**August 9, 3:30 - 4:00: Questions for state-to-state sharing time—Round 1**

*Note—these are just suggestions to start your discussion. You may also wish to use the time to ask your partner state any questions you have for them based on the gallery walk or their presentations/comments thus far in the Peer Exchange!*

In preparation for this meeting, your team discussed questions around the adequacy, efficiency, and equity of your current financing structure for your state pre-k program. Based on those discussions and what you have heard this afternoon, share with your partner state:

* What stands out to your team as the most significant challenges in funding your pre-k program (and/or for early childhood more broadly in your state)?
* What is one financing challenge that you believe your state/community has effectively addressed?

Partner State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

**August 10, 8:45-10:15: Increasing Public Financing for Scaling Up High Quality Preschool**

**Presentation:** Public Financing for ECE, Rich Kasmin, NIEER/CEELO

Notes:

**Panel Discussion**

Notes:

**10:30-11: Questions for state-to-state sharing time—Round 2 (Wed morning)**

*Note—these are just suggestions to start your discussion. You may also wish to use the time to ask your partner state any questions you have for them based on the gallery walk or their presentations/comments thus far in the Peer Exchange!*

States use a very wide range of mechanisms to garner the resources they need to support early childhood services. Discuss with your partner state:

* What approach/strategy has been most successful thus far in your state in garnering increased resources for high quality pre-k and/or other early childhood services?
* Which funding sources in your state are more readily available for braiding? Which are the most challenging sources? What are those barriers?
* How have you been able to use the PDG funding in combination with other funds to support high-quality programs? What successes and challenges have you had in monitoring programs that blend and braid PDG funds?
* What new approaches to increasing financing for full scale-up are you considering in your state, if any?

Partner State (Round 2a): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

**11:00-11:30, Questions for Role-alike discussions** (Wed morning)

*Suggested discussion questions for:*

State pre-k directors

* What works well and what doesn’t about the way you distribute funding for state pre-k?
* What new options (if any) are you investigating in your state for expanding resources for early childhood?

State finance staff

* What works well and what doesn’t about the way you distribute funding for state pre-k?
* Are there any financing problems that you think need to be “fixed” before scaling up high-quality early childhood services in your state?
* What financing mechanisms do you think will be most effective for scaling up high-quality early childhood services in your state?

Local program staff

* What sources of funds are you drawing upon to operate high quality early childhood programs?
* What fiscal barriers have you encountered to efficiently operating high quality programs?
* What are some strategies that have helped you be successful in navigating the complex fiscal environment of early childhood?

Notes:

**1:00-2:00 PM, Strategies to Maximize and Leverage Funds to Increase Quality and Access (Wed. afternoon)**

**Panel Presentations**

Notes:

**2:00-2:30: Cross-State Sharing—Round 3 (Wed. Afternoon)**

*Note—these are just suggestions to start your discussion. You may also wish to use the time to ask your partner state any questions you have for them based on the gallery walk or their presentations/comments thus far in the Peer Exchange!*

Supporting local communities to efficiently blend and braid funding for high-quality programs is challenging for all states. Barriers may include inflexible federal rules and restrictive state statutes, as well as a lack of fiscal management capacity at the local level.

Share with your partner state:

* What are some strategies that you have used in your state that have been especially successful in supporting efficient blending and braiding?
* Are there any tools or resources that you have provided to local partners that have been useful?
* To what extent have you been able to successfully integrate IDEA Part B, Title I, Head Start, and/or child care funding into your plan for financing high quality preschool? What makes that work?