

During our meeting September 9, 2013 the advisory committee divided into three groups to discuss framing the work of the advisory committee. In small group discussions three key themes were identified: access, awareness and connections. Below you will find definitions for each based on advisory committee small group feedback.

Access- increased availability of and access to high quality, regulated, culturally responsive, and affordable family support and literacy programs

Awareness- increase public awareness of and support for early childhood development, health, and early education among partners, public officials, policy makers, and the public.

Connections- collaborate with partners to increase access to and awareness of high quality family support services for young children and their families.

The Family Support and Literacy Advisory team members were able to categorize the recommendations based on the three priority themes. These recommendations will be discussed in further detail to ensure that we have captured the strategic direction.

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Access	Awareness	Connections
Creating access to high quality services and programs for high risk children and families.	Broaden outreach and awareness to parents of children birth – 5 on the Arizona’s College and Career Ready Standards and Move on when Reading initiatives to increase parental awareness on mandate changes in the K-12 system, a parent’s role as their child’s first teacher and the importance of school readiness beginning prenatally.	Continued collaboration with BUILD – Early Grade Success and Read On Arizona to assist with fostering the political environment regarding the importance of family support and literacy to align statewide efforts and increase the political influence.
Increase access to professional development opportunities for all Family Support providers. Professional development opportunities will assist with understanding their role of increasing parental awareness on the importance of school readiness and ensure consistency of care.	Expand public awareness regarding the importance of family support programs to the success of the children and families in the state so that families have the knowledge, skills and resources to support their child’s school readiness.	Develop and utilize relationships with organizations working with children birth – five and their families to improve the number of families receiving services and reduce duplication of services.
Strategize outreach and enrollment of children and their families into Family Support and Literacy programs.	Explore how regionally funded strategies can be maximized by leveraging resources.	Measure and ensure high quality service provision by utilizing varied data sources and how the results from the evaluation studies can inform best practices in a comprehensive system.
Inform health providers of family support and services for children and their families.	Establish a regional risk profile and well-being profile of each region based on the Needs and Asset Report. The purpose would be to take a deeper look at the composite of family support and literacy services in each region to ensure that there is a solid match between the services that are provided and the needs of the community.	Initiate and engage Division of Children, Youth and Families and the juvenile court system to provide supports for high risks families who have not entered or are exiting the CPS (Child Protective Services) or juvenile court system.
Increase the number of families who have access to and receive home visitation.		Create professional learning communities and reduce the duplication of services. So that grantees have a full understanding of systems building, collective impact, leveraging of resources and develop professional relationships.
		Improve connections with child care providers and the community to deliver consistent messaging to emphasize focus on child development and importance of early literacy.