
Sponsor: Public Health

Meeting Date: 6/15/2021

Title: Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Minnesota for Participation in the Minnesota Early Childhood Longitudinal Data System

File Number: 2021-276

Background and Rationale:

Minnesota's Early Childhood Longitudinal Data System (ECLDS) is an evolving tool that answers questions about young children and their development, and it is Minnesota's foundation for filling gaps in knowledge on children. This innovative tool combines data by the state departments of Education, Human Services and Health into one online interactive database. This system honors the privacy of the individual child, by only showing population results, as all data is de-identified. The system shows children's growth and achievement in relation to their participation in a variety of education and social programs over time. This information is a tool used for early childhood research and evaluation to provide timely and relevant information to inform policy and practices.

In 2018, Public Health began exploring the ECLDS through a revenue agreement with Child Trends, Inc. Over the last three years, Public Health's Family Health Division has been a committed partner with Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) in the continued development of the ECLDS. A Family Health Manager serves on the Governance Body and provides input on the strategic direction and decision making authority for the system. Family Health Data Analysts serve on the Research and Data Committee and provide input on operational direction of the system.

Through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Public Health will continue to be a contributing agency to ECLDS. The MOU establishes responsibilities and expectations of both Public Health and MDE to support its partnership in ECLDS. This work will raise up and align our strategic priority work of strengthening the families we serve. Analysis of Public Health's Family Home Visiting data will promote quality insights into public health factors that affect children's readiness to learn, grow, and thrive.

Recommendation:


The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Minnesota on behalf of its Department of Education for participation in the Minnesota Early Childhood Longitudinal Data System.
2. Authorize the County Manager to execute the Memorandum of Understanding.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner MatasCastillo, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt.

Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

By: 

Abby Goldsmith, Interim Chief Clerk - County
Board