



Mississippi State Early Childhood Advisory Council Meeting

September 9, 2021

Meeting Agreements

- Everyone contributes
- Only one person speaks at a time
- Listen to each other
- Respect each others' opinions, even/especially if you don't agree with them
- Mobile phones on silent/vibrate to minimize disruptions
- Meeting livestreamed and recorded
- All members join Zoom with video, if possible, so people can see who is speaking
- All members welcome to use chat function; chat content will be included as part of the public meeting record.
- The past is not a veto of the future
- Have fun

Meeting Agenda

I. Welcome

II. Introductions/Roll Call

III. SECAC Goals and Activities for 2021-2023

i. SECAC Website

ii. Asset Mapping and Strategic Visioning for MS Early Childhood System

IV. SECAC Committees

V. Public Comments

VI. Closing Remarks and Adjournment



Introductions/Roll Call

Please state your name, title, and the agency or organization where you work.

A reminder...

The Functions of SECAC

Per Federal Statute, Public Law 110-134, Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007:

- Periodically conduct a **statewide needs assessment** concerning the quality and availability of early childhood education and development programs and services for children from birth to school entry, including assessing the availability of high-quality pre- kindergarten services for low-income children in Mississippi;
- Identify opportunities for, and barriers to, **collaboration and coordination** among Federally-funded and State-funded child development, child care, and early childhood education programs and services, including collaboration and coordination among State agencies responsible for administering such programs;
- Develop recommendations for **increasing the overall participation of children** in existing Federal, State, and local child care and early childhood education programs, including outreach to underrepresented and special populations;
- Develop recommendations regarding the **establishment of a unified data collection system** for early childhood education and development programs and services throughout Mississippi;
- Develop recommendations regarding **statewide professional development and career advancement plans** for early childhood educators in Mississippi;

The Functions of SECAC continued...

- Assess the capacity and effectiveness of **2- and 4-year public and private institutions of higher education in Mississippi** toward supporting the development of early childhood educators, including the extent to which such institutions have in place articulation agreements, professional development and career advancement plans, and practice or internships for students to spend time in a Head Start or prekindergarten program
- Make recommendations for improvements in the **State Early Learning Guidelines** and undertake efforts to develop high quality comprehensive early learning standards, as appropriate

Per State Statute, Mississippi Code § 37-21-53:

- Assist the State Department of Education with the **implementation of the Early Learning Collaborative Act of 2013**
- Ensure **coordination among the various agencies and programs** serving preschool children in order to support school district's efforts to **achieve the goal of readiness to start school**
- Facilitate **communication, cooperation, and maximum use of resources and to promote high standards** for all programs serving preschool children and their families in Mississippi
- Carry out any **responsibilities assigned to SECAC by the Governor** and/or by applicable federal law.



SECAC Goals and Activities for 2021-2023

SECAC Goals and Activities for 2021-2023

- Asset Mapping and Strategic Visioning for MS Early Childhood System
- Partnering with families, providers, and other stakeholders in the process
- Developing SECAC website to inform the public of SECAC activities and increase transparency

Mississippi SECAC Website

- Branding and website developed by The Tell Agency
- Aims:
 - Clearly communicate SECAC's purpose, values and membership.
 - Share progress on asset mapping, strategic visioning and other key activities.
 - Provide clear pathways for the field to stay informed, get involved and provide feedback and suggestions.
- URL: <http://mssecac.org>
- Next Steps:
 - Build full, interactive site to be live by October 30, 2021.



Asset Mapping & Strategic Visioning

Asset Mapping & Strategic Visioning

Goals for Today:

- Review the proposed asset mapping and strategic visioning components and process.
- Get input from SECAC members on the proposed asset mapping and strategic visioning process with the goal of finalizing the plan in November.

How To Provide Feedback:

- As we review the proposed process today, add thoughts to the Google Jamboard (link in pre-meeting email).
- There will also be 20 minutes today to provide verbal feedback.
- After today, you can also provide feedback via survey or by email.

Guiding Principles



Purpose of Asset Map & Strategic Vision

Questions the Asset Map Will Answer

- How are the children, families and the early childhood workforce involved with the MS early childhood system currently faring?
- What early childhood programs and services are available to children and families in MS?
- What funding exists for early childhood programs and services?
- What supports are available to make early childhood programs high-quality and effective?
- Are access, experiences and outcomes equitable?



The asset map will inform the creation of a **strategic vision**, which articulate a path for improvements towards a comprehensive, aligned, high-quality system of early childhood development and care.

Scope of Asset Map & Strategic Vision

Age Range: Prenatal to 8

Early Care and Education System Sectors:

- Head Start, Early Head Start, Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships
- Subsidized child care
- State-funded preschool (Early Learning Collaboratives)
- Locally funded preschool
- Home visiting
- IDEA Part B & Part C
- Title I
- University-based programs
- K-3 elementary education

Other Key Sectors:

- Health (Medicaid)
- Housing
- Subsidized basic family needs (SNAP, TANF)
- Child welfare
- Nutrition (WIC)

Asset Map Elements

**Current State
of Children &
Families**

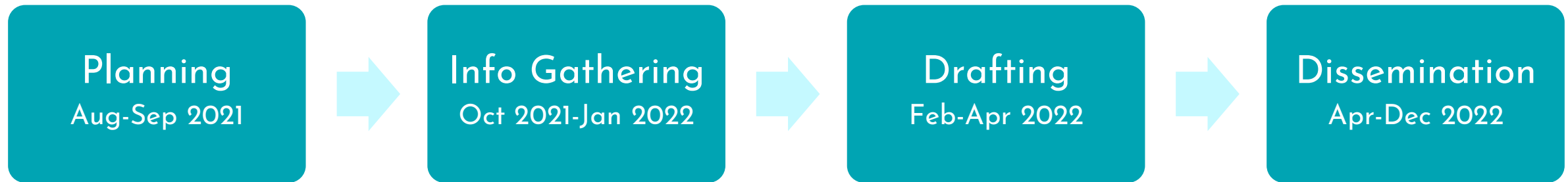
**Funding &
Governance**

**Early
Childhood
Programs
and Services**

**Early
Childhood
System
Assets**

**Public &
Political Will
for Early
Childhood**

Proposed Asset Mapping Process



WE ARE HERE!



