

***Rhode Island Early Learning Council Meeting and
Early Learning Council Workgroup Meeting***

Thursday, February 7, 2013 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Save the Bay, 100 Save the Bay Drive, Providence

Agenda

11:30-11:45	Welcome /Meeting Overview	Elizabeth Burke Bryant Deborah Gist
11:45-11:55	Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Update	Judy Rios-Willgren
11:55-1:10	Subcommittee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early Learning Workforce Development• Program Quality Improvement• Access• Program Quality Standards Alignment and Measurement• Early Learning and Development Standards• Child Assessment• Early Learning Data System	Khadija Lewis-Khan Leanne Barrett Elizabeth Burke Bryant Susan Dickstein Mindy Mertz Mike Bosworth
1:10-1:20	Public Comment	Public Participants
1:20-1:30	Next Steps	Elizabeth Burke Bryant

**RHODE ISLAND
EARLY LEARNING COUNCIL
AND WORKGROUP MEETING**

February 7, 2013

11:30-1:30 p.m.
Save the Bay





MEETING AGENDA

Welcome/Meeting Overview

Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Update

Subcommittee Reports

Public Comment

Next Steps

RACE TO THE TOP EARLY LEARNING CHALLENGE UPDATES



RTT-ELC: UPDATES

- ❖ Hiring and Budget
- ❖ Technical Assistance
- ❖ Communications
- ❖ Annual Performance Report
- ❖ The Year Ahead

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ACCESS



ACCESS LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Governor's budget items related to Access recommendations includes:

- ❖ Fully funds categorical programs in school funding formula including \$2.5 million for pre-k which will support 14 pre-k classrooms
- ❖ Maintains \$1 million in state support for Head Start (including \$800,000 state general revenue and \$200,000 in state-directed federal funds)
- ❖ Maintains current eligibility, family copayments, and reimbursement rates for the Child Care Assistance Program serving over 7,000 children.
- ❖ Uses \$1.5 million in federal TANF funds to support "enhanced child care" for 400 families in the Rhode Island Works Program who participate in a new pilot work support program.

PROGRAM STANDARDS ALIGNMENT AND MEASUREMENT

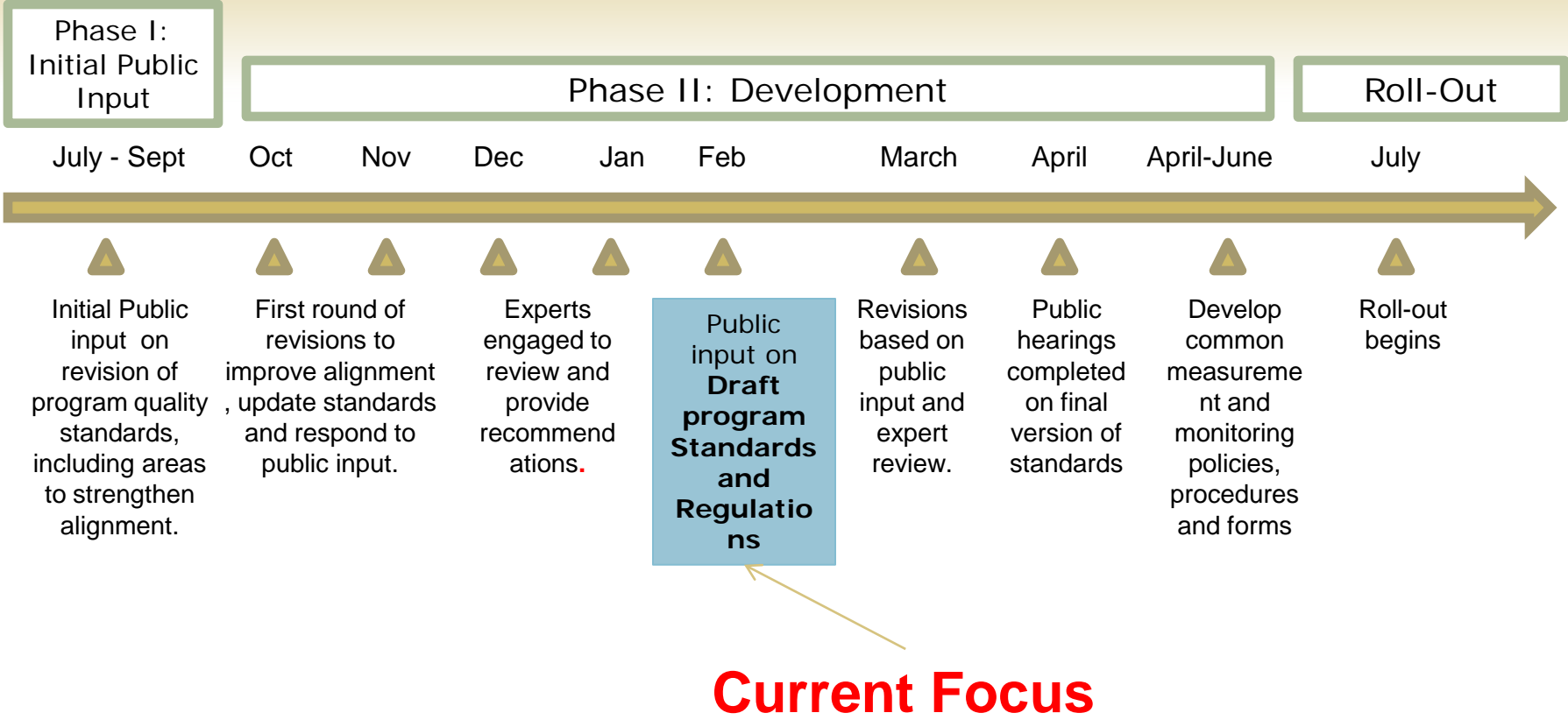


KEY PROJECTS

- ❖ Revise and align RI's continuum of program quality regulations and standards based on national research and best practices.
 - ❖ This continuum includes DCYF Child Care Licensing Regulations for child care centers, BrightStars Quality Rating and Improvement System standards for child care centers and family child care homes, and RIDE Comprehensive Early Childhood Education approval for preschool classrooms.
- ❖ Re-compete contract with a vendor to implement the BrightStars QRIS.
- ❖ Assess and monitor the program quality of early learning and development programs
- ❖ Expand the capacity to assess and monitor program quality of all early learning and development programs.

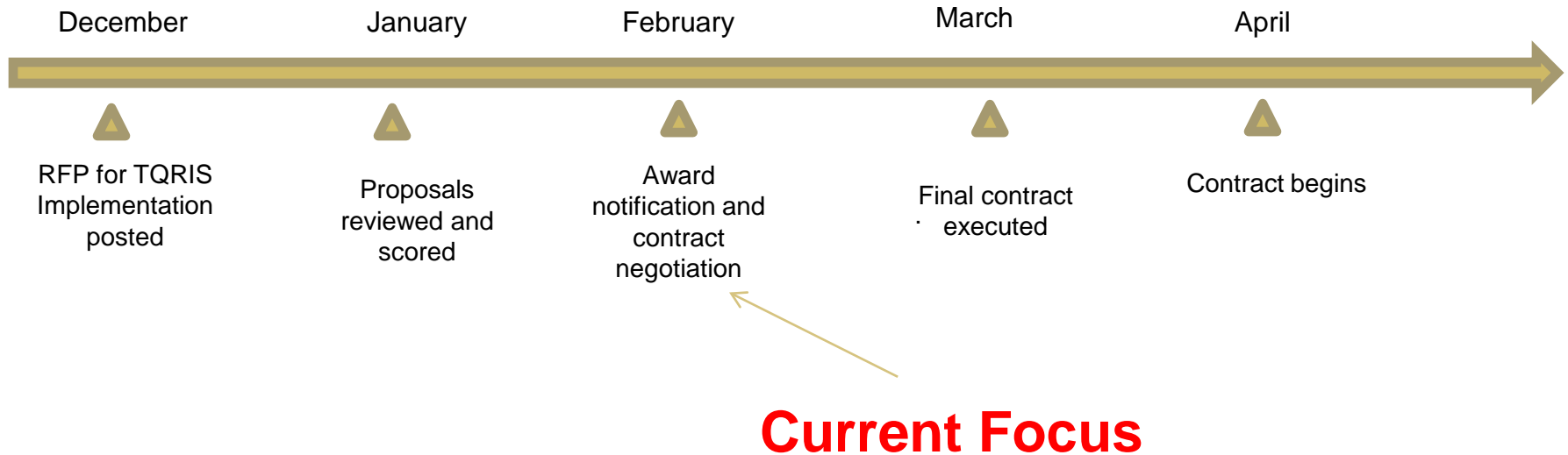


TIMELINE: PROGRAM STANDARDS CONTINUUM REVISION AND ALIGNMENT





TIMELINE: BRIGHTSTARS VENDOR SELECTION





NEXT STEPS

- ❖ Development of the new TQRIS contract.
- ❖ Summarize feedback from forums and focus groups.
- ❖ Subcommittee meeting in early March.
- ❖ Make final revisions to regulations/standards.
- ❖ Prepare report detailing decision points and rationale of standards revisions.
- ❖ Prepare DCYF licensing regulations and RIDE CECE Standards for public hearing.

