

# **NEW JERSEY COUNCIL FOR YOUNG CHILDREN**

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# STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC) HISTORY

- Authorized by the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007.
- Purpose of State Advisory Council (SAC) is to “enable states to lead the development and enhancement of high-quality, comprehensive early childhood systems that optimize childhood service delivery so that children arrive at school ready to learn and prepared to excel.”



## SAC REQUIREMENTS

- Identify opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination among federally-funded and state-funded early childhood programs and services;
- Increasing participation of children in early care and education programs, including outreach to underrepresented and special populations;
- Establish recommendations for developing a unified data collection system;



# SAC REQUIREMENTS

- Establishing recommendations for creating or enhancing a statewide professional development system and career ladder;
- Assessing the capacity and effectiveness of 2- and 4-year institutions of higher education to support the career development of early childhood educators; and
- Making recommendations for improvements in state early learning standards and undertaking efforts to develop high-quality comprehensive early learning standards, as appropriate.

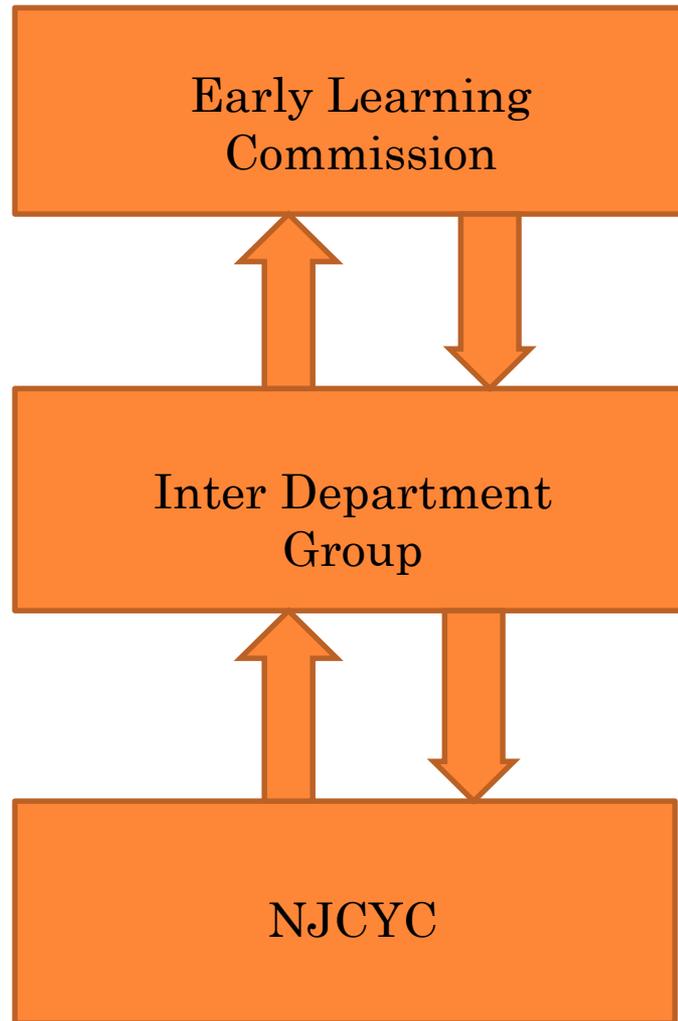


# SAC/NEW JERSEY COUNCIL FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

- New Jersey SAC is called the New Jersey Council for Young Children.
- The office of the NJCYC is in the NJ DOE, Division of Early Childhood Education
- Dr. Ellen Wolock is the Chair of the Council and Dr. Laura Morana is the Co-Chair.
- Council meets quarterly and has diverse membership.
- Council has 5 working committees and 1 workgroup.



# NJCYC GOVERNANCE



# NJCYC MANDATED MEMBERSHIP REPRESENTATION

- Representative of the state agency responsible for child care;
- Representative of the state educational agency;
- Representative of the local educational agency;
- Representative of institutions of higher education in the state;
- Representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services;
- Representative from Head Start agencies located in the state, including Migrant and Seasonal Head Start programs, as well as AI-AN Head Start;



## NJCYC MEMBERSHIP CONT'D.

- Director of the Head Start State Collaboration Office;
- Representative of the state agency responsible for the programs under Part B, Section 619 or Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and
- Representative of the state agency responsible for health or mental health.



# NJCYC COMMITTEES & WORKGROUP

- Communication Committee
- Data Committee
- Early Care & Education Standards Workgroup
- Family & Community Engagement Committee
- Infant-Child Health Committee
- Early Care & Education Workforce Committee



# NJCYC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Birth to Three Infant and Toddler Early Learning Standards
- 2 studies commissioned by the Workforce Committee to ascertain early childhood education coursework and requirements and academic workforce.
- 2 studies commissioned by the former Outreach Committee to determine effective outreach strategies to underrepresented and special populations.



## NJCYC ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONT'D...

- Study commissioned to determine the status of NJ infants and toddlers in center-based care.
- Revision of the NJ Early Childhood Core Knowledge and Competencies.
- Acquired the Michigan Infant Mental Health Endorsement, NJ-IMHE.
- Revamped the NJ Pyramid group and training.



## NJCYC ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONT'D

- Revised New Jersey's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), originally called Grow NJ, but now called Grow NJ Kids for Center & School-based settings.
- Designed and supported the implementation of Grow NJ Kids Test Drive
- Identified child outcomes to align DOE, DHS, DOH and DCF state data system, NJ EASEL.



## NJCYC ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONT'D

- Aligned DCF grants (HMG, Project LAUNCH, ECCS and Enhanced Home Visiting) with the Council's committee on infant/toddler mental health and the Pyramid Project, Infant-Child Health Committee.
- Developed family engagement standards for parents.
- Aligned the NJ Birth to Three Early Learning Standards with the NJ Preschool Teaching & Learning Standards.





For additional information, please contact Gambi White – Tennant

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