



Great Start for All Minnesota Children Task Force

November 30, 2021



Welcome!

Here are our virtual meeting protocols

- **Ensure your name and affiliation** are properly reflected in WebEx
- **Please be on video** as much as possible to help with overall engagement
- **Mute self** when not speaking
- Use **Chat feature or “raise hand” button** for questions or comments
- Technical issues can happen to anyone – **chat privately to Carrie Stewart for any needs**
- If you are experiencing an unstable connection - **switch to phone call or close other applications**
- Members of the **public can submit written feedback to**
greatstart.taskforce.mmb@state.mn.us

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome from our Co-Chairs



Shakira Bradshaw
Parent of Children under 5



Jenny Moses
Children's Cabinet



Sandy Simar
Early Educator

The Task Force will be supported by:

- **Children's Cabinet Staff:** Erin Bailey, Hannah Quinn
- **Facilitation Team:** Afton Partners and Children's Funding Project

Today's Goals



Share the **context** for the work we are about to take on



Discuss the **charge** in front of us



Create shared understanding of **how we will move through our work together** over the next 16 months

Meeting 1 Discussion – 2 hours



Welcome and Introductions (45 min)



Context for the work at hand (15 min)



Task Force's **charge and goals** (30 min)



Approach to our work, including **centering equity** (20 min)



Proposed **timeline, next steps, and close** (10 min)

Our Charge

Develop a **plan and implementation timeline** that ensures all families have access to **affordable, high-quality early care and education** that enriches, nurtures, and supports children and their families.



How Did We Get Here?



The Great Start for All Minnesota Children Task Force was **proposed by early care and education advocates, legislators and the Walz-Flanagan Administration** for the purposes of developing a state plan to accomplish the goal that “all families to have access to affordable, high-quality early care and education that enriches, nurtures, and supports children and their families” (Minnesota 2021 Session Law, First Special Session, Chapter 7, Article 14, Section 18, Subd. 2).

The Task Force is comprised of 11 voting members appointed by the Governor, 4 voting members appointed by legislative leadership, and 22 non-voting members appointed by varying individuals, including state agency staff and the Governor.

Thank you for your service

Voting Membership

Patricia Ives, Director of Licensed Child Care Center - Greater MN

Krystal Shatek, Director of Licensed Child Care Center – 7 County Metropolitan Area

Sandy Simar, Early Childhood Educator - Head Start or Community Education Program*

Adriana Lopez, Early Childhood Educator - Licensed Child Care Center

Meghan Caine, Early Childhood Educator - Public School-based Early Childhood Program

Kathleen Church, Family Child Care Program License Holder - Greater MN

Luciana Carballo, Family Child Care Program License Holder – 7 County Metropolitan Area

Representative Liz Bolden, MN House -Majority

TBD, MN House - Minority

Jayne Whiteford, Parent Children Under 5 - Greater MN; public program

Shakira Bradshaw, Parent Children Under 5 - Metro; private early care / education program*

Senator Karin Housley, Senate - Majority

Senator Melissa Wiklund, Senate - Minority

Brook Lafloe, Rep of a Federally Recognized Tribe with Expertise in Early Care and Education

Jennifer Moses, Children's Cabinet Representative*

Thank you for your service

Non-voting Membership

Nancy Hafner, Faculty Rep Early Childhood Education in a MN Institution of Higher Education

Barb Fabre, Indigenous Visioning Representative

Lydia Boerboom, Kids Count on Us Representative

Suzanne Pearl, Nationally Recognized Expert in Early Care and Education Financing

Summer Bursch, Minnesota Association of Child Care Professionals (MACCP)

Amy Walstien, Minnesota Business Partnership

Lauren Schothorst, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

Clare Sanford, Minnesota Child Care Association

Cyndi Cunningham, MN Child Care Provider Information Network

Michelle Trelsted, MN Community Education Association

Tonia Villegas, Minnesota Association of County Social Services Administrators

Kraig Gratke, Minnesota Head Start Association

Missy Okeson, Minnesota Initiative Foundations (MIFs)

Deb Fitzpatrick, Statewide Advocacy Organization

Ann McCully, Statewide Child Care Resource and Referral Network, Child Care Aware of MN