EARLY LEARNING DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

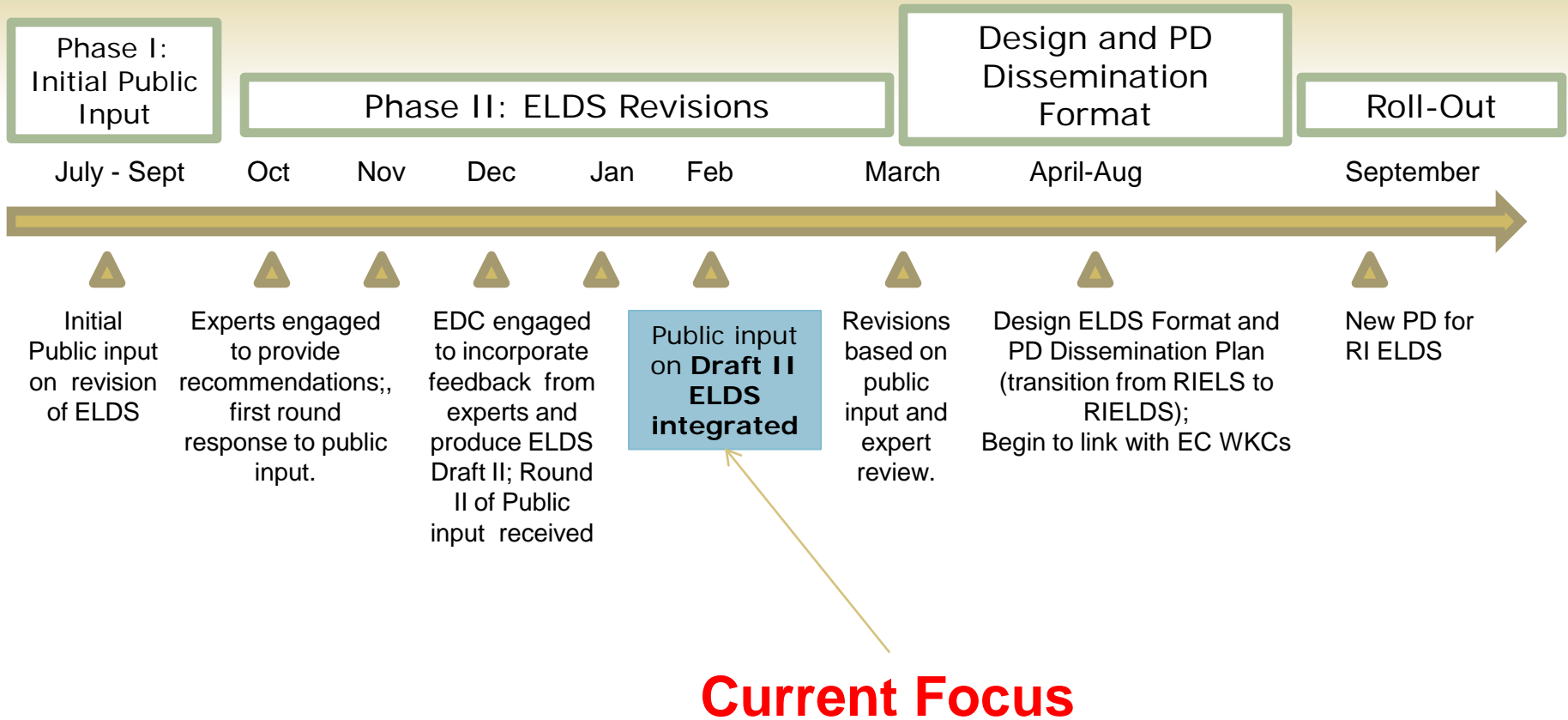


KEY PROJECTS

- ❖ Develop a seamless birth-to age-five set of early learning and development standards.
- ❖ Develop and implement technical assistance and professional development on the new ELDS standards for professionals and parents.

