



EC-REACH

Early Childhood Research Alliance

★ OF CHICAGO ★

Planning Committee Closeout

October 18, 2022

**DROP IN THE CHAT:
What's your favorite fall ritual?**

Agenda



9:00 - 9:05 AM	5 min	Welcome
9:05 - 9:30 AM	15 min	Sub-committee Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Home Institution• Engagement• Fundraising
9:30 - 9:50 AM	15 min	Launching EC-REACH
9:50 - 10:00 AM	10 min	Staying Engaged

Closing Out: Focus

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

1. Celebrate our progress   
2. Understand next steps on the road to launch
3. Determine ways to stay engaged

Working Norms

Step up / Step back

Listen to learn

Set aside individual agendas

Stay focused

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.

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5 min

Welcome

9:05 – 9:30 AM

15 min

Sub-committee Updates

- Home Institution
- Engagement
- Fundraising

9:30 – 9:50 AM

15 min

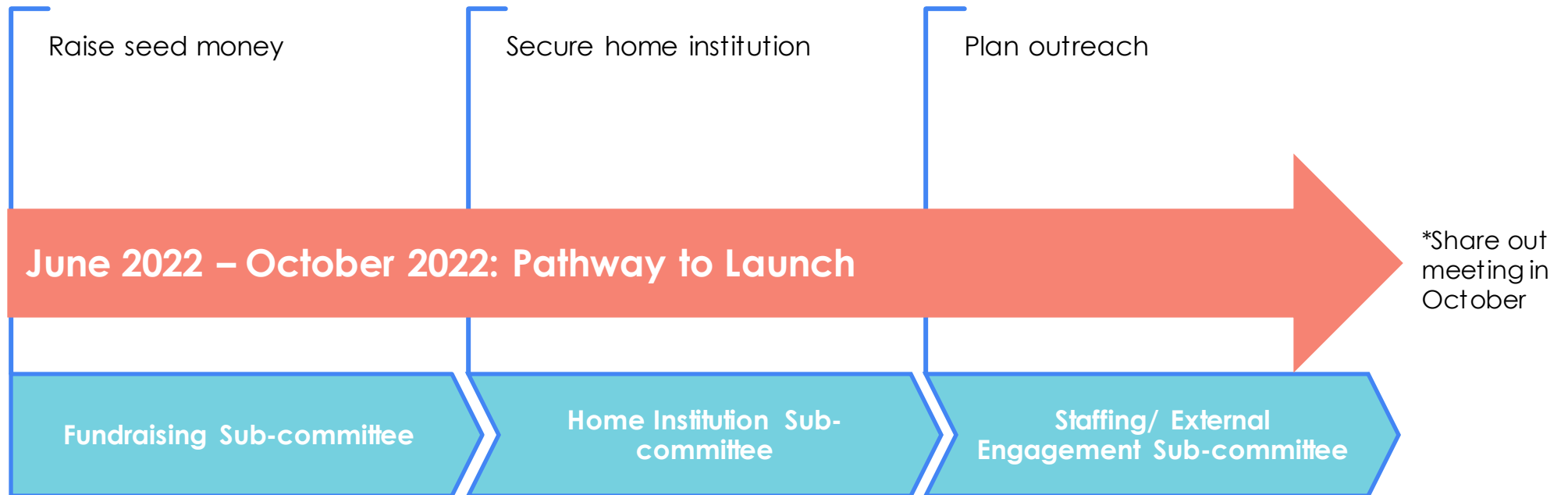
Launching EC-REACH

9:50 – 10:00 AM

10 min

Staying Engaged

EC-REACH Transition Planning



Home Institution Sub-committee Summary

- Met 3x this summer in preparation for the home institution interviews
- Developed a rubric for reviewing and scoring the interviews
- Developed a deck that gave institutions more detail on EC-REACH's vision + expectations
- Conducted interviews with teams from each of the four home institution applicants

Northwestern



UIC UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT CHICAGO



Northern Illinois
University

- Engaged three external reviewers to add their perspective to the process
- Met 2x after the interviews to review the scored rubrics and discuss considerations
- Selected the home for EC-REACH!



Chris Chavez



Dionne
Dobbins



Craig Maki



Sam Melvin



John Easton



Jen Vidis

Home Institution Selection Process

Path taken to determine a home institution

Summer 2022

1. Identify list of all potential institutions
2. Open Letter of Inquiry process
3. Planning Committee score LOIs on a rubric

Fall 2022

4. Planning Subcommittee host interviews to further assess potential institutions
5. Planning Subcommittee score interview with interview rubric
6. Planning Subcommittee combine LOI and interview rubric scores to determine best-fit institution

Home Institution Sub-committee Decision

The sub-committee unanimously selected Northwestern as the EC-REACH home with the stipulation that they would work out a partnership with NIU:

- Northwestern was rated highest overall in our second-round interview scoring, as well as in the specific criteria of autonomy and data & resource sharing.
- Northwestern and NIU demonstrated enthusiasm for a partnership with each other in hosting EC-REACH
- Northwestern will draw from NIU's strengths in data resources and community engagement strategies
- The subcommittee also stipulated that Northwestern would prioritize putting the steering committee, alliance partner, and research advisory council bodies in place so that EC-REACH will continue to be advised by a larger group of diverse external stakeholders including community organizations, practitioners, and families

Northwestern



Northern Illinois
University

External Engagement Sub-committee Summary

Updates

- EC-REACH to invite community-based organizations to join Steering Committee
- Sub-committee outreach efforts paused until selection of home institution

Next Steps

- Embed external engagement recruitment efforts in launching EC-REACH at home institution.

