FLORIDA PRESCHOOL DEVELOP GRANT B-5 PROJECT SUMMARY/ABSTRACT

Through the PDG B-5 grant, Florida will move towards increasing the quality, alignment and efficiency of Florida's early childhood care and education programs and services to support families' needs, children's readiness and early grade success, particularly vulnerable and underserved children.

Needs to address: (1) Families do not have equitable access to quality early childhood care and education programs statewide; (2) Families have difficulty navigating multiple social services, being informed consumers, and fully engaging as partners with early childhood care and education programs in children's development; (3) There is significant local variance in the percentage of children served and subsidy rates. Limited funding, unmet need, and local delivery create widely different local priorities and, therefore, widely different levels of quality for families; (4) With increased accountability and use of program assessment statewide, there is inconsistent access to effective quality supports for providers; and (5) Transitions into kindergarten are uneven, and collaboration between the early childhood care and education system and local school systems is inconsistent.

Proposed services. Florida's PDG B-5 proposes the following:

- To build on our statewide needs assessment portal to enable better assessment needs, access, and quality for informed data-driven policy solutions;
- Create comprehensive statewide early childhood care and education mixed delivery system strategic plan;
- To streamline policies and enrollment processes, improve access and availability of high quality early childhood care and education programs and services for families, increase family engagement, and provide high quality consumer education for families across funding streams, programs, and services; and
- To increase access to effective early childhood care and education quality improvement strategies by developing standards for and expanded access to professional development, coaching and related supports that improve kindergarten readiness and early grade success.

Population groups to be served. Florida's children B - 5, particularly children who are vulnerable or underserved.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Improve Data-Driven System Coordination: to be responsive to the needs of children, families, early childhood care and education providers, and community and state family service partners, Florida will build on the existing needs assessment data portal and *Index to Child Care Access* and to align data systems and develop enhanced tools that will provide interactive, vital information on capacity, affordability, quality, and financing for early childhood care and education to inform data-driven decision-making. Florida will also conduct a feasibility study for creating a single point of entry to streamline requirements for families and will identify and implement policies to simplify requirements for social services.

Increase Family Access and Engagement: to better serve all families with high quality early childhood care and education programs and services, particularly vulnerable and underserved populations. The crosscutting concept throughout all priorities is to focus on families in their current situation. The goal is to create a system that encourages culturally sensitive, trauma-responsive family engagement and care. Florida will build out online resources that will increase consumer education on early childhood care and education programs, privatized access to child screening and assessment data that will provide important information on children's development, and other resources that support increased family engagement.

Create a High-quality Comprehensive System of Early Childhood Care and Education: to balance the diverse mixed-delivery system with maximizing resources and leveraging funding, Florida will increase education and credentialing for early childhood care and education professionals and align and increase availability of current best practices statewide. This will include cross system, cross discipline opportunities for shared professional development, communities of practice, and supports for existing networks to strengthen quality, particularly for vulnerable children. Florida will place specialized emphasis on family engagement, supporting the needs of unique learning populations, including dual language learners and children with disabilities, and increasing school readiness for all children. Development of a comprehensive strategic plan will result in streamlined policies, budgets, and alignment of systems, creating efficiencies to maximize funding and resources and improve opportunities.

Vision: Florida's vision is to increase the quality, alignment, and efficiency of Florida's early childhood care and education programs and services to support families' needs, children's readiness and early grade success, particularly vulnerable and underserved children.

Goal: 1. Improve data-driven system coordination 2. Increase family access and engagement 3. Create a high-quality comprehensive system of early childhood care and education

Inputs	Program Activities & Processes			Outputs	Outcomes
	1.	1a. Stakeholder focus groups1b. Needs Assessment1c. Cost of Quality Study		1i. Needs Assessment report 2i. Integrated strategic plan	Short Term (1 year) a. Updated needs assessment
Funding	Needs Assessment	 2a. Child Assessment Plan (Unified system for child assessments) 2b. Strategic Plan 3a. Inventory of all current PD offerings 3b. Expand PD Registry (DCF) 3c. Link DCF CARES system with registry 3d. Family Focus Groups 3e. Printed Family Guide 3f. Feasibility Study (creating a single point of entry 3g. Equity Training 3h. CCR&R Training 3i. Video Vignettes 4a. Improved application process for implementing child assessments 4b. Transition to Kindergarten 4c. Align PD to EL Standards 4d. Mental Health supports 4e. Expand access to online learning communities 4f. Coaching and Emergent Literacy training 5a. Update FL Competencies for Early Care and Education 5b. Conduct an analysis of statement access 		 3i. Comprehensive PD Inventory and PD Registry 3ii. Feasibility Study report 3iii. Quality trainings (CCR & R, Equity, Family focused content) 3iv. Video library for parent access 4i. Improved best practices for implementing child assessments 4ii. State system for transition preschoolers to kindergarten 4iii. Comprehensive supports for families experiencing mental needs 4iv. Comprehensive online learning system 4v. Improved coaching and emergent literacy practices 5i. Aligned pathways to include best practices for implementation 5ii. Articulation of Florida Professional Development into credentials and degrees 	 b. Strategic plan that maximizes funding and improvement c. Increased family awareness, access, and engagement d. Improved standards of practice for ECE programs e. ECE PD Platform for statewide access f. Unduplicated counts of children, services needs and access I. Unduplicated counts of children, services needs and access I. Increased access to high quality care b. Policies and budgets that aligns with all systems c. Increased education and credentialing for ECE d. More children ready for kindergarten e. Increased selection of high quality ECE programs f. Single point of entry services g. Ongoing data-driven decision making
Data Sharing	2. Strategic Planning				
Orientation & Training	3. Maximizing Parental Choice and Knowledge		-		
Agency & Stakeholder Buy- In	4. Sharing Best Practices		•		
Personnel	5. Quality Improvement				