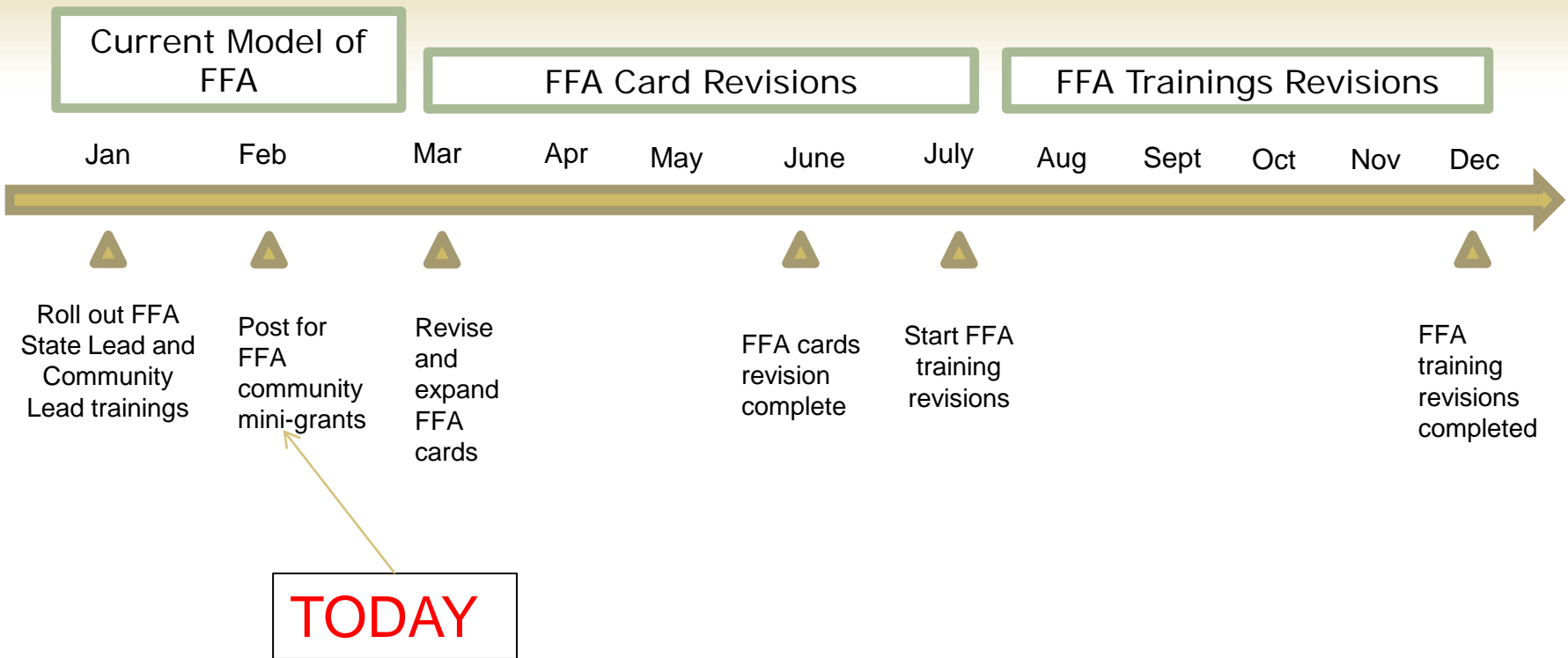


TIMELINE: EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS



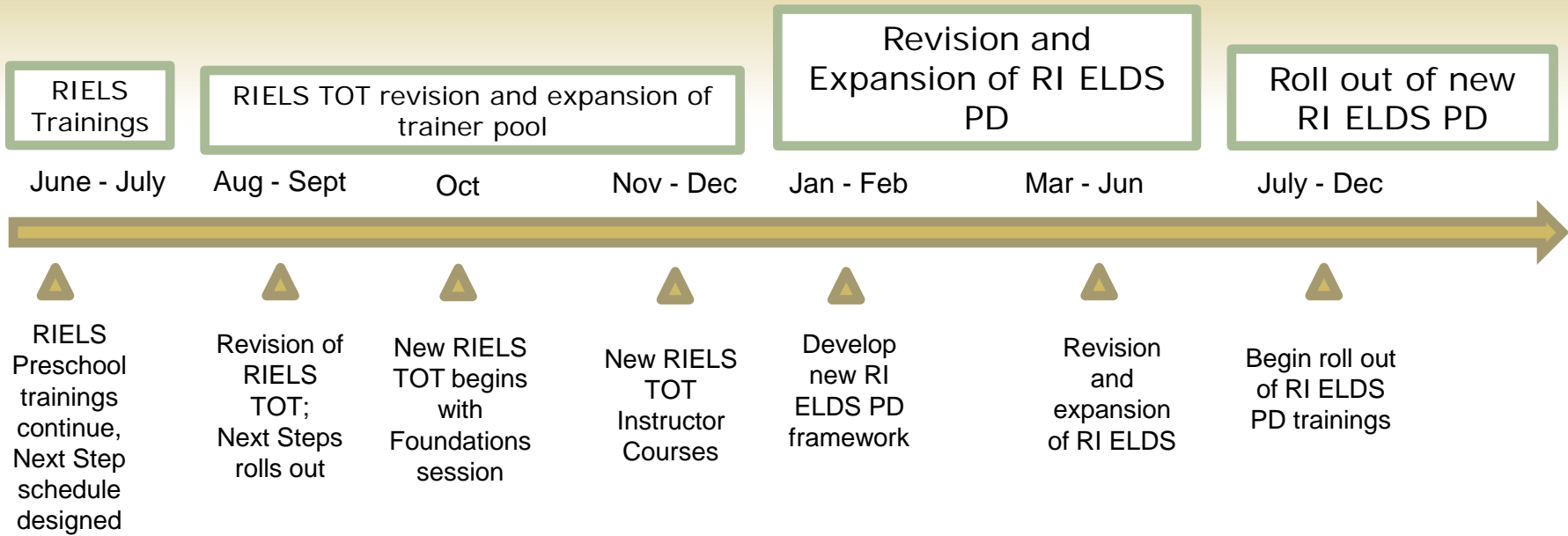


TIMELINE: FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES





RIELS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT





NEXT STEPS

- ❖ Finalize content revisions to RI ELDS.
- ❖ Design new format for RI ELDS.
- ❖ Begin revision of RIELS professional development trainings to align with new standards.
- ❖ Continue current RIELS PD trainings.
- ❖ Continue FFA training of facilitators.
- ❖ Expand opportunities for FFA implementation through mini-grants for communities.

EARLY LEARNING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

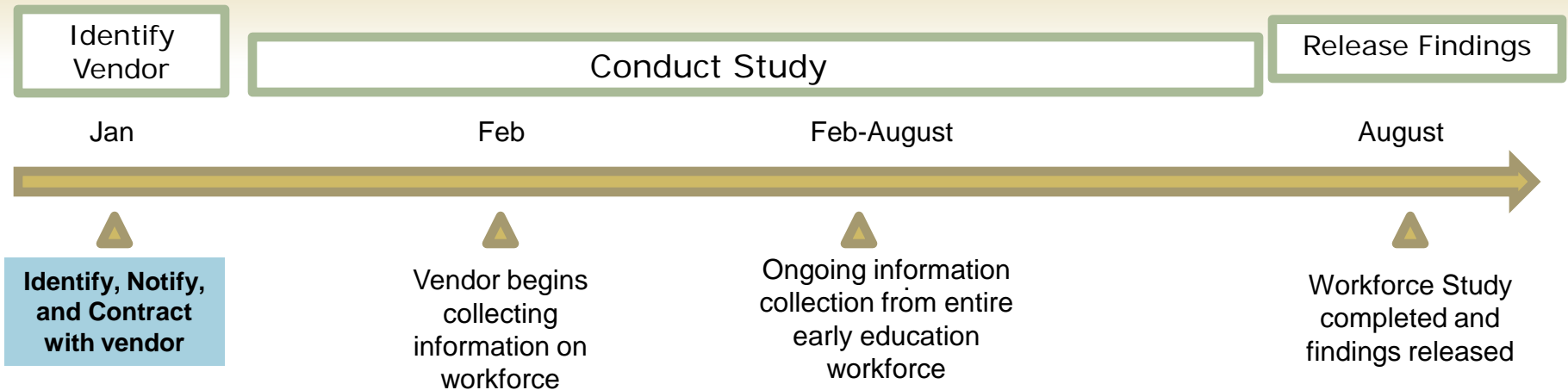


KEY PROJECTS

- ① Conduct Workforce Study to determine baseline and needs of the current workforce.
- ① Develop Workforce Knowledge & Competencies (WKC) frameworks for key early education workforce roles.
- ① Align higher education coursework to WKC.
- ① Support the workforce in improving knowledge and skills through PD/TA aligned with WKC.
- ① Provide access to credentials as outlined in the levels on the career pathway.