Debbie Hewitt, Department of Education

Oriane Casale, Department of Employment and Economic Development

Karen Fogg, Department of Health

Cindi Yang, Department of Human Services

Nicole Blissenbach, Department of Labor and Industry

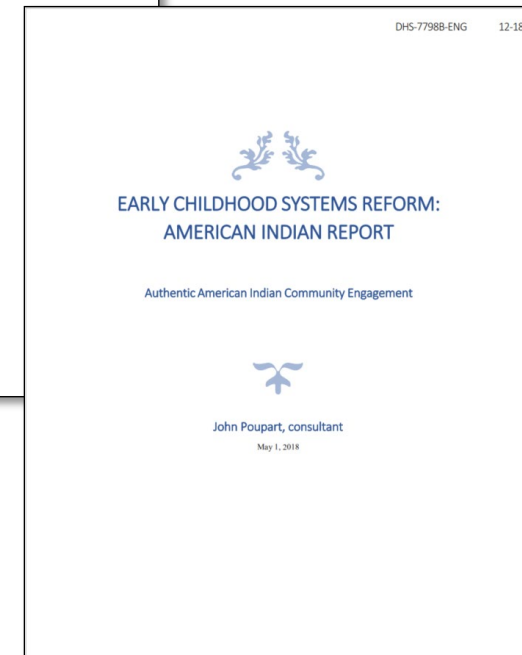
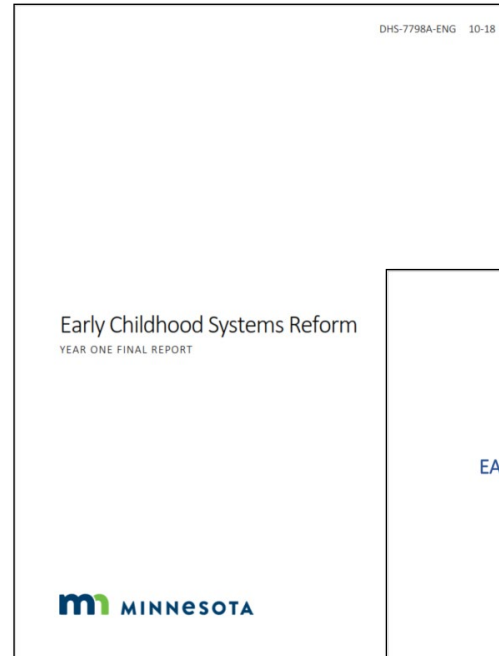
Laurena Schlottach-Ratcliff, Management and Budget

Janell Bentz, Department of Revenue

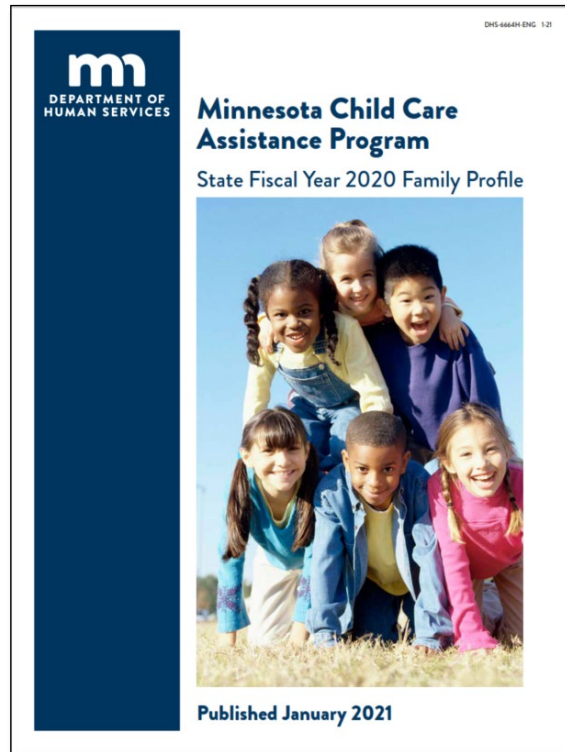
Why our charge and why now? Equity as a focus.

