



**Texas LAUNCH State Workgroup Meeting
Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2016**

In Attendance:

Organization	Division	Representative
Department of State Health Services (DSHS)	Title V- Family Health	Ramah Leith
	Title V –Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN)	Kelsey Anderson
	Mental Health and Substance Abuse (MHSA)- Division Child and Adolescent Services	Angela Hobbs-Lopez
Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)	Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI)	Absent
	Home Visiting	Sophia Strother
	Child Care Licensing	Jeannie Young
Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)	Texas System of Care-	Absent
	Medicaid/CHIP	Absent
Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)	Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)	Jean Origer & Dana McGrath
Texas Head Start Association	Non-profit	Alferma Giles
Texans Care for Children	Non-profit	Absent
Texas Workforce Commission	Non-profit	Absent
Act Early Texas	Non-profit	Pauline Filipek
Texas Association for the Education of Young Children (TAEYC)	Non-profit	Kim Kofron
Aliviane	Original Project LAUNCH recipient	Carolina Gonzalez & Christina Figueroa
Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo	El Paso Tribal Community-Project LAUNCH Expansion Community grant recipient	Linda Wiley

Texas Project LAUNCH Expansion Implementation Team	University of Texas –Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health (UT-TIEMH)	Holly Gursslin, Erica Shapiro, Molly Lopez & Laura Stevens
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Start time: 1:10pm

I. Welcome and Introductions (Ramah Leith)

Attendees introduced themselves and shared a strength/expertise that they bring to the workgroup

II. Mission and Vision Refinement (Molly Lopez)

Attendees reviewed the mission and vision developed in the first council meeting. Ideas for refinement were discussed and a new vision statement was created: Communities empower families to raise children to reach their full potential. A decision was made to address mission refinement in a future meeting.

III. Texas LAUNCH Expansion Review (Holly Gursslin)

A review of the expansion was provided. El Paso was the first community in Texas to implement Project LAUNCH, which has been expanded to three new communities (San Antonio, Fort Worth, and Ysleta del Sur Pueblo). A review of the purpose, target population, goals, and core strategies of the Texas LAUNCH expansion were also presented.

IV. Project LAUNCH Update (PL Team)

- a. Ramah Leith provided an update on the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs). She explained that MOUs will go out to council members as soon as they are ready, but that they are currently held up in contracting.
- b. Ramah also provided an update on the Request for Proposals (RFP). Each community submitted one proposal, and we are currently waiting for contracts to be finalized before community sites will be named. UT and Ysleta del Sur are also awaiting contract finalization.
- c. Christina Figueroa will lead trainings on developmental and social emotional trainings in July and August in Fort Worth and San Antonio. Communities will receive starter kits on ASQ and ASQ-SE, and will be trained on those as well as other screening tools.
- d. Erica Shapiro provided an overview of project evaluation and current progress. An online system was developed to track screenings and referrals. The Texas LAUNCH team will incorporate training on evaluation into the trainings on screenings provided by Christina. First set of metrics were submitted to SAMHSA, and we are currently waiting on feedback. TIEMH team is also working on submitting proposals to UT IRB.
- e. Holly Gursslin explained that a trainer for Incredible Years will be coming to Austin to provide training in September for community participants and state stakeholders. The training will not be a train the trainer model, but community participants will get technical assistance and support after the training. Once contracts are finalized, materials will be ordered. There are a couple of remaining participant slots, so council members were asked if they have interest in attending or know of someone who would.

- f. Holly also provided information about the Project LAUNCH Summit in June. The Summit is for Project LAUNCH grantees from across the country to discuss and collaborate. Information about the evaluation plan will be provided at the summit.

V. Act Early Texas (Dr. Pauline Filipek)

Dr. Pauline Filipek presented on Act Early Texas and her research related to early childhood screening and referral. She provided data on Texas population growth, demographic changes, and presently available services and screenings for children. She presented findings from an automated referral system and provided an explanation of the tool, as well as a step-by-step guide for screening and referral in PCP offices. Dr. Filipek also presented results of the Texas Autism State Planning Grant Needs Assessment, including the three neediest counties in Texas as well as recommendations. Recommendations included creating a developmental screening platform, providing automatic scoring within that platform, a need for common data, and sustainability from legislators.

VI. Parent Application (Ramah Leith)

An online application was created for parents to participate on the council. After it is completed and submitted, the application will go back to Ramah. The council would like to have at least one parent from each represented community, but additional parents will also be accepted (4-5 parents, total). Council members were asked to forward application link to parents who might be appropriate. Applications are due July 20th, and Ramah Leith, Christina Figueroa, and Angela Hobbs-Lopez will review applications and choose parents for participation. Application link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TLAUNCHP_A

VII. Examining Health Disparities (Erica Shapiro)

Erica Shapiro provided information about the health disparities data that will be needed for the project, and asked for ideas about how to access/collect this data and how to support communities in collecting this data. An evaluation subcommittee will be formed, and interested council members were encouraged to contact Erica.

- a. HHSC- center for elimination of disproportionalities and disparities collects some of this data (they have not delved too much into behavioral health data yet)
- b. CSHCN- puts out yearly survey about zip code and how people are getting healthcare and what services are available in the area; title V block grant data
- c. Texas AEYC- puts out yearly survey to members asking questions around early childhood education
- d. Child injury data and mortality
- e. DSHS MHSA access 3-8
- f. DSHS MHSA PRCs (Albert Young)
- g. Center for TECCS- EDI (Early Development Instrument)- UCLA Neil Heffron- GIS Mapping
- h. ECI
- i. PEIMS data- TEA has access (Howard Morrison) (Head Start)
- j. Home Visiting annual reports
- k. Texas Rising Star- LaShonda Brown
- l. TWC- Child care subsidy data

- m. Mike and Susan Dell Foundation, St. David's Foundation
- n. Annie E Casey, Kids Count
- o. CPPP

VIII. Policy Framework (Molly Lopez)

Molly Lopez led a discussion on potential policy influence, strategies, and activities, as well as Texas's current strengths and needs in this area.

- a. Participants' comments on Texas's early childhood strengths:
 - Texas Early Learning Council (disbanded a few years ago-LaShonda Brown is continuing work through UT Houston).
 - Contacts are outdated but documents are still on the website <http://www.raisingtexas.com/community/raising-texas-community/>.)
 - social emotional is part of childcare licensing
 - two statewide agencies that are promoting early childhood development
 - certification infrastructure
 - required screenings
 - Texas Health Steps
 - have CANS used at LMHAs, DFPS will be using it (young child version)
- b. Participants' comments on Texas's early childhood needs:
 - collaboration among leadership
 - Act Early Texas grant is very aligned with the Project Launch grant initiatives. Dr. Filipek mentioned the value of highlighting commonalities (and may be limited by Sunset Review). If Act Early Texas gets further funding there is so much that can be collaborated on; mental health consultation because it's newer: workforce shortage, public awareness, rejecting funding, red tape for contracts that make it difficult to submit RFPs, grants are 2 or 3 years so not sustainable, and addressing siloed services/lack of coordination and communication.
- c. Participants' comments on how this workgroup can have Influence on early childhood policy, services, etc.:
 - Improving communication between groups/organization/state/etc.
 - stakeholders around this table can bring ideas for new collaborations and new directions
 - participation on behavioral health advisory committee
 - participation on some of the new advisory councils
- d. Moving Forward: think as a council about what priority areas are and where we can make inroads

IX. Wrap-Up and Next Steps (Ramah Leith)

- a. Next council meeting date and time Thursday May 25th 1-5 pm in Moreton 100 on the main campus.