

Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Family Leadership Group

Members: Families who have received early childhood services (WIC, Birth-3, Bright Start, Early Head Start, Responsive Parenting, etc) within the last five years or anyone parenting a child under five years of age. Members will be selected to be representative of the population served by South Dakota's early childhood systems. The group will have eight to ten members and two members will represent the group on the ECCS Collaborative Advisory Council. Those two members will be chosen by the Family Leadership Group.

Purpose: Members will be asked to draw from their experiences to provide input and direction on ECCS' goals and activities. Members will also be given learning opportunities to increase their leadership skills and knowledge of early childhood topics and systems.

Members' tasks will include:

- Helping to identify community-level successes and system-level barriers, and propose solutions to the barriers.
- Helping identify opportunities for collaboration and alignment across state and community-level programs
- Creating, implementing, and assisting in the evaluation of tools and activities required to meet ECCS program goals and HRSA Aims
- Providing additional planning, consultation and advisement upon request of the ESSC Collaborative Advisory Council, ECCS Lead and/or ECCS Family Lead.

Recommendations and feedback may be gathered using a variety of methods, including informal discussion, guided discussions, surveys, and other activities. Because this is an advisory group rather than a governing body, no formal decision-making process is required. When there are divergent opinions, all perspectives will be documented and presented to the ESSC Collaborative Advisory Council by the Family Leadership Group Representatives serving on the ESSC Collaborative Advisory Council with assistance from the Family Lead as needed or requested.

Meetings: Four to six meetings will be held annually. Most meetings will be held virtually with a possibility of one in-person meeting annually.

Participation: Members will be provided a stipend of \$60.00 per meeting they attend. Members will be expected to attend 75% of the meeting annually.

Accommodations: Members may request accommodations to participate by contacting the ECCS Family Lead at 605-641-6382 or dhunt@bhssc.org. These could include, but are not limited to, interpretation services, reading and writing of written documents, and technology assistance.