Key Activities:

- Finalize purpose, scope, audience, general elements of asset map.
- Identify key stakeholders and develop processes for engaging SECAC and stakeholders
- Identify reports, documents, data sources for review.

Seeking Feedback

Stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who do we need to engage as we gather information, draft the asset map and craft the strategic vision? • How can we best connect with providers and families?
Data Sources/Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What data needs to be reviewed and where can it be found? • What existing reports/documents about the MS early childhood system do we need to review and build on?
Guiding Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What values do we want to guide us throughout this process?
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What questions should the asset map answer? • What priorities or changes could the strategic vision inform?
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there any other parts of the early childhood system or other sectors that should be included?
Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would you add, change or remove any elements of the asset map?
Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do the suggested phases make sense? • Are there any key activities missing?



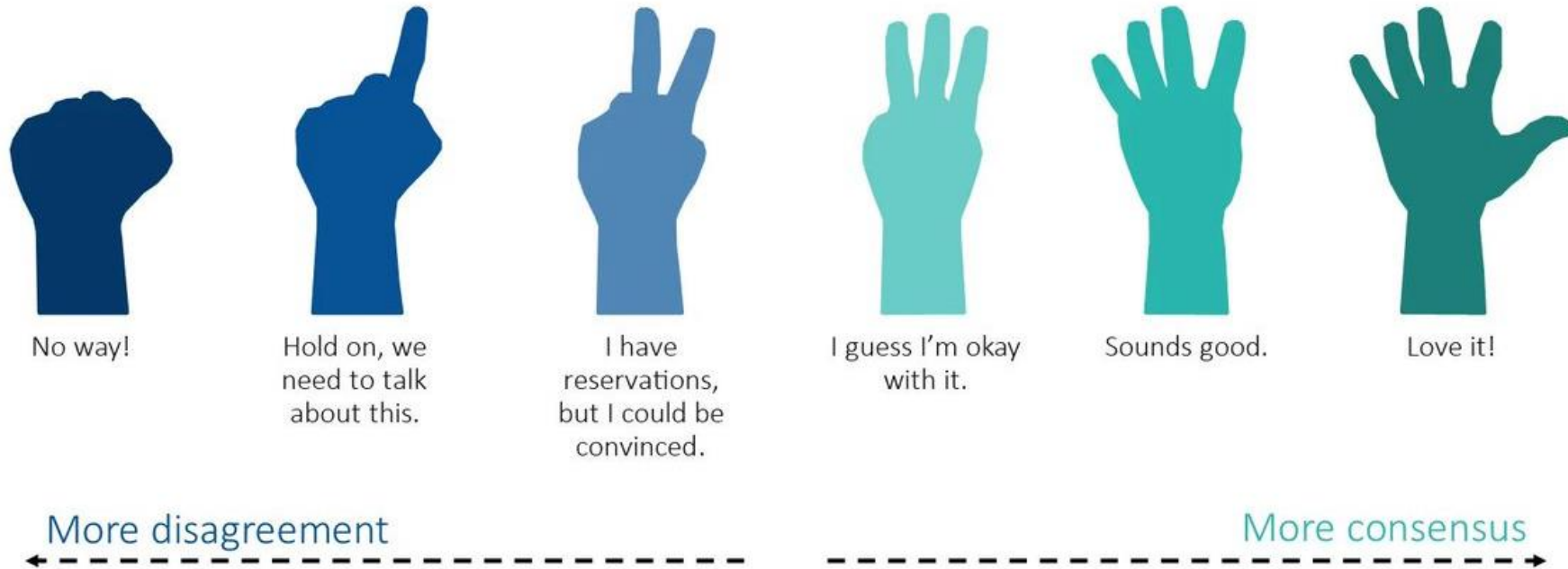
Additional Priorities for SECAC

SECAC Goals and Activities for 2021-2023

- Given what is in scope for SECAC, what do you think are the top priorities for the council to advise on now, concurrently with the asset mapping and strategic visioning process?
 - *What are some of the biggest challenges to address?*
 - *What would be most impactful, especially for children and families who have been historically marginalized?*
 - *What is urgent or time sensitive?*
 - *What would be ambitious yet achievable within the next 1-2 years?*
- Share your ideas on the Google Jamboard (link in pre-meeting email)

Checking Consensus on SECAC Goals...

Which best describes your level of agreement?





SECAC Committees



Public Comments

Public Comment Guidance

- Members of the public may submit comments in writing on the advisory council website or in person at a meeting.
- If you decide to speak at a meeting, please identify yourself for the record prior to making your comment.
- Please keep your comments to 3 minutes or less to ensure everyone who wishes to comment has the opportunity.



Closing Remarks & Adjourment