



NC RTT-ELC December Spotlight

December 21, 2015

NC RTT-ELC 2015 Grant Partners Meeting Summary

Grant Partners Convened on December 1 for Updates

Over 120 participants met on December 1st at the McKimmon Conference and Training Center in Raleigh for the 2015 North Carolina Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant Partners meeting. The event provided the opportunity to update participants on grant accomplishments, progress, plans for 2016, and the grant's impact on early childhood systems building efforts in our State.

Lucy Roberts, Early Childhood Policy Advisor for the Office of the Governor and NC RTT-ELC Director, welcomed attendees. Kristen Guillory, NC RTT-ELC Project Manager provided an overview of grant successes and plans for the final year. State agency partners provided detailed updates on projects that have been completed and those continuing into 2016, and how those projects fit into the agency vision and early childhood system. Presenters included Jennifer Johnson, NC Division of Child Development and Early Education, Dr. Lisa Eads, NC Community College System, Khari Garvin, NC Head Start State Collaboration Office, Danny Staley and Marshall Tyson, NC Division of Public Health, John Pruette and Cindy Bagwell, NC Department of Public Instruction, and Lucy Roberts, NC Early Childhood Advisory Council/ShareOffice of the Governor. Past Issues

These presentations were followed by a presentation by

Tracy Zimmerman and Lisa Finaldi of the NC Early Childhood Foundation on a new communications planning project to highlight the impact of the grant and build support for the future.

The afternoon featured two sessions to address "Enhancing NC's Early Childhood System to Support Better Outcomes for Young Children and Their Families". Oscar Fleming of the National Implementation Research Network (NIRN) presented "Applying Implementation Science in Early Childhood" and a panel of state partners discussed how implementation science has been embedded in their work and their agency. Panel members included Dan Tetreault, NC Department of Public Instruction, who discussed "Implementation Science and the K-3 Formative Assessment", Laura Louison, NIRN, who presented "Lessons Learned and Future Directions of Implementation Science in the Transformation Zone", and Christina DiSalvo, NC Partnership for Children, on "Embedding Implementation Science in Agency Infrastructure".

Dr. Dale Epstein, Child Trends, and John Pruetto, NC Department of Public Instruction, closed the day with a presentation on "How Early Childhood Integrated Data can Inform Program and Policy Decisions: Next Steps for NC ECIDS". This session included upcoming reports and the launch of the web portal, as well as a discussion on how NC ECIDS can be used to inform future program and policy decisions in early childhood for North Carolina.

The day was packed with information sharing and networking among state partners who have built strong relationships through the work of this grant to build a stronger early childhood system in North Carolina. The meeting agenda and all of the presentations can be found on our [website](#).

Update on UNCG's Online Master's Degree with an Emphasis in Early Childhood Leadership and Program Administration

UNC GreShare [ensboro](#) has been supported with RTT-ELC funds to offer the Past Issues Online Master's Degree with an Emphasis in Early Childhood Leadership and Program Administration as a next step for early childhood education professionals who need additional formal education preparation to meet the demanding knowledge requirements for an administrative and leadership role in the field. The new degree

concentration has been such a success that in November the two supporting departments approved moving forward to make the option permanent. This is a huge success for the project and ensures that the degree will be sustained beyond the life of the grant. The departments are now accepting Fall 2016 applications and final approval for the concentration is expect in the spring. More information can be found at: http://www.uncg.edu/hdf/graduates/MED_pgrm.html

Happy Holidays from the NC RTT-ELC Grant Management Team!

We wish you peace, comfort and joy this holiday season!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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