

Early Childhood Coalition of Flathead Valley

Formerly the



Purpose:

Flathead Early Childhood Coalition provides opportunities for early childhood professionals and community members to network, strategize and learn so that young children and their families may thrive.

Focus Areas for our work:

As one of many early childhood coalitions around Montana and the nation, we focus on:

- Sharing information and resources about our organizations and communities
- Linking efforts in our local area with regional, statewide and national work in early childhood
- Connecting members with opportunities for professional development, networking and learning
- Building awareness and supporting solutions across our communities to help ensure success for young children and their families

Participating Organizations

Sponsoring Members:

Columbia Falls School District
Discovery Developmental Center
Northwest Montana Head Start
Healthy Beginnings Pediatric Therapy
Kalispell Regional Medical Center (Logan Health)
Kalispell Schools – District 5
The Nurturing Center (host organization)
Flathead City-County Health Department

Participating Members:

Child Development Center
Evergreen Schools
Flathead Association for the Education of Young Children (FAEYC)
Flathead County Superintendent of Schools
FVCC Early Childhood Education
Heart Locker
Hope Family Resource Center
ImagineIf Libraries
Montana Legal Services Association
MSU Extension Buy, Eat, Live Better
Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative
Tamarack Grief Resource Center
Youth Dynamics

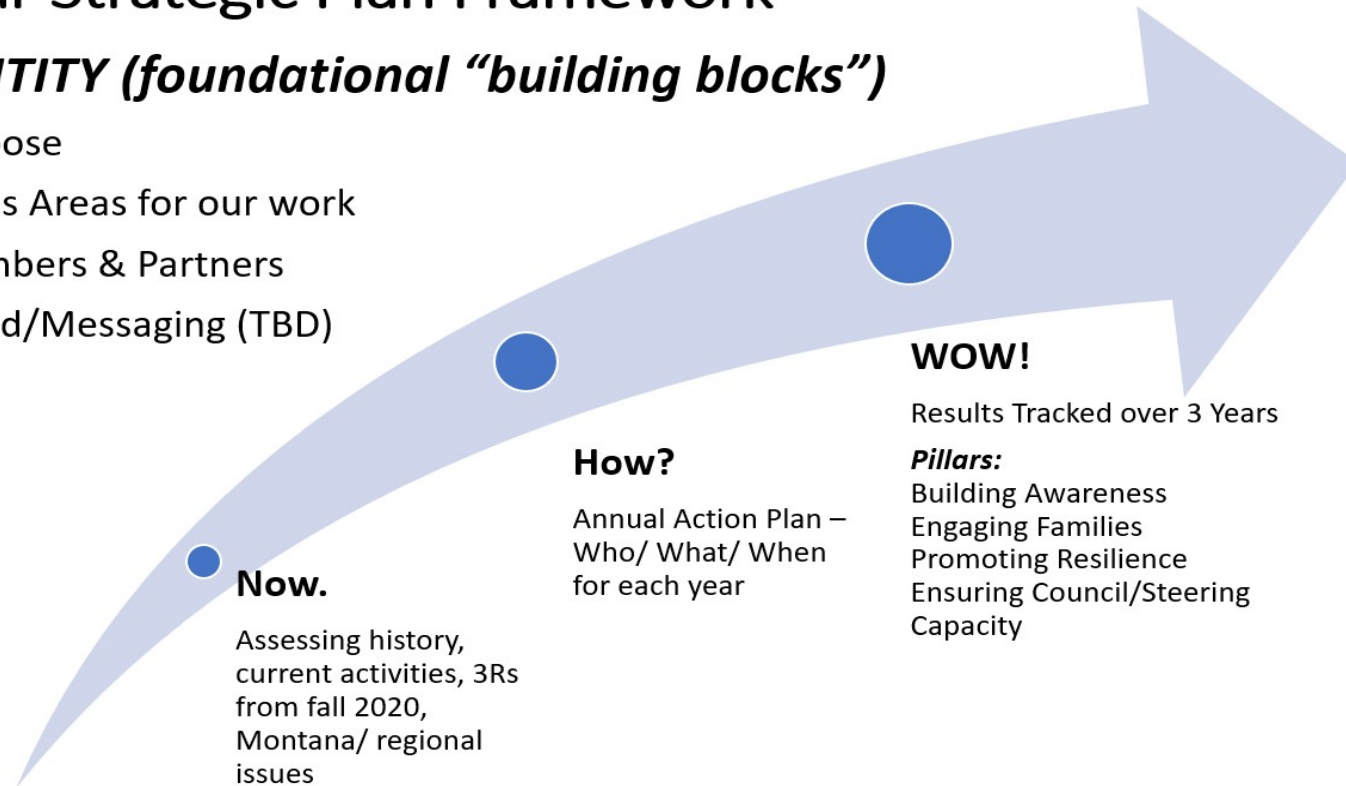
Early Childhood Coalition of Flathead Valley

