

President / CEO Board Meeting Summary

September 15, 2017

T.E.A.C.H. Appropriation / LBR for 2017-18

Budgets are due from the agencies to the Governor's office in September. I have spoken to Rodney and they are including T.E.A.C.H. at \$10M again. We are also working with the Lastinger Center at the University of Florida who wants to be able to use T.E.A.C.H. as the vehicle for Early Learning Florida coursework going forward. If we are successful with this partnership, we will also gain some political clout in helping to fund our appropriation as they are politically linked in.

Compensation Workgroup

The Forum is the lead on a project focused on compensation for the early learning workforce. There are a number of task force members serving which includes Bob Buesing, Office of Early Learning, University of Florida, United Way of Florida, FACCM, and Children's Movement, among others. The workgroup has developed a strategic plan to be executed over the next year which includes an assessment from the field as well as awareness raising on the compensation issues. It is recognized that affecting compensation for the field will require a multi-pronged approach.

Volunteer Florida Planning Grant

We are recipients of a planning grant for Volunteer Florida. The purpose of the planning grant is to assess the viability of applying for an implementation grant to recruit a more "diversified" early childhood workforce by employing more males into the field. The total amount of the planning grant is: \$58,646. Additionally, attracting more males into the field could impact future wages.

Help Me Grow Florida

We transitioned the position of Statewide Coordinator from Saralyn Grass to Tamara Price. Tamara worked for the Help Me Grow Florida project as contracts manager for a year and was very qualified for that position. She has moved into the Coordinator's position and doing well. We will have to fight again for funding for the initiative unless we get a strong champion for the program in the House and Senate. Vance Aloupis is also helping to identify and groom a champion.