

SUBJECT: Early Years Data Group

MEETING DATE: October 23, 2019

MEETING TIME: 12:30 – 2:30

CHAIR: Irena Pozgaj-Jones, County of Simcoe

ATTENDANCE:

Christine Vanderbyl, Early ON	Lisa Newton, SCDSB	Leah Nicholson, SCDSB
Graziano Vavala, SMCD SB	Marsha Walker, SCDSB	Chris Samis , SCDSB
Stephanie Wolfe, SMDHU	Sandy Clee, SCDSB	Tanya Bedard, SMCD SB
Kathy Manners, CYFS Coalition	Lesley Watts, Catulpa	Kholah Nisar, County
Lora D'Ambrosio, County		

Purpose of meeting:

- How the Vulnerability Index (VI) has been used in our community
 - How do we plan to continue using the VI
 - EDI update
 - Review of the vulnerability index and methodology
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- During introductions, each of the members discussed how their agency has used the vulnerability index in the past, and how they plan on using it in the future. Responses ranged from system level planning, neighbourhood level planning, helping to identify and support vulnerable populations, and using it as a predictor of student pathways.
 - SCDSB staff indicated they have received the raw EDI data from the Offord centre for students from SCDSB, and that they will be sharing school-level data with individual schools next week.
 - County staff indicated they have received the raw data from the Offord centre for the population of Simcoe County, by postal code not by DA as last cycle.
 - County staff also shared that they will be moving forward with disseminating a community-level EDI report.
 - As we work with the recent EDI cycle of data, should we revisit the 60 EDI neighbourhood boundaries?
 - Reminder that the EDI measures vulnerability. However, there was discussion that we should also identify strengths or opportunities as well (Asset-Based Community Development, or ABCD).

- Discussion also that the assumption is often made that neighbourhoods with lower EDI scores tend to be in higher socio-economic need. However, some kids may also be spending a lot of “screen time”, which may impact EDI scores as well.
- The Learning Opportunities Index is a measure used by the Toronto District School Board (TDSB).
- The group discussed the importance of developing a “community level index” (note: the name will likely change, but will continue using that as the name for now) which can help support community and system planning.
 - The level of geography will need to be determined
- The group discussed sample size suppression:
 - SCDSB = less than 50
 - SMCDSB = less than 30
 - Statscan = less than 40
- What is the number we would suggest for a community-level reporting?
- Discussion about potentially using the Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) to convert the 2017/2018 EDI data to dissemination areas (DAs). Do we have access to the PCCF+ or just the PCCF?
- Environics has an enhanced PCCF. Do we have access to this through the Community Data Program?
- There was discussion about measuring the statistical significance of EDI results between years.
- The group agreed there was value in continuing to meet to discuss the following:
 - Common methodologies
 - Community index and indicators to include in the index
- Irena suggested drafting a Terms of Reference so that the purpose of the group continuing to meet is clear.

ACTION: Irena will draft and circulate a Draft Terms of Reference for review at the next meeting.

- Next meeting: Wednesday, November 27 @ SCDSB, room to be determined.