



EC-REACH

Early Childhood Research Alliance

★ OF CHICAGO ★

Planning Committee Meeting 5

May 12, 2022

DROP IN THE CHAT:

If your mood today was a musical genre, which one would it be?

Welcome!



Agenda



9:00 - 9:10 AM	10 min	Welcome & Review
9:10 - 9:20 AM	10 min	Governing Bodies + Pillars
9:20 - 9:30 AM	10 min	Staffing + Budget
9:30 - 9:40 AM	10 min	Home Institution Rubric
9:40 - 10:00 AM	20 min	Letter of Inquiry Responses
10:00 - 10:20 AM	20 min	Research Agenda
10:20 - 10:40 AM	20 min	Fundraising Strategy
10:40 - 10:50 AM	20 min	Implementation Plan
10:50 - 11:00 AM	20 min	Looking Ahead

Working Norms

Step up / Step back

Listen to learn

Set aside individual agendas

Stay focused

Meeting 5: Focus

At the conclusion of our time together, the EC-REACH planning team will:

1. Determine development of the research agenda
2. Establish a fundraising strategy
3. Create an EC-REACH implementation action plan

EC-REACH

Early Childhood Research Alliance

★ OF CHICAGO ★

EC-REACH unites diverse partners to co-construct and implement an action-oriented research agenda that promotes equitable solutions for early childhood policy and practice in Chicago.

Planning Committee Project Statement

EC-REACH

Early Childhood Research Alliance

★ OF CHICAGO ★

The planning committee will prepare EC-REACH to launch in Fall 2022 with the **strategy, structure, and funding** to begin answering Chicago's most pressing questions around equitable early childhood systems.

Agenda



9:00 - 9:10 AM	10 min	Welcome & Review
9:10 - 9:20 AM	10 min	Governing Bodies + Pillars
9:20 - 9:30 AM	10 min	Staffing + Budget
9:30 - 9:40 AM	10 min	Home Institution Rubric
9:40 - 10:00 AM	20 min	Letter of Inquiry Responses
10:00 - 10:20 AM	20 min	Research Agenda
10:20 - 10:40 AM	20 min	Fundraising Strategy
10:40 - 10:50 AM	20 min	Implementation Plan
10:50 - 11:00 AM	20 min	Looking Ahead

Review: External Outreach Directory

Organization/ Institution	Sector	Governing Body
Illinois Action for Children	Education	Research Advisory Council
Community Organizing and Family Issues (COFI)	Parent	Research Advisory Council
Carole Robinson Center for Learning	Education	Research Advisory Council
Gads Hill	Providers	Research Advisory Council
Metropolitan Family Services	Providers	Research Advisory Council
Chicago Childcare Society	Providers	Research Advisory Council
Child Care Advocates United	Providers	Research Advisory Council
Chicago Commons	Community	Research Advisory Council
Smarty Pants Daycare	Providers	Research Advisory Council
Chicago Public Schools	City	Steering Committee
Department of Family Support Services	City	Steering Committee
Chicago Mayor's Office	City	Steering Committee
Chicago Department of Public Health	City	Steering Committee
UIC	Researchers	Alliance Partner
City Colleges of Chicago	Researchers	Alliance Partner
Northwestern	Researchers	Alliance Partner
University of Chicago	Researchers	Alliance Partner
Northern Illinois University	Researchers	Alliance Partner
Erikson	Researchers	Alliance Partner
Start Early	Researchers	Alliance Partner
Chapin Hall	Researchers	Alliance Partner

External Engagement Practices



EC-REACH staff should consider the following factors when recruiting Research Advisory Council members.

