Webinar #4: Opportunities to Partner with the Private Sector

Our final webinar Opportunities to Partner with the Private Sector in Early Learning is set for Friday, August 10, 2012 from 3pm – 4:30pm ET. We are thrilled to have Mike Petro from the Committee for Economic Development (CED) talk about partnering legislators and business leaders on the importance of early childhood. A new CED report highlights the business sector call for more high-quality early learning opportunities for children from birth to age 8 to reduce the achievement gap and strengthen the workforce for a better economy and global competition. State legislators across the country understand the strong brain and child development research behind investing in early learning. With fiscal challenges facing state legislatures, the opportunity is there for legislative and private-sector leaders to partner to advance creative solutions to the early achievement gap. Business leaders in Colorado are partnering to leverage a mix of state, community and private resources to improve outcomes for children in the Children’s Corridor.

To register and participate please email Alison May (alison.may@ncsl.org).

Confirmed Speaker:

Mike Petro, Vice President
Committee for Economic Development (CED)

Successful Home Visiting Meeting with Fellows

Some of the Fellows attended NCSL’s Investing in Families Through State Home Visiting Programs meeting at the end of June in Hartford, Connecticut. Legislators were invited to increase their understanding of home visiting programs and systems. Senators Bye and James, and Representatives Behning, Belcher, Merrill and Myhra attended the meeting. One of the Fellows summarized the importance of the meeting by stating, “[The] brain research, impact of home visiting and other information can be used to educate other legislators in my state.” Another Fellow responded to the meeting by saying, “Everything fit together to show how important home visits are to our parents and children. This conference provided much needed information.”

For more information about the meeting, including agenda and handouts and other resources available, please click here.

Highlight your work in the next Fellows newsletter — email alison.may@ncsl.org.
Legislative Summit Session and Educare Tour

Are you planning to attend Legislative Summit? This summer, the nation’s legislators and legislative staff will gather in Chicago August 6th - 9th at the NCSL Legislative Summit. A session and an early learning program tour are available to Fellows who attend Legislative Summit.

Home Visiting: Models and Policy Options for Creating the Best Programs which takes place on Tuesday, August 7th from 3pm - 4pm. This session will discuss effective home visiting models, state policy options and how best to integrate a home visiting program into the comprehensive early childhood care and education system. Discuss the challenges, and hear about federal grants available to states.

Educare Site Visit
The Educare early childhood education program tour will take place on Wednesday, August 8 from 8:45am - 10:30am. Educare Chicago has been a nationally recognized, research-based early childhood program model since 2000, bringing together education leaders, lawmakers, the private sector, communities and families.

The tour/site visit is FREE, but advanced RSVP is required by contacting Phuonglan Nguyen at 303-856-1582 or phuonglan.nguyen@ncsl.org.

The tour bus will return to McCormick Place Convention Center in time for the 11:00am Issue Forums.

Resources

U.S. Poverty Continued Rise
Listen to Ron Haskins in a Brookings Institute podcast in which he discuss causes of and solutions for poverty’s continued rise. Access the podcast—www.brookings.edu/research/podcasts/2012/06/22-at-brookings-podcast.

Analysis of Race to the Top: Early Learning Challenge (RTT/ELC) Application Section on “Sustaining Effects into the Early Elementary Grades”
This brief provides information on what states proposed in their RTT/ELC applications on sustaining effects into the early elementary grades that may be helpful to states in thinking about their own early childhood system efforts. Access the report—www.ounceofprevention.org/national-policy/Sustaining-Effects-6-10-12.pdf.

Staying Involved

The final newsletter for the Early Learning Fellows will be next month. Staff will be preparing for next year’s Fellows program.

In the fall, we will be transitioning current Fellows as alumni. We will send information along about how to stay involved.

Your feedback is very important! Please look for the Fellows evaluation survey in your inbox next month.