Committee Meetings: 1



Edgar Ramirez



Sam Melvin



Jon Furr

Cerathel
Burgess-Burnett

Fundraising Sub-committee Summary

Updates

- Secured \$1M soft commitment
- Once a home institution is selected, that organization will be able to submit a short proposal and budget to the funder no later than June 1, 2023.

Next Steps

- Embed fundraising efforts in launching EC-REACH at home institution.

Committee Meetings: 2



John Easton



Dionne
Dobbins

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Launching EC-REACH



Launch Committee

An advisory body to support integrating EC-REACH at home institution through June 2023.

Steering Committee

Ongoing agenda-guiding body that moves the work of a collective effort (Research Advisory Council or Coalition) forward by determining priorities of the organization

Alliance Partners

Researchers, policymakers, and practitioners that partner to focus on a shared set of priorities.

Research Advisory Council

A larger group of diverse external stakeholders including community organizations, practitioners, and families who are likely to be directly impacted by research outcomes)

Launch Committee: November 2022 – June 2023

A Launch Committee is being formed to provide strategic advising to the home institution and launch support staff at Start Early during this critical transition.

Remaining tasks at hand:

- Pursue \$4M seed money to sustain ops for the first three years
- Execute MOU with Northwestern University
 - Support Northwestern's collaboration with NIU
- Transfer administrative and governance functions to Northwestern University:
 - Hire of EC-REACH director
 - Establish and convene three new EC-REACH advisory bodies
 - Create a permanent EC-REACH website

TODAY'S ACTIONS

- ✓ Review + modify the role & work of the launch committee
- ✓ Appoint launch committee chair
- ✓ Self-nominate or nominate others
** [Via nomination form](#)*



Nominated to Chair:
John Easton



Committed Member:
Bryan Stokes

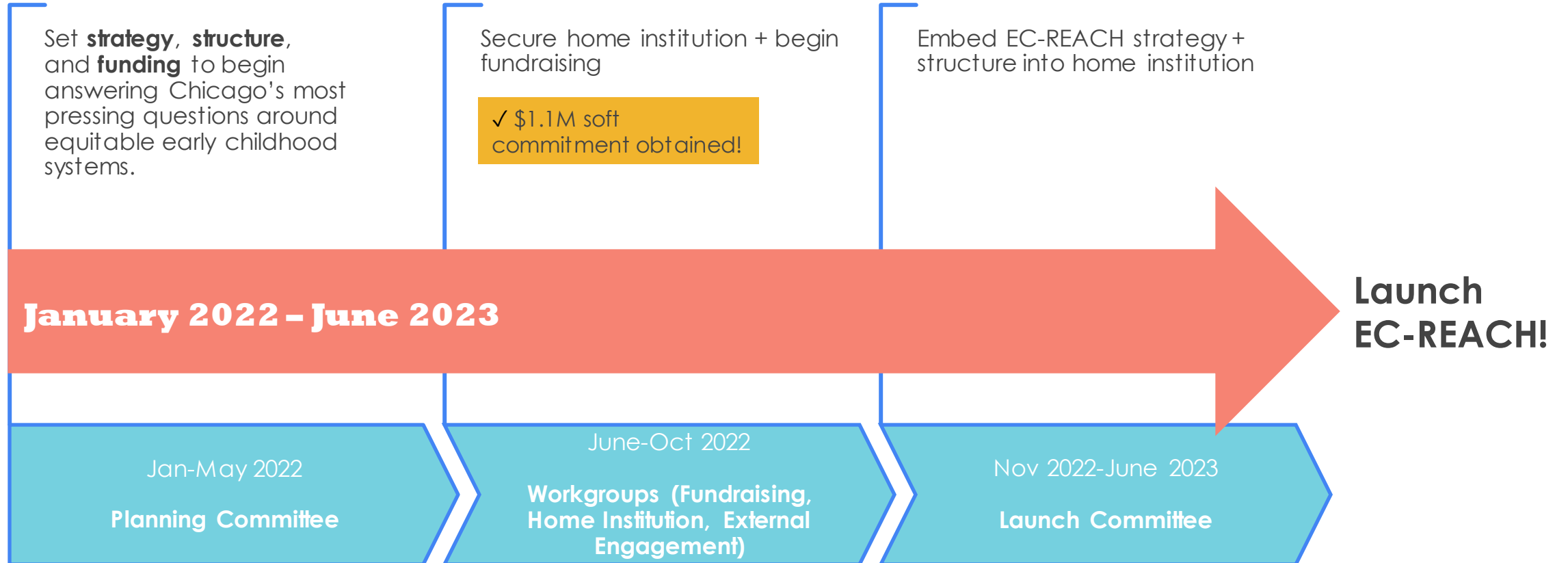


Staffing:
Maia Connors



Staffing:
Isabel Farrar

Launch Timeline



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Staying Engaged

[Nomination + Staying Engaged Form](#)

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Thank you!!!

