Section 1: FAMILY ENGAGEMENT LEVER

Goal 1
Embrace the leadership opportunity for the ECAC to serve as a vehicle to raise 'parent voice' at the state and local level, and to encourage partners and others to include family engagement strategies as regular practice.

- **Objective A** Amplify and expand parent voices within the ECAC and its reach.
- **Objective B** Develop a plan to affirm an ECAC racial equity lens, protocol and practices
- **Objective C** Encourage best practices that elevate parent voice and promote family choice.
- **Objective D** Career Center pilot (initiated in year 1 of the PDGB5 grant) is expanded in other parts of the state
- **Objective E** Early Childhood Leadership Mentoring (initiated in year 1 of the PDGB5 grant) will be expanded to additional areas of the state is expanded in other parts of the state.

Goal 2
Increase the number and impact of partnerships for family engagement that align and enhance policies and practices in the early childhood system.

- **Objective A** Learn from successful collaborations on family engagement currently underway, and identify potential partnerships to lend support or initiate discussions.

Section 2: QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND ASSURANCE LEVER

GOAL 1
All New York State ECCE programs and schools are prepared to provide the children and families with high quality settings and best practice resources to help children reach their full potential.

- **Objective A** Work to expand QUALITYstarsNY across the system, making it available to all providers who choose to participate.
- **Objective B** Informed by a parent and family advisory group, create materials to support parent choice, and disseminate widely using the ECAC website, Parent Portal and other vehicles.

Goal 2
All system building efforts are informed by a whole child perspective, that includes mental health and health, as integral for high-quality early care and education.

- **Objective A** Support the implementation of the Pyramid Model, a framework for teaching social and emotional skills to children, teachers, families and other staff that interact with children.
- **Objective B** Create partnership forums with the Office of Mental Health and the Department of Health to address ways the ECAC can support whole-child strategies and meet unmet needs.

Goal 3

An increased number and impact of partnerships for high quality early care
And learning in the early childhood system.

- **Objective A** Learn from successful partnerships underway, actively support newly funded initiatives, and identify stakeholder interest for specific alignment opportunities, such as when children and families experience system transitions.
- **Objective B** Engage stakeholders to enhance system level policies, practices and collaborative activities for high quality care settings.

Section 3: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT LEVER

Goal 1

Systems and scaffolding are in place to grow the workforce, teach best practices, provide professional development, engage partners to leverage resources and include attention to infant and toddlers.

- **Objective A** Support needed agreements to require Aspire registry for all ECCE programs locations to support practitioner's professional growth and program compliance.
- **Objective B** Provide guidance and support for developmentally appropriate expectations for all professionals working in contexts with infants, toddlers and young children and their families.
- **Objective C** Offer strategies and recommendations to assure skill-building across all early care and education settings, on models for new child care providers to sustain their businesses, and mechanisms for informal caregivers to be included and successful in their business.

GOAL 2

An increased number and impact of partnerships for workforce development that leverage resources to attract workers, improve access to training, and to reach underserved communities.

- **Objective A** Support policies, practices and resources that improve statewide access for workers to degrees and certifications, best practice guidelines, and community support.
- **Objective B** Look for opportunities across all state agencies and systems where successful early childhood workforce strategies can be adopted, integrated or hosted.
- **Objective C** Engage stakeholders to develop policies, practices and collaborative activities that align higher education and early childhood workforce development strategies and best practices.

Section 4: FINANCE LEVER LEVER

GOAL 1

Actionable short and long-term strategies to fund essential
elements for NYS early childhood system.

- **Objective A** Join with partners to develop and recommend strategies to fully fund The Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS).

- **Objective B** Join with partners to develop and recommend strategies to fully fund QUALITYstarsNY statewide; ensuring that all children have access to high quality care and education.
- **Objective C** Join with partners to develop and recommend funding strategies for statewide enrollment in Aspire, and a three-year sustainability plan. (18: Aspire Registry Expansion)

GOAL 2
An increased number and impact of partnerships that blend and braid funds to better meet the needs of families.

- **Objective A** Propose methods to review program funding for identifying blending and braiding options that will make it easier for child care providers to manage their budgets.
- **Objective B** Design and support analyses of current governance, laws, funding, regulations, and policies that present barriers to funding, to inform specific improvements or replication of successful strategies.

Section 5: DATA LEVER

GOAL 1
New York State agencies can easily analyze the impact of early childhood programs to inform decisions for improvements or changes to policy, practice, organization, and funding to meet the needs of all young children and to better inform parent and family choice.

- **Objective A** Support building an Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) that tracks all children from birth regarding the services/supports they receive, the programs that provide the services, and the staff and administrators who work in those programs.
- **Objective B** Share requested data with the Governor's office and appropriate public agencies to inform policy making.

Section 6: RESEARCH AND EVALUATION LEVER

GOAL 1
An increased occurrence and impact of using research findings and evaluation results to recommend policy, statutory, and regulatory changes, as well as structures and best practices to strengthen the NYS early childhood system.

- **Objective A** Develop a new generation of research analysis to strengthen our ability to disseminate useful research, policy information and resources to inform recommendations and decisions.
- **Objective B** Strengthen capacities to effectively promote research and evaluation findings, to provide guidance to agencies and individuals on methods, and respond to requests for primary research on emerging issues.

Section 7: ECAC STRUCTURES AND FUNCTIONS

GOAL 1

The Early Childhood Advisory Council strengthens its structures and capacity to provide strategic direction and recommendations to the Governor of New York, focusing on coordination and collaboration among state agencies

- **Objective A** Organize the ECAC membership meetings and design workgroup structures of the ECAC to effectively and efficiently accomplish goals, to successfully engage agency stakeholders in collaborative approaches for system building, and broaden its coordination with other initiatives to leverage efforts across the state.
- **Objective B** The ECAC successfully models an active commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in its structure and its work.
- **Objective C** The ECAC develops structures and resources to implement a comprehensive communications strategy**.**

GOAL 2

The Early Childhood Advisory Council offers thoughtful and informed recommendations on emerging issues, targeted approaches and fostering innovative ideas for building a comprehensive and sustainable early childhood system that will ensure success for all young children.

- **Objective A** The ECAC develops recommendations to the Governor's office for increasing the overall participation of children in existing federal, state, and local child care and early childhood education programs, including outreach to underrepresented and special populations
- **Objective B** The ECAC recommends strategies for establishing a business leaders group to inform economic and financial strategies to support large scale system building, and management strategies for small business success by child care providers in local communities.