Early Childhood Systems Reform Year 1 Report and Early Childhood Systems Reform American Indian Report

- Centering equity in planning and policy impacting children and families
- Understanding and building upon lived experience
- Focus on racial, geographic and economic inequities
- Create an equitable early childhood system
- Utilize developed framework and tools to guide our work



Why our charge and why now? Financing Early Care and Education



Why do parents pay so much for childcare when early educators earn so little? - Center for the Study of Child Care Employment (berkeley.edu)

- High quality early care and education experiences matter for children, families, the economy and society.
- Public investments outside of the public health crisis are minimal
- Cost burden to families
- Expenses to run the program leave little for providers themselves and result in low wages for staff

Why our charge and why now? Access and Affordability

Hamilton Project: Increasing Federal Investment in Children's Early Care and Education to Raise Quality, Access, and Affordability

- Families have access to and benefit from high-quality, affordable early care and education
- Increase public funding
- Invest in early childhood
- Fight against repeating intergenerational inequities
- Children thrive



Task Force Charge & Goals

Our Charge & Goals

- Charge: Develop a **plan and implementation timeline** that **ensures all families have access to affordable, high-quality early care and education** that enriches, nurtures, and supports children and their families
- Goals:
 - Affordable: Create a system in which family costs for ECE are affordable
 - Equitable and Accessible: Ensure that a child's access to high-quality ECE is not determined by the child's race, family income, or zip code
 - Workforce Compensation: Ensure that Minnesota's ECE educators are qualified, diverse, supported and equitably compensated regardless of setting

Let's discuss



Introduce yourself to your colleagues

Designate a **note-taker and a reporter**

What are your **hopes** for this Task Force?

What **questions** do you have about the Task Force, our charge, or the context for our work?

- **3 Mins:** individual reflection
- **10 Mins:** small group discussion
- **10 Mins:** share out

Approach to Our Work including Centering Equity

Setting ourselves up for success involves thorough planning

- Co-chairs
- Voting Members
- Non-Voting Members
- Facilitators
- Children's' Cabinet

Meeting Roles



- Context
- Charge
- Norms & Expectations
- Procedures
- Guiding Principles

Framing the Work



- Task Force
- Working Groups
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Equity Framework
- Key Analyses

Approach to the Work



- Internal Communications
- External Communications

Sharing the Work



Our proposed process for deliverable development

Develop a shared understanding of the **current ECE system and context**

Identify **goals for the future ECE system**, with and for the children, families, workforce, and providers it serves

Identify **root causes of inadequacies, inequities, and other challenges** that exist today

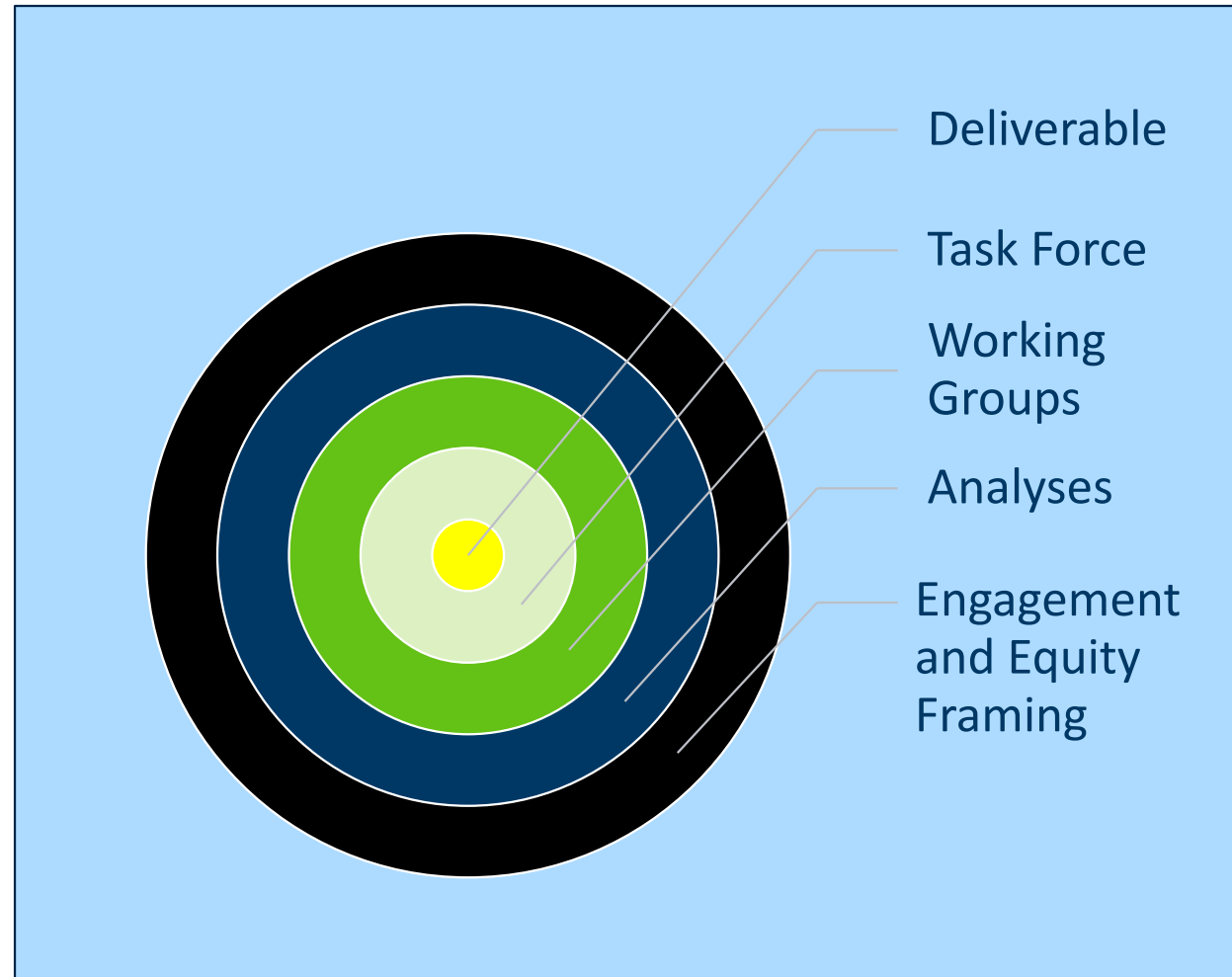
Ideate **pathways/solutions** to improve or redesign the system