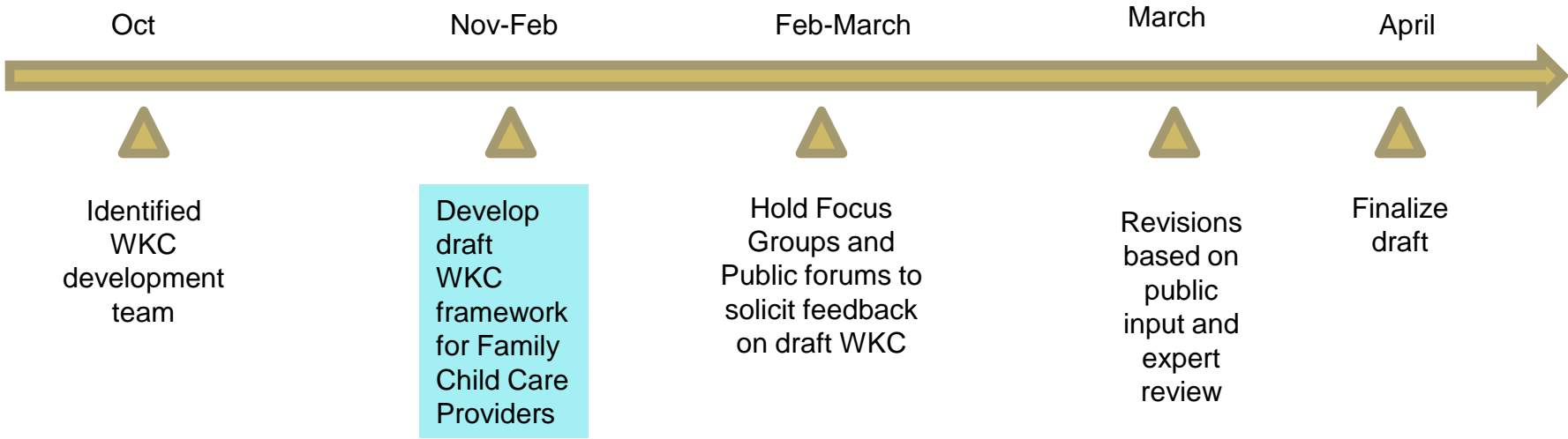
TIMELINE: WORKFORCE STUDY





TIMELINE:WKC Family Child Care

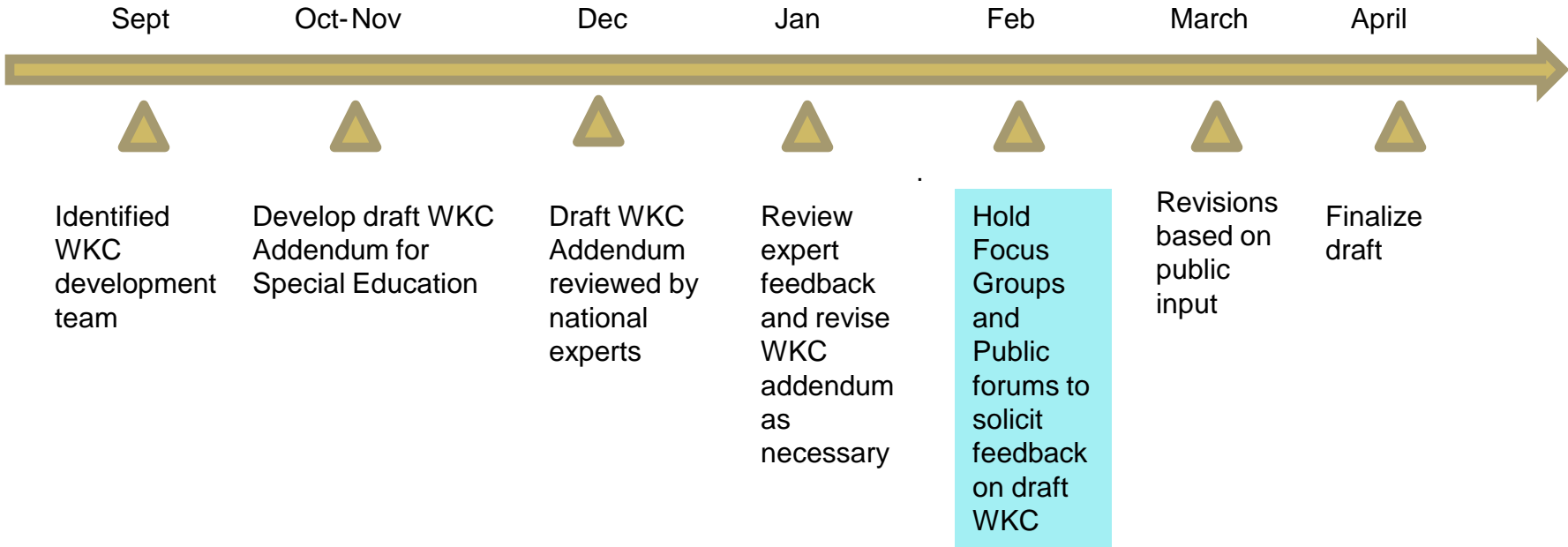
Develop WKC Framework for Family Child Care





