

Recommendation from ACECE Planning Council Early Care and Education Committee
Symposium on Inclusion in Early Care and Education

Proposal:

On May 28, 2015, the Early Care and Education Committee moved to request that the Planning Council approve the development of a Symposium on current and emerging best practices on inclusion of children with special needs early care and education (ECE).

Rationale:

Serving and supporting all children and their families in ECE programs is a key element in promoting high quality standards. The ECE field has progressively developed approaches and techniques for improving services, but much work and education is still needed. A well regarded documentary titled "Including Samuel" has proven to be a successful professional development tool on the topic. The ECE Committee feels that the documentary could act as the center piece of a Council sponsored presentation, with appropriate speakers and group discussions. The symposium would be open to the public and directed toward the needs of teachers, staff, family child care providers, and administrators. "Including Samuel Symposium" would promote a valuable learning experience and enhance the Council's purpose to "...be a guiding force for excellence in the care and education of all children..."

The ECE Committee would assume organizing and development of the Symposium, to be held in fall-winter of 2015.

Action Requested:

The ACECE Planning Council approve the proposal to sponsor the Symposium described above and budget modest funding for its development.