Determine **appropriate timelines** and implementation guidance

Grounded in:

- Local & National Research
- Advocacy Reports
- Stakeholder Input (Existing & New)
- Local Experience and Expertise
- National Experience and Expertise
- Federal Context
- Original Analysis & Modeling

Getting to our deliverable



Roles

Co-Chairs

- Lead Task Force meetings
- Keep equity centered
- Prioritize issues for discussion
- Build consensus among membership
- Formally accept recommendations and deliver report
- Engage public and media

Task Force

- Proactively offer diverse expertise and perspectives
- Be informed by research, analytics, and public and stakeholder input
- Participate in working groups
- In addition, Voting Members vote on key process steps and recommendations

Facilitation Team

- Provide project management and facilitation
- Develop Task Force and working group meeting agendas and materials in partnership with co-chairs
- Conduct research and data analytics necessary to the success of the work

Children's Cabinet

- Collaborate with State agencies' leadership
- Coordinate and schedule Task Force and Working Group meetings
- Partner with facilitation team in development of agendas and materials
- Ensure compliance with all applicable laws and rules

Task Force & Working Group Structure

Endorses charge, guiding principles, deliverables, and timeline

Establishes, advises, and sets priorities for Working Groups

Vets, adjusts, and formally approves recommendations for incorporation into a Task Force Report

Task Force



Working Group



Take direction from Task Force

Research, analyze, and make recommendations to Task Force

- Regarding key topics/questions posed by the Task Force
- Stemming from the Charge
- In alignment with guiding principles

Norms & Expectations

- Attend meetings prepared
- Engage in respectful dialogue
- Be actively engaged

Procedures



Open meeting law requires public bodies to **record and maintain votes** of its members. Virtual meetings require a vote by roll call.



Formal votes will include only voting members and formal votes will be held regarding anything that would be included in the report and approval of the report.



Informal voting (ex. thumbs up) may used to engage all Task Force members on items such as determining if a topic needs more discussion, if a break is needed, etc.



Quorum is defined as a majority of voting members.