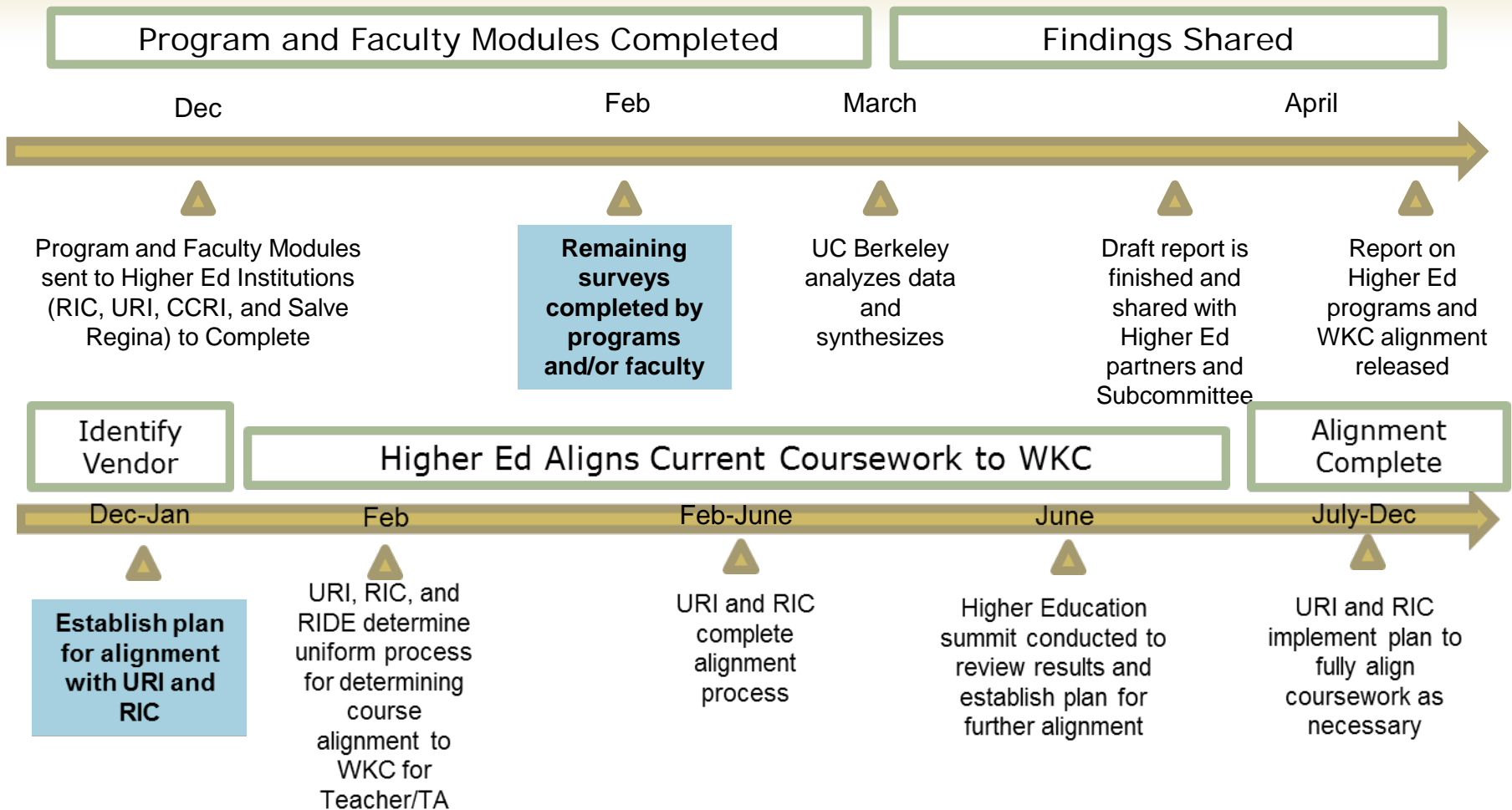
TIMELINE:WKC Special Education

Develop WKC Addendum for Special Education



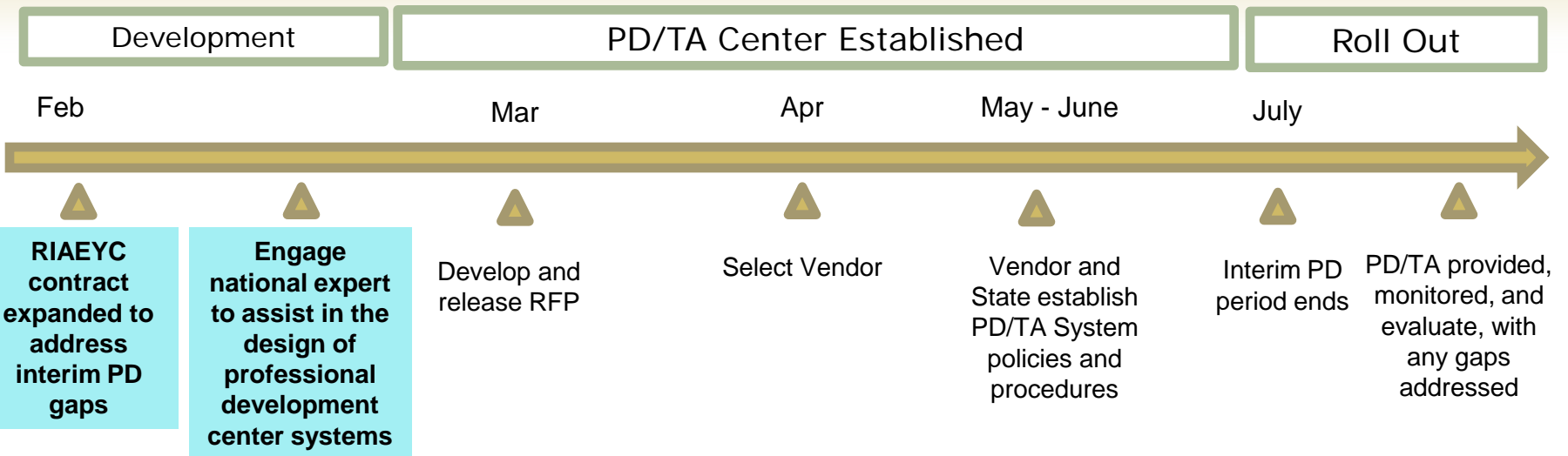


TIMELINE: HIGHER EDUCATION ALIGNMENT/URI AND RIC



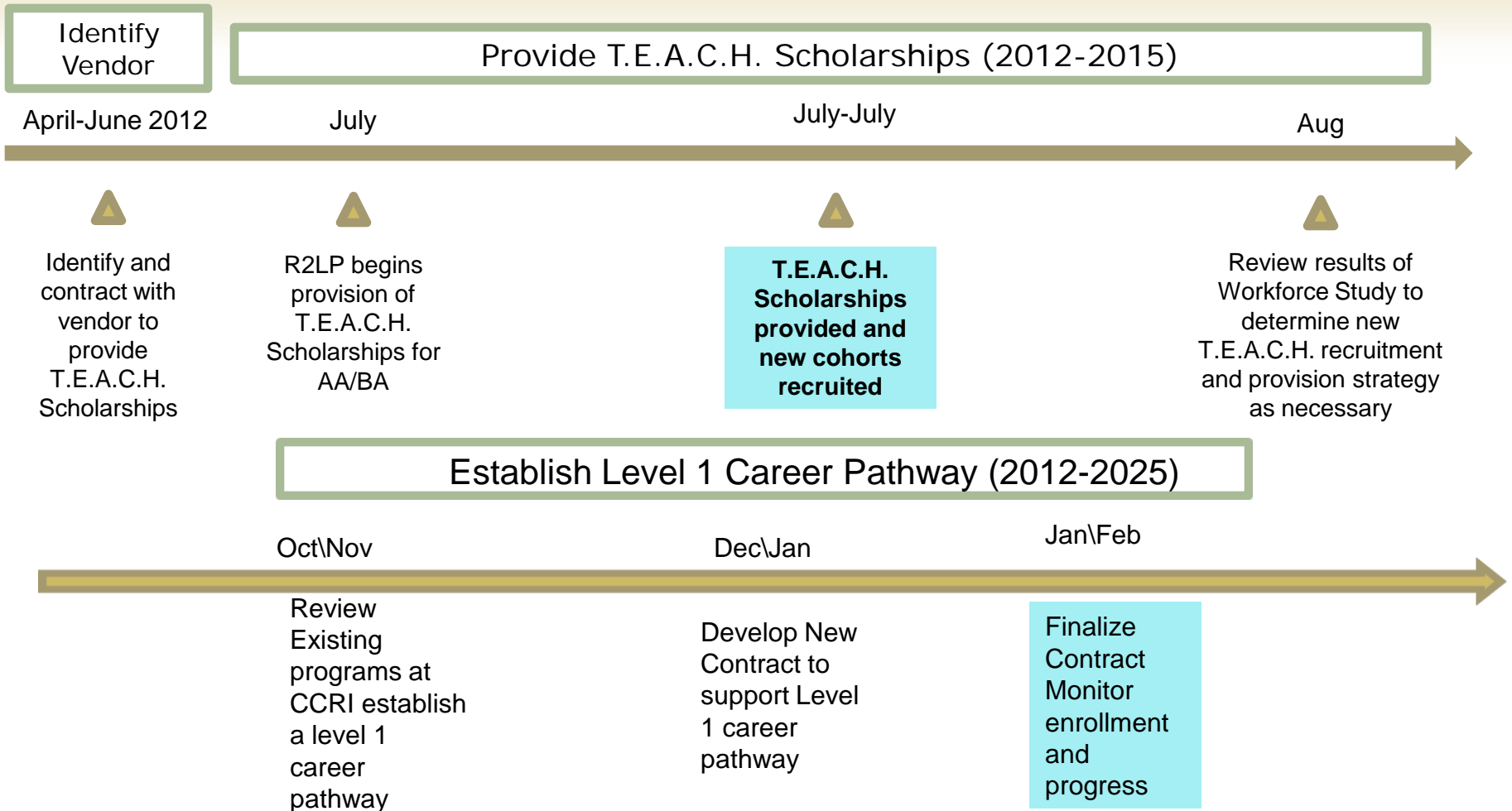


TIMELINE: PD/TA





TIMELINE: ACCESS/T.E.A.C.H. SCHOLARSHIPS AND LEVEL 1 CERTIFICATE PROGRAM





NEXT STEPS

- ❖ Seek community feedback and finalize draft WKC for Family Child Care Providers and addendum for Special Education.
- ❖ Conduct Professional Workforce Study.
- ❖ Complete Higher Education Inventory.
- ❖ Begin Higher Education alignment with URI and RIC.
- ❖ Develop and release RFP for PD/TA Center.
- ❖ Expand CCRI *Early Childhood Education & Training Program* to support additional students.
- ❖ Seek NAEYC accreditation for CCRI degree program
- ❖ Sub Committee meeting February 25, 2013.

CHILD ASSESSMENT

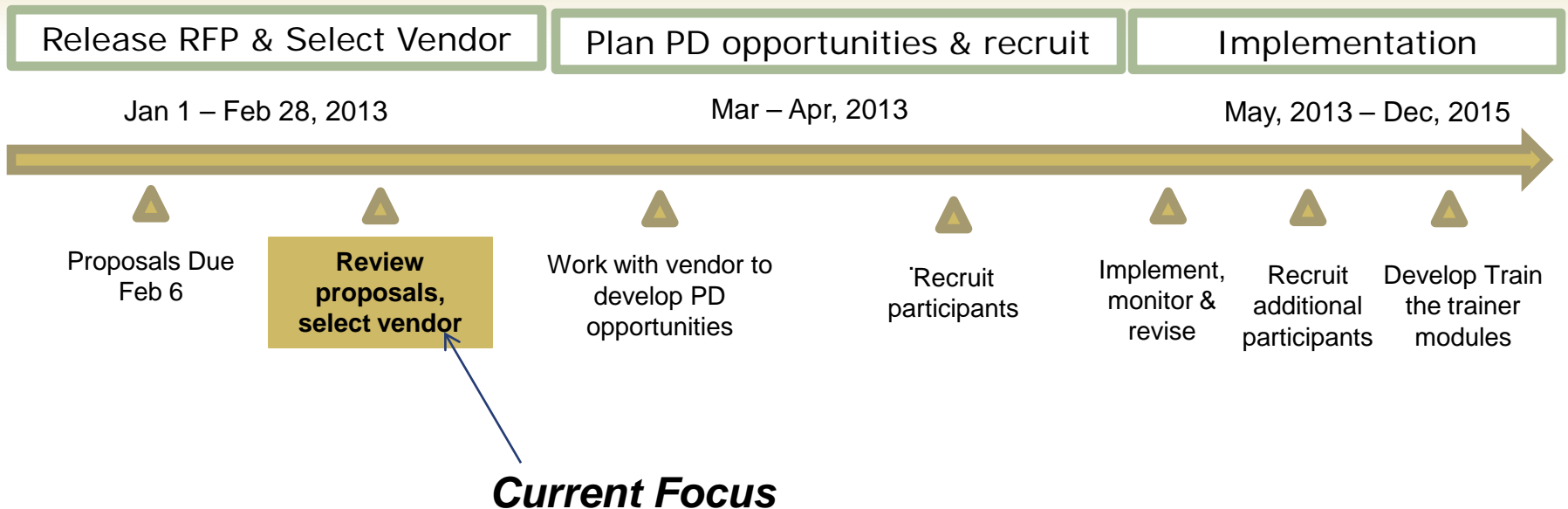


KEY PROJECTS

- ❖ Child Assessment - Professional Development
- ❖ Screening
 - ❖ Pediatric Screening
 - ❖ Child Outreach
- ❖ Teaching Strategies GOLD
- ❖ Kindergarten Entry Assessment



TIMELINE: ASSESSMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT





TIMELINE: SCREENING – PRIMARY CARE

Increase provider use of electronic screening system (CHADIS)

Release LOI & Select Vendor

Provide Evidence-Based Programs

Feb -Mar, 2013

Apr - Jun, 2013

Jul, 2013

Dec, 2013

Aug, 2013 – Dec, 2015

Release LOI for
evidence-
based
programs &
CHADIS

Review
proposals,
select vendor

Providers work with
consultant to submit
grant applications

Initial Grants
approved.
Practices begin
providing
programs

67
providers
using
CHADIS

Monitor implementation of
evidence-based programs,
recruit new participants, review
new grant applications

352
providers
using
CHADIS

Current Focus



TIMELINE: CHILD OUTREACH

Train DLL screening teams & monitor implementation

Revise Training, Recruit new participants

Sept -Nov, 2012

Feb - May, 2013

Jun, 2013

Jul, 2013 – Dec, 2015

Develop new DLL screening protocol

Provide training for DLL screeners, monitor implementation

Provide training on new screening instrument

Collect & analyze data on implementation

Evaluate & revise training, based on feedback

Monitor & revise implementation of screening protocol, recruit new participants, continue training new screeners

