

Assuring Better Child Health and Development: A Screening Academy ABCD Consortia state’s stakeholder group structure examples

The ABCD Consortia states defined and interacted with stakeholders in various ways, ranging from informal relationships to specific formal roles and responsibilities. Each state, however, convened a formal stakeholder group to support project development, implementation and operation, identify lessons learned from project experience, help identify policy improvements and other actions needed to sustain and spread the innovations developed as part of the project. This document summarizes critical information about stakeholder groups in three of the ABCD states: stakeholder group leadership, membership, subcommittee structure, and frequency of meeting.

Potential ABCD Screening Academy applicants should note that this document is intended to inform *your* decision-making on stakeholder group membership and structure—not to establish any specific participation requirements. You know best which stakeholders are critical within your state, how to work with them, and whether an existing group would effectively serve the same purpose.

Illinois

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (then Department of Public Aid) established a stakeholder group of about fifty members to work with them on their ABCD II project. The committee, referred to as the Healthy Beginnings Advisory Committee, was chaired by the Medicaid Director. Members of this committee were selected by ABCD project staff (Medicaid and Ounce of Prevention Fund) in conjunction with the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (ICAAP) and the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians (IAFP). The committee was composed of the following membership—several of these organizations had multiple representatives to the committee.

State and local government agencies

State Medicaid agency
State Human Services agency (including
Bureau of Early Intervention (Part C))
State Maternal and Child Health Block Grant
Administrator
Chicago Department of Public Health

Professional associations, including

Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of
Pediatrics
Illinois Academy of Family Physicians

Physicians from hospitals, medical centers, universities, FQHCs, and public health departments

Others

The Chicago Community Trust (local funder)
Community Memorial Hospital
Erikson Institute
Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health
Illinois' Birth to Five PAC
Illinois Healthy Steps Program
Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition
Illinois Primary Health Care Association
Infant Welfare Society of Chicago
March of Dimes
Michael Reese Health Trust (local funder)
Ounce of Prevention Fund
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Chicago Pritzker School of
Medicine
UIC, Institute of Disability & Human
Development
Voices for Illinois Children

The Advisory Committee formed five subcommittees that met independently of the larger group and were charged with specific responsibilities related to program implementation, operation, and evaluation.

1. *Provider Information, Curriculum and Training*: Co-chaired by representatives from the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and Illinois Academy of Family Physicians
2. *Client Information and Education*: Co-chaired by a representative from the state MCH agency and Advocate Health Care
3. *Resources for Assessment and Referral*: Co-chaired by a representative from the state Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Illinois Association for Infant Mental
4. *Health Policy*: Co-chaired by a representative from the Medicaid agency and Ounce of Prevention Fund
5. *Evaluation*: Co-chaired by a representative from Erikson Institute and Children's Memorial Hospital

The full advisory committee met at least annually, a leadership group composed of the co-chairs of the five subcommittees met monthly to coordinate ongoing work, and each subcommittee met as often as needed to complete their charges.

Iowa

Iowa's ABCD work was supported by two formal stakeholder groups. The Healthy Mental Development panel was created specifically to support project work. The results of the Panel's efforts fed into the work of a pre-existing group, the EPSDT Interagency Collaborative Board, which is charged with coordinating policy and program planning across state agencies. Each of these groups is described below.

Healthy Mental Development Panel

Iowa ABCD project staff established a stakeholder group of about 20 members referred to as the Healthy Mental Development Panel (the Panel). The Prevention of Disabilities Policy Council (a project partner) identified key provider organizations, professional associations, and consumer groups that needed to be represented on the Panel—and each of these organizations appointed representatives to the Panel. The Panel was charged with recommending standards and policies needed to develop an effective, coherent healthy mental development system in Iowa, and monitoring project implementation and recommending changes to standards and delivery systems based on the project evaluation. Meetings were facilitated by a physician who was a well-known figure in the arena of early child development and a professor emeritus from the University of Iowa. The committee was composed of the following membership.