Factors	Considerations	Factors	Considerations
Representation	Various indicators of diversity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender • Socioeconomic status • Race/Ethnicity • Community influence • Previous engagement • Native language • Neighborhood • Age + age of children • Differently abled/neuro-diverse 	Access	Options for securing diverse community voice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nomination process where CBOs invite community members with specific perspectives/experiences on an issue • An open (simple) application process where community members can opt into an advisory council • Conduct targeted community outreach to find the voices needed (not just those readily available or already connected) • In lieu of an application process, host open advisory meetings that are shared broadly with the target community
Engagement	Considerations for more equitable engagements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vary the time of day and consider hours for those without flexible work schedules • Provide transportation and childcare options • Host engagements at trusted community locations and/or consider virtual options • Provide community members with a stipend for their time • Ensure multi-language translation is available • Take time at each engagement to build relationships across potential silos • Include background information or training as necessary to bridge knowledge & experience gaps • Embed feedback loops to ensure that external engagement is meaningful 	Process	Considerations for what to include when seeking community insights : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Before a research project</u> – define what's on the table, share examples of past impact (why their feedback matters), describe a vision of desired impact (potential pros and cons of outcomes), identify bright spots, probe for current pain points • <u>During a research project</u> – touch base at regular intervals to share initial findings and anticipate any potential unintended consequences • <u>After a research project</u> – follow up specifically with those engaged to say thank you and share the outcome of the project including potential policy or practice implications; use straightforward, jargon-free language

Governance Models



Once EC-REACH launches, what types of members/institutions should be engaged in different capacities:

Bodies	Role	Home Institution	Research Partners	Advocacy, Policy Orgs	ECE Practitioners	Parents/Community	Gov't Agencies	Funders
Steering Committee	Provide strategic advising and support for the Director (fundraising, outreach, etc.)	X	X	X	X		X	
Alliance Partners	Practitioner voices to inform the work, conduct research, pool resources to support efforts, and drive the shared agenda forward	X	X	X	X		X	
Research Advisory Council	Diverse stakeholder voices to inform the research agenda and the sharing and application of findings	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Agenda



9:00 - 9:10 AM	10 min	Welcome & Review
9:10 - 9:20 AM	10 min	Governing Bodies + Pillars
9:20 - 9:30 AM	10 min	Staffing + Budget
9:30 - 9:40 AM	10 min	Home Institution Rubric
9:40 - 10:00 AM	20 min	Letter of Inquiry Responses
10:00 - 10:20 AM	20 min	Research Agenda
10:20 - 10:40 AM	20 min	Fundraising Strategy
10:40 - 10:50 AM	20 min	Implementation Plan
10:50 - 11:00 AM	20 min	Looking Ahead

Operating Budget



BUDGET CATEGORY	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	Total
Revenue				
EC-REACH Seed Funding	\$800,000	\$820,000	\$880,000	\$2,500,000
Other New Funding Sources (Individual, Foundation, Corporation, Grant, etc.)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue	\$800,000	\$820,000	\$880,000	\$2,500,000
Expenses				
Salaries	\$340,000	\$400,000	\$470,000	\$1,210,000
Research	\$350,000	\$310,000	\$295,000	\$955,000
Institutional Overhead	\$80,000	\$81,000	\$85,000	\$246,000
Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Marketing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Technology & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Professional Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Conferences & Professional Development	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenses	\$770,000	\$791,000	\$850,000	\$2,411,000

Institutional overhead may include: *Rent, Utilities, Technology, Insurance, Marketing, Supplies, Operations Support (Comms, Grants, Legal, HR, Payroll)*

Agenda

9:00 - 9:10 AM

10 min Welcome & Review

9:10 - 9:20 AM

10 min Governing Bodies + Pillars

9:20 - 9:30 AM

10 min Staffing + Budget

9:30 - 9:40 AM

10 min Home Institution Rubric

9:40 - 10:00 AM

20 min Letter of Inquiry Responses

10:00 - 10:20 AM

20 min Research Agenda

10:20 - 10:40 AM

20 min Fundraising Strategy

10:40 - 10:50 AM

20 min Implementation Plan

10:50 - 11:00 AM

20 min Looking Ahead



Home Institution Selection Process

Determining the path forward to securing a home institution

1. Identify list of all potential institutions
 2. Open Letter of Inquiry process
 3. Planning Committee members score LOIs on a rubric
 - > *Have clarifying conversations w/ institutions as needed*
 4. Planning Committee agrees on a best-fit partner
-

IF multiple options are identified, subcommittee continues process:

1. Invite smaller # to complete an RFP
 - > *Have clarifying conversations w/ institutions as needed*
2. Working group scores RFPs with shared rubric and determines best-fit institution