Current Focus



TIMELINE: PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Develop Campaign Strategy

Implement Campaign

Jan-March 2013

May-June 2013

Jul, 2013 – Dec, 2015

- Identify key messages and public awareness strategies
- Select vendor and begin planning

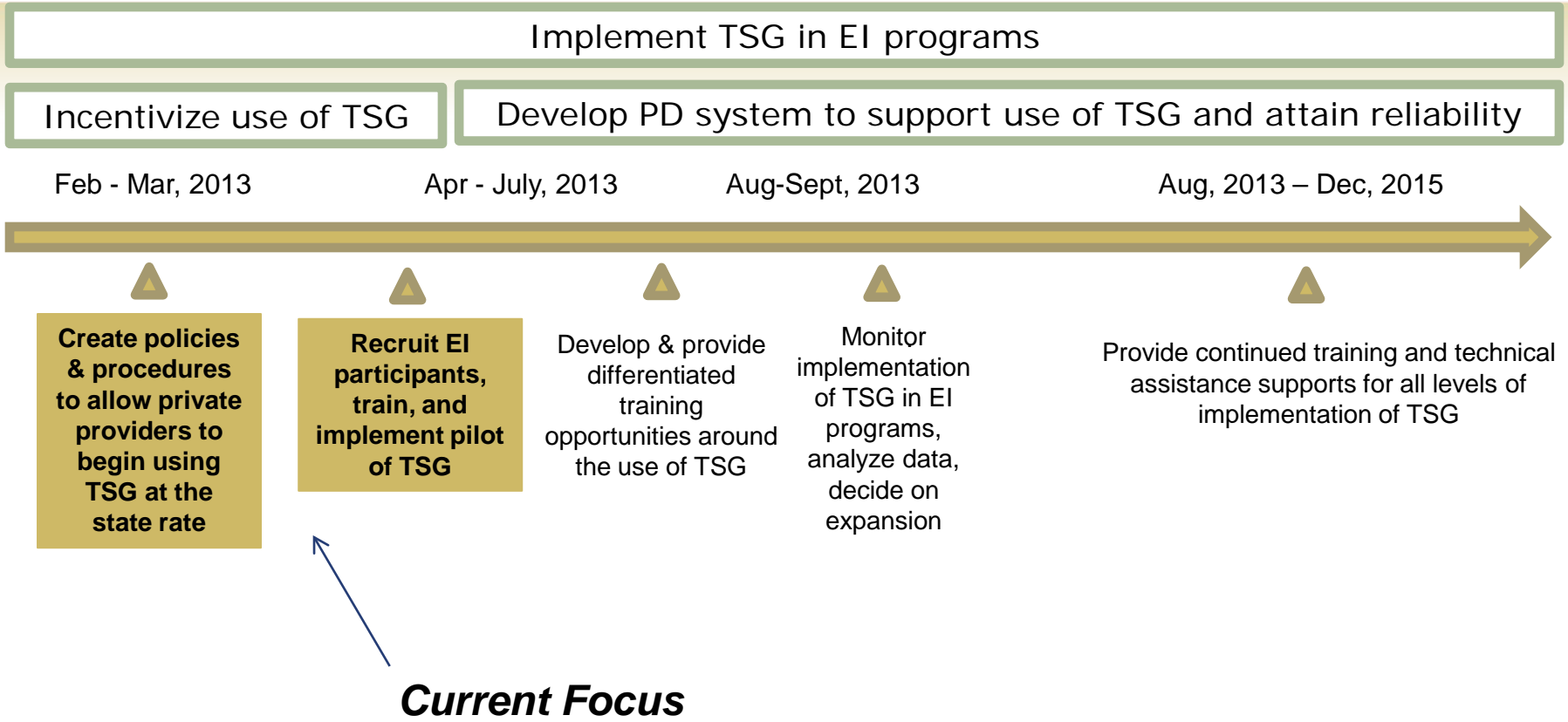
Work with ELC (and others) to develop materials

Implement Campaign

Current Focus



TIMELINE: TEACHING STRATEGIES GOLD





TIMELINE: KINDERGARTEN ENTRY

Gather Stakeholder Information

Jul, 2013 – Dec, 2013

Engage experts to assist with development

Work with subcommittee to design input format & schedule sessions

Summarize feedback

Develop & release RFP to align existing tools with ELDS

Identify KEA

Jan - Jul, 2014

Select KEA

Develop policies & procedures

Jul, 2014 - Aug, 2015

Develop policy & procedure implementation manual

Develop PD supports for implementation

Recruit & train pilot participants

Pilot KEA

Sept - Dec, 2015

Implement KEA in pilot districts, monitor, and develop plan for statewide implementation



NEXT STEPS

- ❖ Identify vendor for Assessment PD & begin planning PD opportunities.
- ❖ Release Pediatric Screening LOI, identify vendor, begin initial roll out of CHADIS.
- ❖ Identify vendor for developmental screening public awareness campaign & begin to develop plans.
- ❖ Release policies & procedures for providers interested in implementing TS GOLD at the state rate.
- ❖ Subcommittee meeting – early spring.

DATA SYSTEM

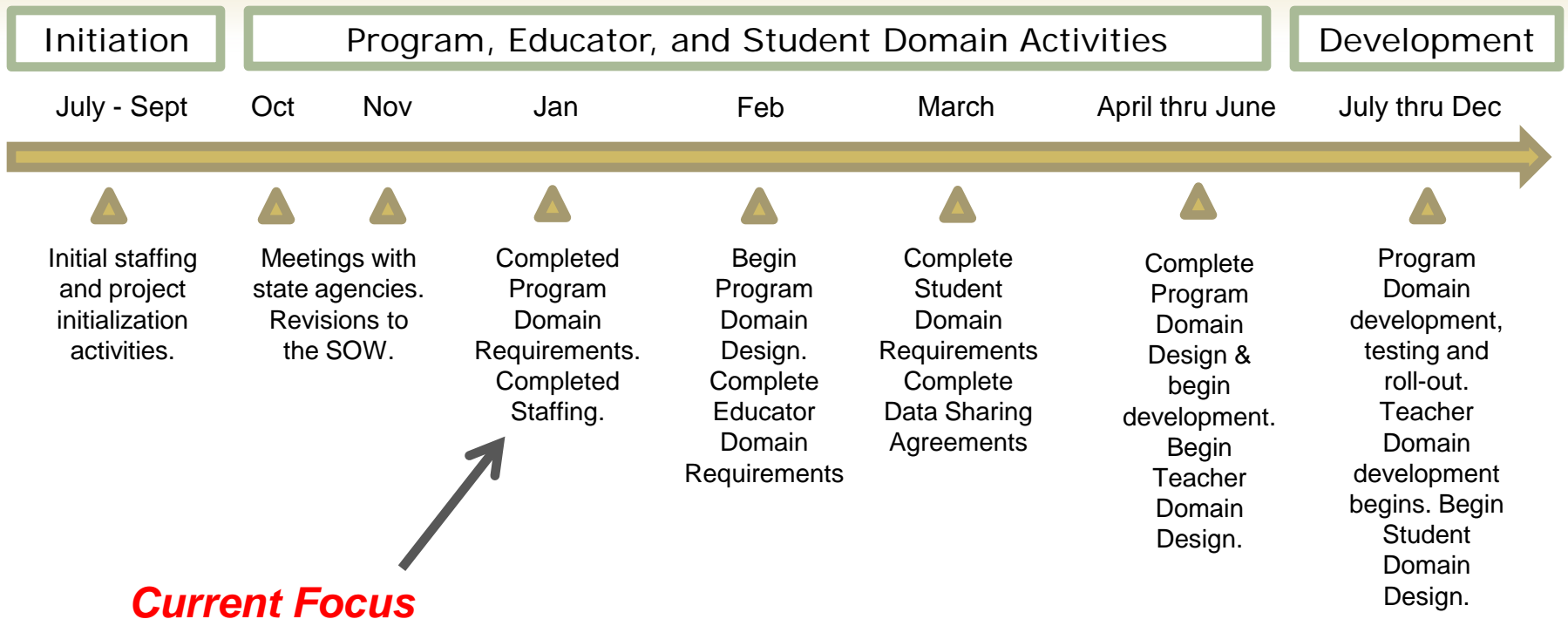


KEY ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Our Focus: Building an Early Learning Data System.
- ❖ Project Work Covers Three Areas:
 - ❖ Program Domain: Information on Day Care Centers, Family Home Care, and Pre-School.
 - ❖ Educator Domain: Information on the Early Learning Workforce.
 - ❖ Student Domain: Information on our Early Learning Children.
- ❖ Focus now is on collecting program information including quality rating information, licensing status, program size and make-up, capacity and enrollment, etc.
- ❖ Educator will follow and focus on building a Workforce Registry to contain key information about our Early Learning Workforce.
- ❖ Student is the 3rd domain which will focus on collecting information on all of our early learning children, where are they, who are the high needs children, etc.



