Federal Preschool Development Grant Birth to 5 (PDG B-5): Goals and Opportunities for New Mexico

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Goals of the Grant

- Assist States in helping low-income and disadvantaged children enter Kindergarten prepared and ready to succeed in school and to help improve the transitions from the early care and education setting to elementary school.

- Year 1-- The one year “planning” grant is intended to assist States in developing a strategic plan to coordinate existing early childhood service delivery models and funding streams - for the purpose of serving more children birth through age five in a mixed delivery model.

- Coordination is expected at the state level among all state departments involved in providing supportive early childhood services to children birth through age 5 and their families prior to submission of the grant proposal.
Funds Can be Used To

(1) **Conduct a periodic statewide needs assessment** on the availability and quality of existing programs, including programs serving the most vulnerable or underserved populations and children in rural areas;

(2) **Develop a strategic plan** that recommends collaboration, coordination, and quality improvement activities (including activities to improve children's transition from early childhood education programs into elementary schools) among existing programs in the State and local educational agencies.

- identifies opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination among existing programs
- **recommends partnership opportunities** among a range of providers that would improve coordination, program quality, and delivery of services;
- **builds on existing plans and goals** (e.g. State Advisory Council; the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 2002); and
- identifies how these activities will better serve children and families in existing programs and how such activities will **increase the overall participation** of children in the State.
(3) **Develop a Communication Plan** to maximize parental choice and knowledge about the State’s mixed delivery system of existing programs and providers:

- ensure that parents are provided information about the variety of early childhood education programs for children from birth to kindergarten entry
- promoting and increasing involvement by parents and family members, including families of low-income and disadvantaged children, in the development of their children and the transition of children from an early childhood education program into an elementary school.

(4) **Share best practices among early childhood education program providers in the State** to increase collaboration and efficiency of services, including to improve transitions from programs to elementary school.

(5) (After activities above are completed), funds can be used to **improve the overall quality of early childhood education programs** in the State, by developing and implementing evidence-based practices **to improve professional development** for early childhood education providers and educational opportunities for children.
Available Funding

- FY18 $250 million total funds, $243,500 mill to states, 3% set aside for administration, TA, evaluation
- Grants are expected to range from $500,000 - $10 million
- Approximately 40 grants will be awarded
- 30% of matching funds from non-federal source
- Renewal Grants- states that receive planning year funds are eligible to apply for up to 3 years of funds to implement the strategic plan
What will it take for NM to be successful?

COMMON SENSE, COMMON GROUND
Aspire & Innovate

✓ Aspire- What do you want your state’s early learning system to look like in one year, 5 years?
✓ Innovate- Use the federal funds, plus state and local goals, resources and will to achieve your vision.

❖ In other words, don’t chase funding, use funding to implement your goals.
Identify and Act on Disparities
The Five Conditions of Collective Impact

- **Common Agenda**: All participants have a shared vision for change including a common understanding of the problem and a joint approach to solving it through agreed upon actions.

- **Shared Measurement**: Collecting data and measuring results consistently across all participants ensures efforts remain aligned and participants hold each other accountable.

- **Mutually Reinforcing Activities**: Participant activities must be differentiated while still being coordinated through a mutually reinforcing plan of action.

- **Continuous Communication**: Consistent and open communication is needed across the many players to build trust, assure mutual objectives, and appreciate common motivation.

- **Backbone Support**: Creating and managing collective impact requires a dedicated staff and a specific set of skills to serve as the backbone for the entire initiative and coordinate participating organizations and agencies.

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There is only one way to achieve greater coherence, and that is through purposeful action and interaction, working on capacity, clarity, precision of practice, transparency, monitoring of progress, and continuous correction.

Source: Michael Fullan & Joanne Quinn, Coherence, 2016
Perspiration + Inspiration = Transformational Leadership

**TECHNICAL CHALLENGES**

**Perspiration**
- Know-how currently exists
- Requires authoritative expertise
- Resources

**ADAPTIVE CHALLENGES**

**Inspiration**
- Solution not currently available
- Requires innovation & experimentation
- Risk and courage needed to address uncertainty and resistance
- Solved by the people experiencing the problem
The future belongs to the curious. The ones who are not afraid to try it, explore it, poke at it, question it and turn it inside out.

http://ceelo.org/
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