Strategic Plan Framework 2021-2024

3-Year Strategic Plan Framework

IDENTITY (foundational “building blocks”)

- Purpose
- Focus Areas for our work
- Members & Partners
- Brand/Messaging (TBD)



Building Awareness and partner for solutions to child care and other early childhood/family support issues			
TASK	ASSIGNED TO	TARGET DATE	NOTES
<i>ONGOING Core Council Activities</i>			
Connect members with professional development and training through Council meetings, e-news	Ned in newsletter	Monthly	
School superintendent meeting	Steering Committee + Ned	August of each year	
Linking efforts - interagency partnerships for activities such as transition to school, prevention	Steering Committee + Ned	As needed	
<i>Year 1 Tasks (by June 2022)</i>			
Participate in Kalispell Chamber of Commerce study of child care needs and local solutions	Liaisons: Collette Box, Kalie Adoretti, Ned Cooney	Aug.-Dec. 2021	
Data Share as a frequent meeting activity– use organizational or county level data - every 2 months	Steering Committee Ned for ongoing agenda planning	Begin Oct. 2021	Use statewide/county Kids Count, childcare data), point-in-time, qualitative and discuss what it means for our communities and individual agencies
Potential: Maternal Mental Health Awareness Month activities to tie to statewide efforts in May 2022	Maternal Mental Health Coalition	Jan. 2022 decision and planning	
<i>Year 2-3 Tasks (July 2022-June 2024)</i>			
Create public position statements – reflect beliefs, priorities around early childhood and family support	TBD	TBD	

Engaging Families to bring parent voice into our work			
TASK	ASSIGNED TO	TARGET DATE	NOTES
<i>ONGOING Core Council Activities</i>			
Promoting family friendly events in newsletter	Ned in newsletter	Monthly	
<i>Year 1 Tasks (by June 2022)</i>			
Parent – Family Voice / engagement/ conversation/ linkage to Chamber Child Care effort	TBD	TBD	
Collect/ curate information on family friendly events for prevention project; promote in phase 3 of Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies as resources allow	Ned	Sept. 2021	
<i>Year 2-3 Tasks (July 2022-June 2024)</i>			
Link member efforts, others to develop/ promote learning opportunities / events for families	TBD	TBD	

Promoting Resilience to support a proactive, trauma-responsive community			
TASK	ASSIGNED TO	TARGET DATE	NOTES
<i>ONGOING Core Council Activities</i>			
"Resilient Flathead" Resources at the end of monthly newsletters	Ned in newsletter	Monthly	
<i>Year 1 Tasks (by June 2022)</i>			
Reinforce/ revisit Resilience and PACES (Positive and Adverse Childhood Experiences) community education at our monthly meetings	Re-engage Resilient Flathead Work Group	Oct. 2021	Consider how to rebrand/refresh and work with schools; perhaps tie with the pandemic effects
Resilience/Trauma-informed professional development, shared learning and organizational assessment	Re-engage Resilient Flathead Work Group	Sept. 2021 (Transitions / Neutral Zone)	Consider: lending library resources, organizational resources for assessment and consult regarding development of invested and sustainable practices– partner with NWMASS/schools? How do we promote awareness to help keep organizations informed and invested
<i>Year 2-3 Tasks (July 2022-June 2024)</i>			
Plan to partner with schools for training, resources	Re-engage Resilient Flathead Work Group	TBD	

Ensuring Council and Steering Committee Capacity for connection and impact			
TASK	ASSIGNED TO	TARGET DATE	NOTES
ONGOING Core Council Activities			
Monthly Council meetings	Steering Committee + Ned plan agendas, with Council input	Monthly	
Monthly Steering Committee meetings	Ned with Steering Committee input	Monthly	
Year 1 Tasks (by June 2022)			
Chart terms of Steering members back to election of Martha, Marcy and Carolyn	Ned	Sept. 2021 present/confirm with Steering Comm.	
Track and report attendance for each meeting	Ned	Aug. 2021	Start with July 2021; track back to start of 2020?
Opt-in Directory of Members	Ned with Steering Committee assistance, possible outside help?	Oct. 2021	
In-Council professional development “10-minute university” – facilitation tips, acronyms other skill-building	Steering Committee + Ned	Sept. 2021 (Transitions)	Mostly monthly; plan at each Steering meeting
Develop group agreements	Steering Committee + Ned draft; present to Council	Nov. 2021 for draft; Dec. for discussion w/Council	Unpack your jargon/ cross-sector; Newsletter guidelines, timing
In Case of Emergency/ Succession Planning for Steering Committee/Facilitator	Ned	Dec. 2021 finalize	
Articulate process to invite interest in the Steering Committee	Steering Committee + Ned	Dec. 2021 finalize	
Year 2-3 Tasks (July 2022-June 2024)			
Preparation and communication for 2023 Legislative Session – how to interact with legislators before, during and after the session; tracking legislation	Steering Committee + Ned	Winter/Spring 2022	