Home Institution Rubric



Northern Illinois University

Northwestern



CHAPIN HALL: How well does this institution match each criteria? *

	weak	moderate	strong	unsure
Flexible support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cross-sector representation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Operations Backbone	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outreach engine	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mission alignment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public trust	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Broad reach	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research Expertise & Capacity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Agenda

9:00 - 9:10 AM	10 min	Welcome & Review
9:10 - 9:20 AM	10 min	Governing Bodies + Pillars
9:20 - 9:30 AM	10 min	Staffing + Budget
9:30 - 9:40 AM	10 min	Home Institution Rubric
9:40 - 10:00 AM	20 min	Letter of Inquiry Responses
10:00 - 10:20 AM	20 min	Research Agenda
10:20 - 10:40 AM	20 min	Fundraising Strategy
10:40 - 10:50 AM	20 min	Implementation Plan
10:50 - 11:00 AM	20 min	Looking Ahead



Home Institution Letter of Inquiry

5/18/22 Submission Deadline



Letter of Inquiry

Chicago's early childhood research and policy leaders have come together to provide a blueprint for EC-REACH, a new research practitioner partnership focused on strengthening early childhood research, policy, and practice.

The mission of EC-REACH is to unite diverse partners to co-construct and implement an action-oriented research agenda that promotes equitable solutions for early childhood policy and practice in Chicago.

Your organization has been identified as a potential fit to house this exciting, citywide initiative. This letter of inquiry invites applicants to become the home institution for EC-REACH.

A planning committee composed of diverse representatives from Chicago area research institutions and public agencies crafted the following research values and home institution criteria to guide the launch of EC-REACH.

<https://surveyhero.com/c/ecreachloi>

Organization Description: (250 words) *

Share your organization's mission and governance structure, along with a description of any particular organization unit/department/institute that would house EC-REACH (if applicable).

0 / 250

Commitment to EC-REACH's Mission: (250-500 words) *

Describe the rationale for your organization's interest in hosting EC-REACH, specifically sharing how your organization has built and maintained trust among Chicago's early childhood stakeholders (i.e., teachers, families, home visitors, early interventionists, quality specialists, etc.), as well as your organization's research expertise and capacity.

0 / 500

Alignment with EC-REACH's Research Values: (250-500 words) *

Share an example of your organization's research expertise, specifically highlighting how your organization aligns with or would address the research values of EC-REACH.

0 / 500

Home Institution Letter of Inquiry: 5/6/22 Outreach

Institution	Department	Point of Contact	Role
Chapin Hall @ U Chicago		Dir. Bryan Samuels	Executive Director of Chapin Hall
Chapin Hall @ U Chicago		Dr. Anne Farrell	Director of Research at Chapin Hall
Northwestern		Diane Schanzenbach	Chair & Professor of Educational Policy Studies
UIC	Research on Urban Education Policy Initiative	Dir Benjamin Superfine	Educational Policy Studies
UIC	Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research	William J Martin II	Senior Advisor to the Vice Chancellor for Research
UIC	Office of the Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation	Jay Walsh	Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation
UIC	Jane Addams College of Social Work		
UIC		Arden Handler	
U of Chicago	To Consortium on School Research	John Easton	Senior Fellow
U of Chicago	To Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice	Robert Chaskin	Deputy Dean for Strategic Initiatives
U of Chicago	To Heckman Center for the Economics of Human Development	Alison Baulos	Executive Director
U of Chicago	To Harris Public Policy Center for Human Potential & Human Policy	Michelle Park Michelini	Executive Director
Northern Illinois University	Early Childhood Transformation Team	Theresa Hawley	Director of Early Childhood Transformation
Northern Illinois University	Outreach, Engagement and Regional Development	Alan Clemens	Director, Illinois Interactive Report Cards

Home Institution Letter of Inquiry: Replies

"We have distributed this information widely to UIC faculty with an interest in child education, health and equity. The response has been very positive."

William J Martin II, MD
Senior Advisor, Office of the Vice Chancellor
for Research, M/C 672, University of Illinois at Chicago

"At this time our research center does not have the capacity to serve as the home institution for EC-REACH. However, if we can make important contributions to bridge research, policy and communities in the future, please do not hesitate to reach out."

