



KECCS Update

September 2007

New Implementation Tracking Database

It's time to start sharing the work you have been doing – and checking our progress on the KECCS Plan. The implementation tracking tool is updated, revised and ready to go! With the new, user-friendly format, you can:

- Add activities for your agency
 - Share the information about your agency's work in support of the KECCS Plan!
- Update activities that have already been entered for your agency
 - Added partners? Moved from planning to implementation? Make quick and easy updates to keep your activities up-to-date!
- View all activities that your agency has entered
 - View all activities entered for your agency. Use the tool to keep track of your work, for grant-writing or for completing reports for administrators and funders.
- View reports by Goal or by Agency to see our progress as a whole
 - This new feature lets you keep up with or learn more about the work that is going on across Kansas.

Here's how it works...An account for each active partner agency has been created. Each agency's primary contact will receive an e-mail with login information. Primary contacts can designate up to five (5) users who will have agency access for adding and updating activities and viewing reports. If your agency does not receive login information, contact us at keccs@ku.edu.

Instructions are available on each page to guide you through the process. If you have questions or concerns, e-mail keccs@ku.edu or contact Rebecca Gillam by telephone at (785) 864-7123.

Resources Added to Website

You asked, we listened! New resources are now available to help local communities create comprehensive early childhood systems using the KECCS model. Check out the following on the [Early Childhood Resources](#) page:

- The [Levels of Collaboration Scale](#) is a tool that can be used to measure collaboration across agencies or partners in your community. The tool, which was developed by the School Program Evaluation and Research group at the University of Kansas, looks at

- measuring progress over the five stages of collaboration: networking, cooperation, coordination, coalition, and collaboration.
- The **KECCS Converging Systems diagram** has been used to identify initiatives that support a comprehensive early childhood system. A **template** of the “fishbone” is available for local communities to use in local early childhood system planning.
 - The latest report from the Center on the Developing Child, “**A Science-Based Framework for Early Childhood Policy**,” provides a foundation for policymakers and civic leaders to think about investment in early childhood.

August 9th KECCS Stakeholder Meeting

If you missed the August 9th KECCS Stakeholder meeting in Salina, an **overview of the day** is now available on the website. Be sure to check out how Kansas scored on the NCCP Project Thrive ECCS evaluation and learn about the new evaluation plan to link school readiness research within the framework of the KECCS Plan. Presentations and handouts from the Goal area breakout sessions are also available.

KECCS Grant Funded

Thanks for your contributions to the KECCS Continuing Competition grant. We received notification that KECCS was funded for the third year of implementation!

Tips & Tools

The **National Center for Children in Poverty** (NCCP) at Columbia University offers Demographics and Policy Wizard tools, both of which give you easy access to information and statistics! The Demographics Wizard lets you create custom tables of national- and state-level statistics about low-income or poor children. The Policy Wizard allows you to create custom tables with information about state and federal policies that assist low-income families and children. Check out the tools and other resources available from the NCCP online at **<http://www.nccp.org/tools/>**.

Upcoming Events, Conferences & Training Opportunities

- The **6th Annual Parent Leadership Conference** will be held in Topeka on October 26 & 27, 2007. Parents of children birth to age 8 and family child care providers are eligible to attend this **free** conference sponsored by the Head Start-State Collaboration Office.
- Kansas Parents as Teachers and Kansas Parent Information Recourse Center (KPIRC) **4th Annual Parent Involvement Conference** will be held on September 24-26, 2007 at the Hilton Wichita Airport Executive Conference Center, Wichita, KS. Our 2 organizations are collaborating to bring an exciting conference to all programs interested in increasing their parent involvement, and child development knowledge base. You can learn more and enroll at **www.ksde.org** or **www.kpirc.org**, or by contacting **donnaveatchgroup@comcast.net**.
- The Kansas Head Start Association’s Annual Conference – “The Joy of Early Learning” – will be held in Salina on November 15 & 16, 2007. Highlights of the conference include

Ruby Payne “Bridges out of Poverty” training, keynote speaker Isela Garcia, M.Ed., the KHSA 10th Anniversary Gala, and seventeen workshop sessions. See the [Conference brochure](#) or visit www.ksheadstart.org for more information.

Do you have an event, conference or training coming up that would benefit other KECCS partners? Let us know, and we will promote it on the KECCS website and in the newsletter, the KECCS Update. Send information to keccs@ku.edu, or contact Rebecca Gillam at (785) 864-7123.