

# Committee Meeting Minutes March 26, 2025 10:00 am – 12:00 pm EST

Attended in person: Maureen Weber (Chairwoman), Madeleine Baker, Kimberly Brooks, Ashleigh Moon, Rob Moorhead, Adam Alson, Sherry Searles, Kelli Servizzi, Sam Snideman

Guests: Kim Rule, Kristi Burkhart, Wendy Tolliver and Tikila Welch

Meeting video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qM8j0-PjO\_0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qM8j0-PjO\_0</a>

**I.** Call to Order – Chairwoman Weber started the meeting at 10 a.m.

### II. Approval of the Agenda

 Motion to approve the agenda; second to approve the agenda; all in favor, motioned approved

#### III. Chair's Report

- Welcome Adam Alson to the committee
- Introductions of committee members

#### IV. Discussion

- OECOSL Leadership Adam Alson
  - Looking forward to working with ELAC team
  - How can we serve child care in Indiana and make it better
  - How to we build child care supply?
  - OECOSL has a new mission and vision
    - Mission: to effectively support children, families, and providers within Indiana's child care system.
    - Vision: Maximize availability of quality child care and child care resources for Hoosier children, families, provider, community stakeholders, and Indiana's workforce.
- ii. OECOSL Financials Adam Alson



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- Federal Funded Programs
  - Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)
  - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- State Funded Programs
  - Early Childhood Learning
  - Pre-K Education
- Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning
  - CCDF Vouchers
  - On My Way Pre-K Vouchers
- Vouchers wait list
  - Where are we now and the differentials that need to take place
  - OECOSL funding graph
    - o 2 line items in the state budget ends July 2025
      - Appropriate for federal match
- OECOSL Expenditures State Fiscal Year 2025
  - 81%: Voucher payments (CCDF, OMW)
  - 17%: Contracts and Grants
  - 2%: Salary and Benefits
- Total number of child care vouchers (CCDF and OMW)
  - January 2021 33,732
  - January 2022 38,529
  - January 2023 52,414
  - January 2024 61,729
  - January 2025 66,054
  - Doubled (from COVID recovery funding)
- OMW vouchers
  - January 2021 2,147
  - January 2022 4,588
  - January 2023 5,632
  - January 2024 7,357
  - January 2025 5,505
- SFY 2026-27 Budget Analysis
  - Governor's budget request: additional \$358 mm/biennium over baseline funding (State Fiscal Year 2025 levels)
    - Maintain total voucher levels at approximately current levels



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- House budget proposal: additional \$155mm/biennium over baseline funding (State Fiscal Year 2025 levels)
  - Total vouchers decrease through attrition to 48,000; to be determined when new vouchers enrollments begin
  - OMW vouchers: estimate 3,400 total vouchers for State Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027
- iii. Family and Subsidy Supports Kim Rule
  - Voucher waitlist began December 2024
    - February 2025: 66,118 enrolled and 10,654 on the waitlist
    - Enrollment dropping priorities have not been set at this time
    - Priority is to maintain the current families/children on vouchers
      - 66,118 existing
      - Attrition will be for those who age out or families that no longer need care
- iv. Legislative Updates Kristi Burkhart and Sam Snideman
  - SB 486: Family and Social Service Matters
    - Repealing the TB test needed for employment
    - Adding pediatric component to CPR
  - SB 463: Child Care Matters
    - Extends the employer through July 2027
    - Child care center may maintain ratios of bordering states
    - Select 5 programs for micro-facilities
      - Amendments
        - Add addition seats to the ELAC committee
          - One provider and organization wide
        - Language to restore the child care assistance grant
        - Child care and pre-k at schools who counts in the ratio? Maximizing group sizes – career pathways (HS) \$2 million allotted per year
    - Question on the tax credit: is it being taken advantage of and how can we encourage people to utilize?
  - SB 366: Education Matters
    - Working the DOE reporting preschool matters
    - Ways to fund preschool outside of the CCDF vouchers
  - HB 1001: State Budget
    - We will see the Senate's version of the budget by April 15, and we will see how much money will be distributed



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- HB 1102: Contracting Preschool Programs
- HB 1248: Child Care and Development Fund
  - Provides that a household foster parent CCDF eligibility
  - There was little to no discussion on the waitlist
- HB 1253: Amend Indiana Code-Child Care
  - Multi-site locations operating under one license
  - A child receiving care from the school must attend or be a child of a staff member of the school
- v. Micro Facility Pilot Wendy Tolliver and Tikila Welch
  - What is a micro facility?
    - An extension of a primary location
      - A business is already set up
      - An extension or classroom at a different location
    - Awarded providers
      - 92 applications, 75 met the criteria
      - 6 pilot sites choses using a scoring model
        - 2 homes
        - 2 centers
        - 2 ministries
      - Indiana's Micro-Facility Pilots are set to open in spring of 2025
        - All will be opened as centers
        - each site can enroll up to 30 children
      - Question: what other states have you looked at that is using this model? Tennessee
      - Comment: This might be a good time to reach out to businesses to see if they are interested in future endeavors on this topic, after the pilot.
- vi. Indiana Regulatory Reform Wendy Tolliver and Tikila Welch
  - Actively pursuing regulatory reform since 2022. Through various completed initiatives, we have gathered valuable data to inform us of our current efforts. In addition to the ELAC recommendation, the following sources have been utilized.
    - Licensing work group recommendations
    - OECOSL internal legal analysis of all regulations
    - Indiana After School Network recommendations
    - Office of Child Care mandated requirements.



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- Goals for Regulatory Reform
  - Reduce regulatory burden while maintaining health and safety standards
  - Create rules that are easy to read, comprehend, implement, and enforce
- Additional Considerations
  - Indiana Department of Homeland Security (ISHS) laws and rules governing child care programs
  - Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) laws and regulations overseeing child care programs
- What's next?
  - OECOSL welcomes interested ELAC members to engage with the regulatory reform workgroup.
    - Sam Snideman volunteered
- **V.** Public Comment Weber opened public comment
  - i. No public comment
- **VI.** Adjourn Weber adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Next Meeting: April TBD