TIMELINE: DATA SYSTEM





NEXT STEPS

- ❖ Complete Business Requirement Process for the Teacher and Student Domains.
- ❖ Finalize data modeling incorporating CEDS V3.0.
- ❖ Document Technical Design considerations.
- ❖ Leverage Federal Technical Assistance to:
 - ❖ Build out our Data Governance Process.
 - ❖ Incorporate Proven Technologies from other states.
- ❖ Solicit feedback from Programs for Portal concept.
- ❖ Schedule Sub-Committee meeting for March.

PROGRAM QUALITY IMPROVEMENT



KEY PROJECTS

- ❖ Incentivize participation in BrightStars TQRIS.
- ❖ Provide grants to support program quality improvement, prioritizing programs serving children with High Needs.
- ❖ Design and implement tiered quality payments system to help programs achieve and maintain higher quality levels in BrightStars TQRIS.
- ❖ Design and implement technical assistance supports for program quality improvement.



TIMELINE: FINANCIAL STRATEGIES

Design & Implement Financial Strategies to Support Program Quality Improvement

July 2012

Oct – Dec 2012

Jan 2013

February 2013

March 2013

July 2013



Provide data for RI Cost-Quality Finance Model

Design & draft criteria and processes for financial strategies

Present findings from RI Cost-Quality study and draft financial strategies to PQI Sub Committee

Begin issuing financial incentives to programs participating in TQRIS

Begin issuing quality improvement grants to programs

Begin issuing Quality Payments to programs



TIMELINE: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Expand Technical Assistance to Programs to Support Quality Improvement

July - December 2012



- Identify key quality challenges for programs.
- Assess alignment of current technical assistance initiatives with TQRIS.

January - March



- Design technical assistance model(s) to support program quality improvement in TQRIS.
- Draft RFP criteria for expanded technical assistance and quality improvement grants

April – June 2013



Release RFP, select vendor, and finalize contract.

July 2013



- Expanded technical assistance available for programs in TQRIS.
- Quality improvement grants continue.



NEXT STEPS

- ❖ Review feedback from PQI Subcommittee meeting and update strategies. Seek additional feedback from key groups.
- ❖ Implement participation incentives for programs enrolled in BrightStars.
- ❖ Finalize and release interim Program Quality Improvement Grant application form.
- ❖ Review Quality Payment cost model with DHS to identify existing mechanisms and capabilities to support implementation.
- ❖ Continue work with Anne Mitchell & DHS to finalize Quality Payment methodology.
- ❖ Develop technical assistance model(s), draft and release RFP to expand technical assistance to programs to support program quality improvement and manage Program Quality Improvement Grants.



UPCOMING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

Subcommittee	Date
Access Subcommittee	March TBD
Early Learning and Development Standards	February 11, 2013 2:30-4:30pm Warwick Public Library - Central 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick
Program Quality Standards Alignment and Measurement	Early March TBD
Early Learning Workforce Development	February 25, 2013 10:00-12:00 pm
Program Quality Improvement	Early Spring TBD
Child Assessment	Early Spring TBD
Early Learning Data System	March TBD

PUBLIC COMMENT



NEXT STEPS

- ❖ **Next Council and Work Group Meeting:**
Wednesday, April 10, 2013 12:00-2:00 p.m. at
Save the Bay

Rhode Island Early Learning Council Meeting and Early Learning Council & Workgroup Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2013 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Save the Bay, 100 Save the Bay Dr., Providence

Meeting Summary

Council and Work Group Members In Attendance: Chris Amirault, Leanne Barrett, Karen Beese, Blythe Berger, Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Tammy Camillo, Regina Costa, Janice DeFrances, Susan Dickstein, Colleen Dorian, Brenda DuHamel, Maryann Finamore-Allmark, Ruth Gallucci, Commissioner Deborah Gist, Pamela High, Cindy Larson, Khadija Lewis Khan, Deborah Masland, Mindy Mertz, Aimee Mitchell, Susan Orban, Michele Palermo, Sandra Powell, Larry Pucciarelli, Leslie Sevey, Susan Warford

Other Attendees: Laura Zeisler, Eric Knowles, Katherine Begin, Anne Bartoszuk, Sue Washburn, Kimberly Ash, Lori Cruise, Nancy Lowder, Lynne DeMerchant, Tammy Russo, Deborah Meiklejohn, Emily Garthee, Donna Colucci, Judi Stevenson-Garcia, Sara Mickelson, Stephanie Enos, Gloria Linakis, Andrea Riguetti-Salvatore, Indira Prado, Michael Daniels, Brian Burton, Michael Bosworth, Maura Pearce, Pam Jackson, Sue Connor, Kim Maine, Carol Patnaude, Rachel Flum, Clark Greene

Facilitator: Kristin Lehoullier

AGENDA SUMMARY

The Early Learning Council and Workgroup agenda addressed the following topics:

- An update on the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge (RTTT-ELC) work
- Reports from each Council subcommittee
- An opportunity for public comment
- A review of the next steps in the process

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Key discussion points from the meeting are summarized below:

Welcome and Overview

- Deborah Gist expressed gratitude for all of the grant work that has been accomplished so far. She noted that we have come a long ways towards creating an integrated and aligned early care and education system and we have a lot to be proud of.
- Elizabeth Burke Bryant agreed with Deborah and emphasized additionally that the cross-departmental nature of the Council makes it the perfect body to ensure alignment between projects, and to ensure that public input is effectively sought to inform the work.
- Sandra Powell officially announced the appointment of a new full time child care administrator, Karen Beese.

Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Update

Judy Rios Willgren gave an overall update on the Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge work including the following points:

Rhode Island Early Learning Council Meeting and Early Learning Council & Workgroup Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2013 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Save the Bay, 100 Save the Bay Dr., Providence

Meeting Summary

Overall

- We have been working really hard over the past several months on the core components of our early learning system. This foundation includes standards for what children should know and be able to do, quality standards for programs and workforce knowledge and competencies for educators.
- All of these standards are intended to improve program quality with the ultimate goal of improving outcomes for children.
- Now that these foundational pieces are nearing completion we can start to build the supports that providers need to meet those standards.
- Going forward, providers will start to see more about the supports that will be put in place to help them achieve the standards and move in that direction.

Technical Assistance

- A federal vendor, who is working with all the RTTT-ELC states, is looking at our technical assistance (TA) needs. The key areas for TA are the data system, including identifying data governance and data elements within the system, and the professional development (PD) and TA center.

Staffing

- The project is almost fully staffed. There are four unfilled positions. These positions should be closed out by March.
- Between now and next several months there will be a number of RFPs and LOIs posted:
 - We have an RFP posted for a consultant to develop a communications plan.
 - We are identifying a vendor to conduct an environmental data scan.
 - We are developing an RFP to hire a vendor for the PD/TA center which will also be responsible for disseminating program quality improvement funds as of July 2013.

Communications

- We are in the process of developing technical papers explaining the process and rationale for how decisions were made regarding the early learning and development standards and the program standards revisions and alignment work. The technical papers will also explain how input was gathered. These briefs will come out in April.

The following questions and comments were made:

- Will the Annual Performance Report, which has just been completed for our first year of the grant, be reviewed by the Council?

A: We are using a federal template to report our progress on our key goals. Federal representatives will clarify and rewrite that report so that it is consistent with the other RTTT-ELC

Rhode Island Early Learning Council Meeting and Early Learning Council & Workgroup Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2013 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Save the Bay, 100 Save the Bay Dr., Providence

Meeting Summary

states and the final report will be posted on the website. Additionally, we have created a pie chart that outlines how the money is being spent. That chart will be shared with each agency head and the Council.