Equity Definition

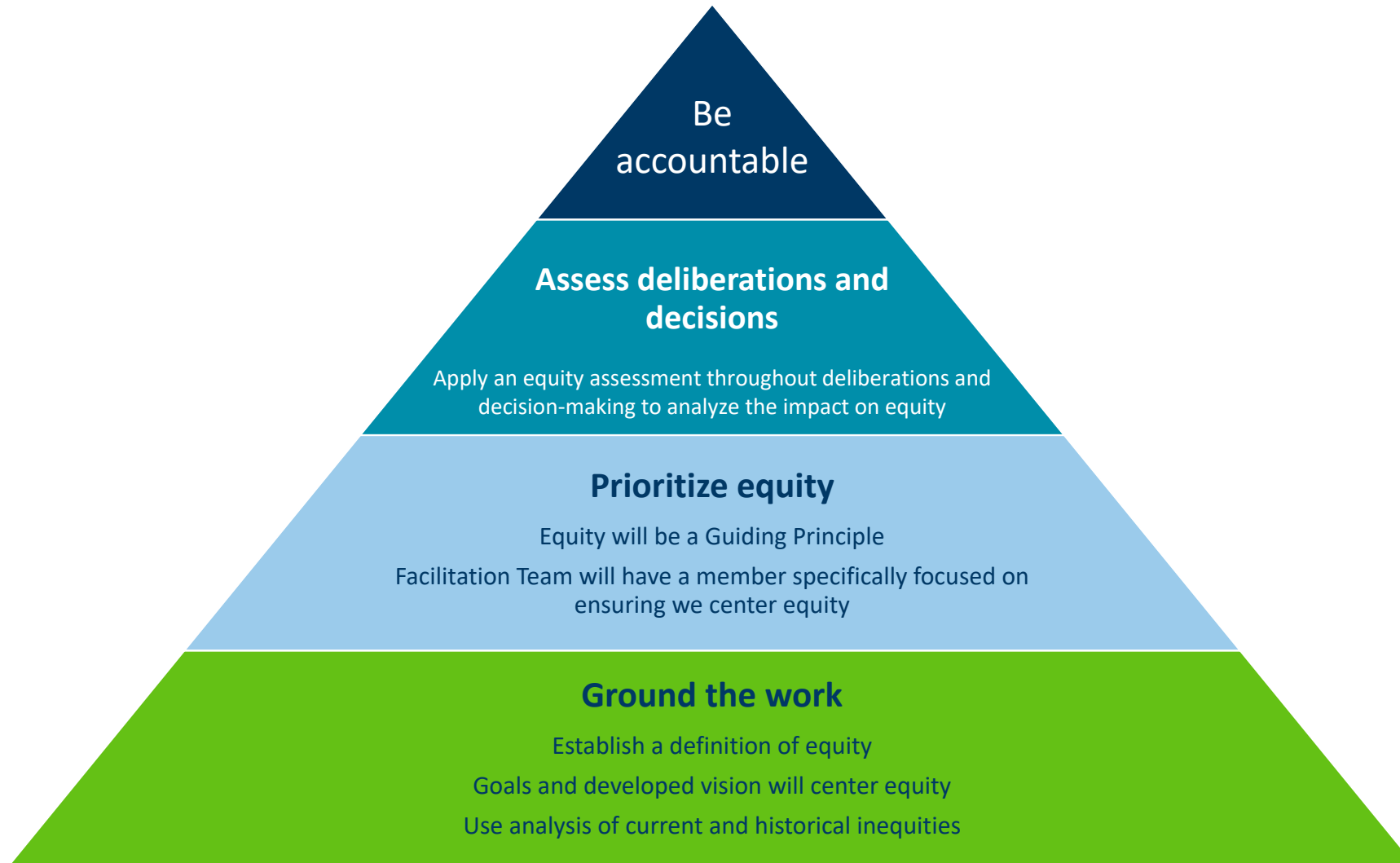
When every person, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, socioeconomic status, or geographic location has the opportunity to realize their full potential of physical, social, emotional, and cognitive well-being, without limits imposed by structural inequities.

Equity is ensuring everyone has what they need to be successful. This is different from equality which involves treating everyone the same.

Early Childhood Systems Reform

Report prepared by the Early Childhood Systems Reform Project Team

Equity Strategy



Proposed Timeline & Next Steps

Task Force Timeline (draft)



Next Steps

- Prior to end of 2021, send feedback on the Task Force charge, establishment, proposed process, and any other feedback to greatstart.taskforce.mmb@state.mn.us
- Expect a request for introduction and discussion with Hannah
- Next Task Force meeting is Tuesday, December 21st, 6-8pm

Thank you for your commitment to our youngest learners!



Task Force Meeting Dates

Draft and subject to change

Meetings will be held from **6 - 8pm** on the last Tuesday of each month, except when conflicting with anticipated holidays

- December 21, 2021
- January 25, 2022
- February 22, 2022
- March 29, 2022
- April 26, 2022
- May 31, 2022
- June 28, 2022
- July 26, 2022
- August 30, 2022
- September 27, 2022
- October 25, 2022
- November 29, 2022
- December 20, 2022
- January 31, 2023

Thank You!