Michelle Park Michelini
Executive Director, Behavioral Insights and Parenting
Lab, Harris Public Policy, University of Chicago

Agenda

9:00 - 9:10 AM	10 min	Welcome & Review
9:10 - 9:20 AM	10 min	Governing Bodies + Pillars
9:20 - 9:30 AM	10 min	Staffing + Budget
9:30 - 9:40 AM	10 min	Home Institution Rubric
9:40 - 10:00 AM	20 min	Letter of Inquiry Responses
10:00 - 10:20 AM	20 min	Research Agenda
10:20 - 10:40 AM	20 min	Fundraising Strategy
10:40 - 10:50 AM	20 min	Implementation Plan
10:50 - 11:00 AM	20 min	Looking Ahead



Discuss: Developing a Research Agenda Process

Process

- Field engagement:
 - Survey of agency staff
 - Survey of field/ partnership partners/ community
 - Facilitated meetings/ focus groups
- Policy leadership engagement
- Research expertise
- Steering committee sets the course broadly
- Home institution designs and conducts research, including in partnership where appropriate

Research approach

- Secondary data analysis
 - CCIDS as a starting point
- Primary data Longer time frame
 - Quant/qual/ mixed
- Timelines
 - Literature review and expertise/consultation In intermediary insights
 - Publishable research

Topics

- Workforce (including mental health and Covid impact)
- ECE quality and supports
- Covid -catch up
- Universal PreK implementation
- Infant-toddler care (demand, access, quality, workforce...)
- Special needs among early learners
- Dual language learners among early learners
- Parent and staff advocacy

Draft Research Agenda Issue Areas (Chicago Context)

EARLY CHILDHOOD POLICY & PRACTICE IN CHICAGO [focused on systems & structures]

Universal pre-k impacts

Childcare market post-pandemic

Impact of segregation on quality ECE

Workforce

Integration of maternal and early childhood systems of care

Prenatal and Home Based Home Visiting

Access to evidence based service (i.e. for children with disabilities)

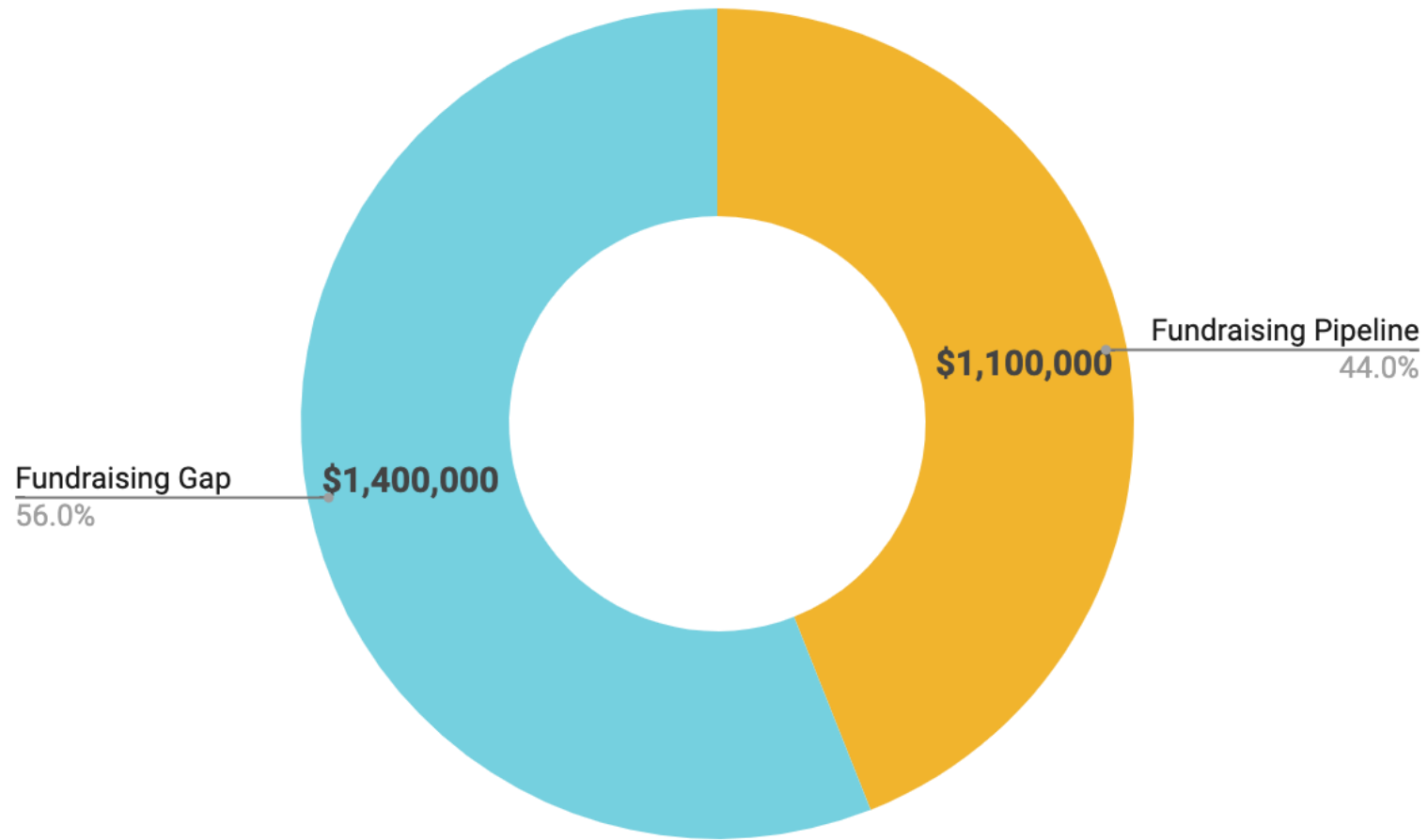
Transitions into and through the EC system (reaching those most isolated)