Sub-Committee Reports

Access

Elizabeth reviewed the Governor's budget items related to recommendations made by the Access Sub-Committee. (see slides) The following questions and comments were made:

- The Department of Children, Youth, and Families has received a grant that will allow them to expand wrap-around services to children ages birth to 6 and their families. This funding will also support training around trauma informed care to help providers to be better equipped to work with children affected by trauma.

Program Quality Standards Alignment and Measurement

Michele and Elizabeth reviewed the key projects and the timeline. (see slides) The following questions were raised:

- Is it safe to assume that because of the way the State Pre-K classes are funded that the transition from Brightstars (BS) to RIDE will always be from program to classroom? Ideally, this should be aligned.

A: RIDE Approval addresses many program components, however, it can also be classroom based. Programs can get approval for all of their classrooms and thereby achieve program level approval. Some programs do apply for all of their classrooms at once. Other programs choose to start with one classroom which meets the criteria for approval.

- What will the transition to the new standards look like? How will programs be able to provide input into that plan?

A: The transition plan will differ depending on the scope of the changes, i.e. some will have an immediate transition and others will need to transition gradually according to a timeline. As part of the series of public forums that we just conducted to gather input on the revised standards, we asked participants to raise considerations and recommendations for the state to think about as they develop plans to transition to the new standards and regulations.

- When decision-making time comes, who makes the final decisions and what role does the entire Council play with regard to that process?

Rhode Island Early Learning Council Meeting and Early Learning Council & Workgroup Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2013 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Save the Bay, 100 Save the Bay Dr., Providence

Meeting Summary

A: The core team will use the same process it used to create the first draft to make the revisions. Once the revisions are done, each state agency will review the changes within their own governance structure. The Early Learning Council is not a legislatively empowered voting group, nor is it accountable for the outcomes of its decisions. In this context, the Council is positioned to advise and provide input to the work, but the ultimate decision-making authority rests within the agencies that are responsible for the regulations/standards. That said, there are also legal requirements for how the responsible state agencies must consider public input. Before the standards are promulgated, the responsible agency has an obligation to hold public hearings for public input, listen to that input and determine whether the feedback is valid or not, and then formally respond. The public forums and focus groups hosted by the Council go beyond the agency obligation for a public hearing and helps ensure that the work does not happen in silos.

- Do these standards apply to Early Intervention providers?

A: No, the program quality standards apply to classroom-based early care and education programs (centers and schools) and family child care homes.

- How will the BrightStars standards be approved?

A: Under the new contract, BrightStars will have a revised governance structure that will determine the approval process for the BrightStars standards.

Comments raised included:

- We should give families the opportunity to provide input to the revised standards.
- The state should think about ways to give the Council a bigger role in discussing the changes. This could generate better ideas.

Early Learning and Development Standards

Susan Dickstein and Michele Palermo reviewed the key projects and the timeline. (see slides) The following questions and comments were made:

- Can teachers be community leads for Fun Family Activities?

A: Yes, the state trains the trainers and anyone can apply to be a trainer.

- Would professional development cover training on evidence-based treatments for kids that are having difficulties?

Rhode Island Early Learning Council Meeting and Early Learning Council & Workgroup Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2013 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Save the Bay, 100 Save the Bay Dr., Providence

Meeting Summary

A: No, the training would be focused specifically on how to use the early learning and development standards for children B-5.

- It would be great to have information on the early learning and development standards and the Fun Family Activities that we could hand out at the 9 month pediatrician visit.
- Some of the Fun Family Activities should be RI specific like things that can be done at the library or the zoo.
- The 9 month epoch should include a reminder to providers that there is a doctor's visit required at 9 months.

Early Learning Workforce Development

Karen Beese and Khadija Lewis Khan reviewed the key projects and the timeline. (see slides) The following questions were raised:

- Has the BA track for TEACH been suspended?

A: No. Individuals can still access TEACH scholarship for approved BA programs, such as URI's BA program in Human Development and Family Studies for infant/toddler teachers and family child care providers. Educators working in preschool classrooms are eligible for BA program's that leads to PK-2 teacher certification at both URI or RIC. The BA cohort model through RIC is on hold in response to the vendor's concerns about the ability to recruit a pool of individuals who can meet the eligibility requirements for the BA program leading to PK-2 teacher certification. When we wrote the RTT-ELC application we planned to enroll people in existing BA programs appropriate for teachers of young children, but there is concern that some of the people that applied won't meet the entry requirements for the BA program leading to PK-2 teacher certification because they are not able to pass the PRAXIS exam. Given this concern, funds are being used to provide a Praxis prep course to support the current cohort through RIC. Additionally, we are using our money to focus on the AA level until we understand the workforce better and what is needed to address their needs. The existing cohort of 19 people will continue to get support but they must take and pass the PRAXIS exam to continue with the plan. If they can't, then their personal plan to continue to move forward will be addressed individually.

- Does the workforce study include EI providers?

A: No, it is just for educators working in child care centers and family child care homes.

Other comments raised included:

Rhode Island Early Learning Council Meeting and Early Learning Council & Workgroup Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2013 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Save the Bay, 100 Save the Bay Dr., Providence

Meeting Summary

- Will the money be there when we finally figure out what is needed for the BA track?
- Why is teacher certification being required for Early Childhood Teachers?
- It would be good to have an assessment of Early Care and Education providers and their training on trauma informed care.

Child Assessment

Judi Stevenson-Garcia and Mindy Mertz reviewed the key projects and the timeline. (see slides). The following questions and comments were made:

- What proportion of providers will be using CHADIS?

A: To use CHADIS, providers must have 25% of their patient base receiving Medicaid. It will impact about 21,000 children from birth to age 5.

- Any early learning program can apply to obtain the state-rate on Teaching Strategies GOLD?

A: Yes, once it's in place we will send out the information.

Early Learning Data System

Mike Bosworth reviewed the key projects and the timeline. (see slides). The following comments were made:

- The state should think about how to capture data from programs who are serving low income wage earners who don't qualify for CCAP?

Program Quality Improvement

Leanne Barrett and Karen Beese reviewed the key projects and the timeline. (see slides). The following questions and comments were made:

- How will program quality supports be provided to help people improve their facilities? Facilities challenges remain a large barrier to quality.

A: We are definitely talking about and developing a plan for supporting facilities improvements. However, this is a strategy that we will develop in our next phase of work.

- Will the Quality Improvement Grants only be available to programs participating in BrightStars?

Rhode Island Early Learning Council Meeting and Early Learning Council & Workgroup Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2013 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Save the Bay, 100 Save the Bay Dr., Providence

Meeting Summary

A: The Quality Improvement Grants will be available to programs participating in BrightStars and those seeking RIDE Approval. Community-based programs licensed by DCYF must have a BrightStars rating in order to receive a Quality Improvement Grant

- In the RTTT-ELC grant we said that 100% of all licensed programs will be in BrightStars. Is this still our goal?

A: Yes, our goal continues to be that 100% of all licensed programs will participate in BrightStars.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following questions and comments were made:

- What will the professional development and technical assistance center do?

A: It will be an expansion of the existing resource center with a new technical assistance component and program quality improvement supports tied to it. It will also coordinate all professional development and will ultimately tie into a workforce registry.

- Will the technical papers come out in Spanish?

A: Yes.

- Since Teaching Strategies GOLD isn't a good fit for family child care homes, what is being considered for them?

A: Our goal is to build an assessment system for all types of providers serving all children from birth to age 5. We are exploring the use of GOLD in a variety of settings. At this time, we are not prepared to say GOLD isn't a good fit for FCC. .

- How will the state expand capacity to monitor programs?

A: Both BrightStars and state staff will be expanded to monitor programs.

- Why weren't private universities included in the higher education alignment?

A: Both private and public institutions have been participating, specifically including Salve Regina.

- Will the 12 credit program at CCRI be available in Spanish?

Rhode Island Early Learning Council Meeting and Early Learning Council & Workgroup Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2013 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Save the Bay, 100 Save the Bay Dr., Providence

Meeting Summary

A: No, but there will be supports available for dual language speakers. We have considered it and it will not fit within the RTTT-ELC timeline. It is something to consider for the future, though.

- We need to distinguish between teacher prep programs and teacher certification programs and think about timing when developing the programs to make sure they are available relatively soon.

- Will we reach all providers with the workforce study?

A: Yes, we intend too.

- Are you also looking at unemployed people?

A: We can bring that idea to the researcher.

- Will individual data on kids be available?

A: No, the data system will provide data on an aggregate level. However, we will be working to connect health and education data components.

NEXT STEPS/WRAP UP

No questions or comments were made.