- **American Academy of Pediatrics, Iowa Chapter**
Two physicians: One knowledgeable in general pediatrics and one with expertise in developmental, behavioral and emotional development
- **Iowa Academy of Family Physicians**

- Two physicians: One representing an urban practice and one representing a rural practice
- **Iowa’s Maternal and Child Health (Title V) Agencies**
Two representatives: One public pediatric nurse practitioner and one representative of a local child health contract agency
- **Iowa Society of Physician Assistants**
One representative
- **Iowa Association of Nurse Practitioners**
One pediatric nurse practitioner in private practice
- **Iowa Psychological Association**
Two representatives: One with expertise in early childhood development and one with expertise in early social-emotional development
- **Iowa Association of Social Workers**
One representative with expertise in early mental health
- **Iowa Early ACCESS (Part C)**
One representative
- **Iowa Empowerment**
Two representatives: One representative of the State Empowerment Team and one representative of a local empowerment area
- **Child Care Iowa**
One representative
- **Children’s Mental Health Roundtable**
One consumer representative
- **Iowa Adoptive and Foster Parent Association**
One consumer representative
- **Iowa Child and Family Policy Center**
One representative

The Panel met four times during the first year, twice in the second year, and four times in the third year. The first kick-off meeting and the final celebratory meeting were held in person. All other meetings were held using an Iowa-based telecommunications network to limit travel and accommodate clinical obligations. The Panel convened workgroups using members and others to propose clinical guidelines for identification of young children, identify needed intervention services and programs, develop a public-private partnership model to facilitate linking families with needed services, and identify Medicaid barriers to implementation of the proposed system.

EPSDT Interagency Collaborative Board

The EPSDT Interagency Collaborative Board (a pre-existing group) oversaw the project—receiving and acting on recommendations from the Panel. The Board, which is co-chaired by the Medicaid Director and the Chair of the Prevention of Disabilities Policy Council, meets at least twice each year. The Board is staffed by representatives of the Medicaid agency and the Prevention of Disabilities Policy Council. Its membership, in addition to the co-chairs, consists of one representative from each of the following organizations.

- Department of Public Health
- Iowa Child Health Specialty Clinics
- Center for Disabilities and Development
- American Academy of Pediatrics, Iowa Chapter
- Iowa Academy of Family Physicians
- Hawk-i (Iowa’s SCHIP program)

Utah

Utah's ABCD project established a stakeholder group to guide the project. This group, which was chaired by project staff, met annually. During the annual meetings various task-specific subcommittees were formed that worked with project staff throughout the project. Examples of the topics addressed by the subcommittees include, recommending screening tools, modifying the medical home website, care coordination, system capacity, and measurement. The stakeholder group was composed of the following membership

State agencies

Children with Special Health Care Needs
Child, Adolescent and School Health
(CASH) Program
Child Welfare
Early Intervention
Maternal and Child Health
Medicaid
Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Medicaid contracted managed care plans

Plans that deliver physical health services
Plans that deliver behavioral health services

Medical providers

Physicians from universities and pediatric
practices

Community Health Centers
Community mental health centers

Others

The Children's Center
Healthy 'U'
Legislative Coalition for People with
Disabilities
Utah State University's Early Intervention
Research Institute
Intermountain Pediatric Society (Utah's
chapter of the American Academy of
Pediatrics)
Local Health Departments
Medical Home Website
Utah Pediatric Partnership to Improve
Healthcare Quality (UPIQ)

Utah's ABCD II project featured learning collaborative for physician practices. These collaboratives were implemented through the Utah Pediatric Partnership to Improve Healthcare Quality (UPIQ). UPIQ is a partnership of the Intermountain Pediatric Society, the University of Utah School of Medicine Department of General Pediatrics, the Utah Department of Health and HealthInsight (Utah's Peer Review Organization).