

**June 2, 2015 ELAC Meeting**  
**Family Partnerships & Engagement Discussion Notes**

[There is a \* for each time an idea was raised.]

**Are there questions or concerns about the PAG recruitment process?**

- Make DEL PAG page easy to find & navigate
- Be realistic that the 15 member PAG parents can't represent all parents in the state – so how do we find other ways locally to collect input from a larger, more diverse group – provide more support and guidance to regional coalitions to do this work
- Social media that's meaningful, relevant and practical for parents to participate in conversations
- Consider a local nomination process
- Need a commitment from partner orgs to make it possible to participate
  - Stipend, child care, schedule, transportation
  - Mileage doesn't matter if you don't have a car
- DEL outreach on social media
- No snail mail options for families to stay connected – raises access and unintended consequences
- Look at ARE questions
- On question #5 recruitment form asks about areas interested in because someone may not want to disclose. Will they be penalized if they don't check a box?
- Be more creative! Outreach to new parents (child care, food, stipends)
- How to increase word of mouth – parents can identify other parents and
- Go where the families are: Doc office (ROR), HV programs, WIC, ESIT, Family care provider union, boys & Girls club
- Messaging that simply promotes how (being on PAG) will make a difference
- Ensuring diverse representation
- How to connect parents that aren't in our formal systems?
- How welcoming can we be, and what is the selection process for reaching unconnected parents?
- Would the application meet the criteria of our 5 questions?
- What do parents bring to/get from the PAG?
- What can coalitions do?
- How not to get 5 parents from a region competing? What do we look for?
- What does it look like to sift through all the applications for 15 spots
- How do we find a network that will support?
- What policies will be addressed on Oct. 7
- Clear upload process
- Limited English accessibility

**Where in your work would you be interested in gathering parent/family input?**

- Licensing, subsidy policy, preschool policy, Kindergarten transition, family friendly employment practices, professional development, development delay interventions, financial resources for the middle
- DOH: We want to more about parents exp. w/ dev. Screening & connection to services
- DEL CCDF: Consumer input into new CCDF plan
- DEL HNG: parents thoughts about how they are fed at childcare site and do they feel like their site supports breast feeding. Do they help them find health homes, medical exams?
- SBCTC Conference nights for parents community event
- Parent workshop, focus groups
- Parent Symposium (West Valley)

**Are there questions or concerns about the PAG recruitment process?**

- How can 1 parent represent a whole region
- Maybe more value at regional level, then bubble up?
- Consider larger pool with a small “core” group?
- How access non techie parents?
- Tribal rep? All tough!
- Do all candidates need to demonstrate “unique experiences” criteria
- Government form, government agency language level
- What about families that aren’t connected to EL services?
- Not comfortable with sharing application broadly because lack of clarity with meeting location, # of calls, availability of translation, literacy level of reader. Felt like a transaction rather than a letter to invite. Not clear about what “advisory” means
- Feels like translation and interpretation is an afterthought rather than at the forefront
- Parents in some areas will have a hard time partnering with their coalition because of the time they meet. – What does partnering mean?
- Parents may feel intimidated with going to ELAC or coalition meetings
- Uncertainty if onsite child care is available may be a barrier for parents whose children have special needs
- Concern about tight turnaround from app due date and first call
- Many of us are parents too!

**Are there other pathways for recruitment DEL has not explored? How would you be willing to help?**

- Individuals (ELAC members) use own networks
- Go to each specific program to represent
- Parents represent a larger group
- Consider ad hoc committees specific to issues/policies
- Lack of vision & purpose
- Time investment
- Coalition support input
- Continued care and feeding
- Multilingual recruitment

**How would you like to be involved/connect to PAG?**

- Report to ELAC regularly?
- Do they come to us with problems, or we to them?
- What is problem we are trying to solve?

- Support parent connection to regional coalitions
- Coalition engagement/recognition

**What opportunities currently exist in your communities or agencies for parents to engage their voices on a regular basis?**

- Head Start/EHS ECEAP\*\*\*\*\* policy councils have regular meetings. Parent ambassadors.
- PTO/PTA\*\*\*\*\* meetings in public school districts, however not a lot of openness/ opportunity to engage parent voice.
- Within organizations at coalition table there are lots of efforts to engage encourage to apply
  - Difficult for someone “different” to jump in without a person helping them
- Be open to different types of diversity
- PAG state/fed requirement
- Informed by parent advocates/ambassadors
- Parenting (SBCTC) education programs (coop preschools)
- Drop off & pickup
- Family room at school
- Parent coffee chat
- Surveys
- Home visits
- Parent teacher conference
- Story times/Play & learn groups
- IFSP/IEP meetings
- Regional Coalition community meetings
- Social media
- family voice. Figuring out how they connect/merge.
- Parent coops
- WaKIDS family connections
- Ombuds?
- CCollege outreach – TF, Commitees, etc.
- State board engagement
- DOH – contract with P2P and Fathers Network – children with special health care needs
- Peers program
- Moms Rising
- SICC
- Coalition distinguishing direct service work and contact (LTP, GSR transition teams) versus systems outreach.