Agenda

9:00 - 9:10 AM	10 min	Welcome & Review
9:10 - 9:20 AM	10 min	Governing Bodies + Pillars
9:20 - 9:30 AM	10 min	Staffing + Budget
9:30 - 9:40 AM	10 min	Home Institution Rubric
9:40 - 10:00 AM	20 min	Letter of Inquiry Responses
10:00 - 10:20 AM	20 min	Research Agenda
10:20 - 10:40 AM	20 min	Fundraising Strategy
10:40 - 10:50 AM	20 min	Implementation Plan
10:50 - 11:00 AM	20 min	Looking Ahead



Fundraising Goal: \$2.5M



Fundraising Strategy: Pitch Deck Topics

How We Got Here: Exploratory Research

The Issue/Opportunity in Chicago

Fundraising Need + Ask

REACH Overview

Mission & Value Prop;

Note the difference between established institutions such as:

- U Chicago Consortium (K-12 v s EC)
- IWERC (statewide v s hyperlocal; in-house research v ersus hub research)
- CECIDS (data storing/linkage v s research)
- ARC
- OCPE at Northwestern

Solidifying EC-REACH:

- Home Institution Considerations
- Sustainability Model
- Staffing Considerations
- Timeline to Launch

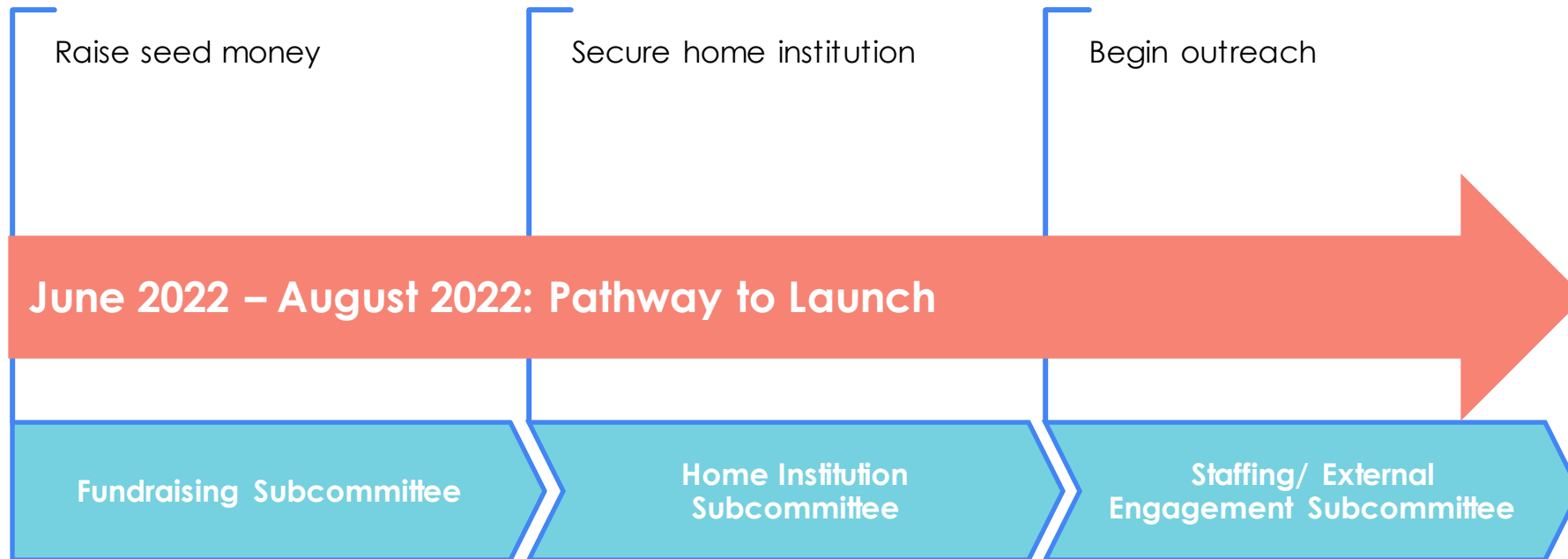
Our Approach:

- Research Values + Agenda Process
- RPP Work
- Data access (CECIDS+...not a barrier)
- Governance Model
 - Include steering committee member testimonials
- External Engagement Strategy

Acknowledgement

Note all stakeholders that have been part of the EC-REACH process – from funders to planning committee members

Transition Planning



Working Group Details

Working Group	Outcome	Activities	Time	Lead	Members
Fundraising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise \$2.5 M seed funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential funders Meet with identified potential funders Make explicit funding asks & secure commitments 	June – August, 4 hours/month	John Easton	Dionne Dobbins, TBD
