive assessment system
6. Complete implementation of the early childhood professional development system infrastructure
7. Collect, utilize and communicate outcome data



# 1. Saturate families with Information, Resources & Supports...

- Family Support and Literacy Strategies
  - Arizona Parent Kits; Family Resource Centers; Parenting Education (PECBT)



## 2. Build families' capacity to support their child's health and development

- Home Visiting



# 3. Infuse early literacy throughout all system work

- Developing a Thriving Reader from the Early Years: A Continuum of Effective Literacy Practices
- Collaborative efforts through Read On Arizona and Read On Arizona communities
- Native Language Preservation



# 5. Develop and connect components of a comprehensive assessment system

- Developmental and Sensory Screening
- Kindergarten Developmental Inventory



# 7. Collect, utilize and communicate outcome data

- Statewide and Regional Needs and Assets
- Grantee data requirements (Home Visiting, Family Resource Center, Parenting Education (PECBT))
- Evaluation Study of Family Support and Literacy Strategies in Five First Things First Regions
- FTF Quality Assurance



**Partnering**

**Transparent**

**Strength-based**

**Reflective**

**Collaborative**

**FTF Quality  
Assurance  
Philosophy**



# Impact of Quality Assurance



# Outcomes of Quality Assurance

- Assess overall performance and programmatic compliance
- Collect and share best practices
- Identify areas for improvement
- Identify and share supports and resources
- Continuously build upon and improve the early childhood system



Which initiative do you believe you do well at and which needs improvement?



# Thank you!

## Questions? Comments?

