

Early Learning Council
Direct Services/Infant & Toddler Focus Group
July 20, 2011 (9 a.m. to noon)
Haseko Center (820 Mililani Street, Suite 606)
Meeting Notes

Welcome/Introductions

Chris welcomed the group and self-introductions were made.

Terry Lock, new Early Childhood Coordinator in the Governor's Office since July 11th, shared briefly about her role and the various meetings she has been involved in to get a "lay of the land" and to prepare for the pending Race to the Top Early Challenge Grant. Terry will be taking the lead on this, although the Governor's Office is looking to possibly hire a grant writer to support the effort. Terry emphasized the Governor's "New Day Plan" which involves a renewed focus on prevention and early intervention and past investments in early childhood. Terry is in the process of finding out what early learning groups are currently in existence and how they are linking their efforts together to create a system of care for the State.

Opening Activity

Chris read Ernest (who is a VERY LARGE moose) to the group and a short discussion followed as to the book's message/ implications for the work we are engaged in.

Summary of Group's Work to Date

Because there were so many new people joining the group at this meeting, Chris gave a brief summary of why the Early Learning Council Direct Services Sub-Committee decided to convene an Infant/Toddler Focus Group, and shared what has occurred over the past 3 meetings to date (January 19, February 24, June 2).

Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant (RTTT ELC) Discussion

- Opportunities for the State of Hawaii
- What recommendations does this group have to improve the system for infants and toddlers?

Mike Fahey facilitated the group's discussion and brainstorming of ideas relevant to the RTTT ELC Priorities and Selection Criteria. Several recommendations were identified. Notes will be shared with Terry and a follow-up meeting scheduled with her to discuss in more detail. (See attachment)

Next Meeting

- August 24th from 9-11 a.m.
- Site TBD: Chris will check to see if the Haseko Center conference room is available.