Home Institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure home institution Oversee handoff into the home institution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrow down to final institution options Meet with final institutions Select home institution Prepare for the legal requirements/ agreements – codify our influence & stipulations 	June – August, 4 hours/month	Chris Chavez	Jon Furr, Craig Maki
Staff/ External Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solidify steering committee (LOCs) conduct outreach to local agencies Lead hiring of Executive Director 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify & confirm steering committee member (LOC) Introduce community gatekeeper organizations to EC-REACH Begin outreach to organizations that will likely participate in governing bodies Solidify Executive Director job description Launch Executive Director application process; possibly support hiring 	June – August, 4 hours/month	Edgar Ramirez	Sam Melvin, Cerathel Burgess-Burnett

Agenda



9:00 - 9:10 AM	10 min	Welcome & Review
9:10 - 9:20 AM	10 min	Governing Bodies + Pillars
9:20 - 9:30 AM	10 min	Staffing + Budget
9:30 - 9:40 AM	10 min	Home Institution Rubric
9:40 - 10:00 AM	20 min	Letter of Inquiry Responses
10:00 - 10:20 AM	20 min	Research Agenda
10:20 - 10:40 AM	20 min	Fundraising Strategy
10:40 - 10:50 AM	20 min	Implementation Plan
10:50 - 11:00 AM	20 min	Looking Ahead

Preview Meeting 6

Our FINAL meeting is...

Thursday, May 26th, 9:00 – 11:00 am

	KEY DISCUSSION TOPICS	MEETING VOTE(S)	BETWEEN MEETING ACTION(S)	DELIVERABLE(S)
Planning Meeting 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fundraising PlanTransition Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fundraising Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue funding conversations	Dollars Raised Implementation Action Plan