

Childcare Re-entry Project

A collaboration between:

- + NM Early Childhood and Care Department
- + NM Public Education Department
- + Southwest Regional Education Cooperative
- + NM Regional Education Cooperative Association



ELAC Meeting, March 11, 2021

Project “Buckets”



The image features three stylized buckets arranged horizontally. Each bucket is filled with a different color and contains a specific project stage. The first bucket is cyan and labeled 'Information Gathering'. The second is yellow and labeled 'Community Collaboration'. The third is green and labeled 'Sharing Information'. The buckets are drawn with thick black outlines and have handles on the left side. The background is light gray with decorative blue dashed lines and white circles.

**Information
Gathering**

**Community
Collaboration**

**Sharing
Information**

Information Gathering

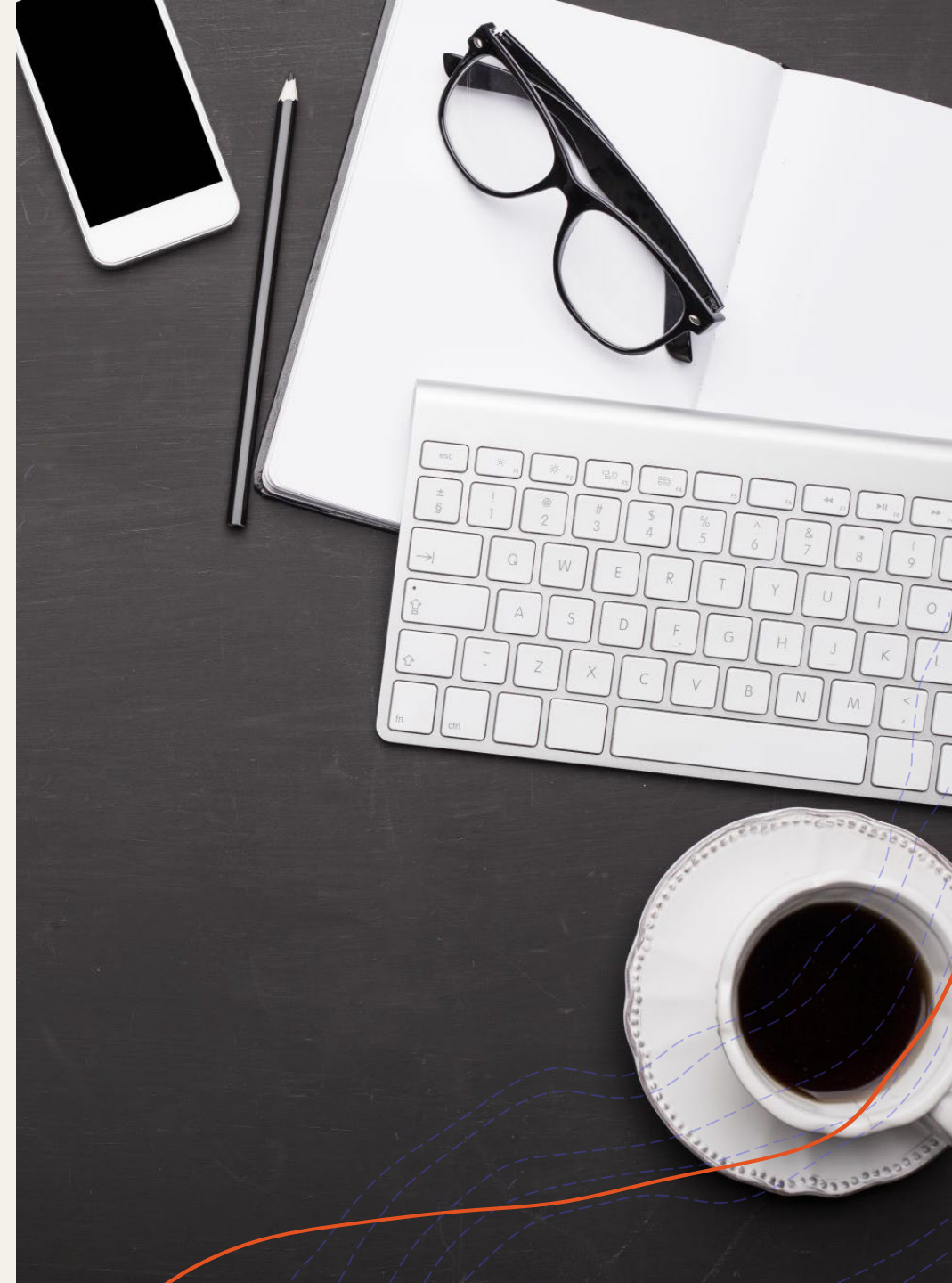
Ask focus group questions and document stories:

- + Providers- 99
- + Parents- 103
- + Schools- 100
- + OST Providers-10

Methods:

- + Focus groups
- + Individual phone calls

Status: Complete



Concerns from Providers

- +Inconsistency of special education services
- +Logistics of school schedules and platforms
- +Lack of communication from schools
- +Mental health issues
- +Feeling undervalued
- +Financial difficulty
- +Lack of substitutes

Concerns from Parents

- + Hybrid learning means increased child care needs and parents can't afford it and don't qualify for assistance
- + Mental health of students-lack of connection
- + Lack of hands-on learning
- + Technology issues

Concerns from Schools

- +Mental health issues
- +Lack of engagement
- +Absenteeism
- +Technology issues
- +Burden on older siblings
- +Care for staff children in hybrid

Best Practices

- + Teachers reaching out to students and parents
- + Collaboration between collaboration and child care
(transportation, lunch, schedules, training)
- + Predictable schedules
- + Differentials

Opportunities

- + Broadband funding
- + Collaboration/ training on special ed support, social/ emotional
- + Better tell the story of child care in New Mexico
- + Create collaboration structures between schools and providers to share training opportunities, best practices, transition information, etc.

Ideas to Explore

- + Expanding eligibility for assistance during hybrid
- + Ways to ensure transition between early education and kindergarten are seamless
- + Substitute clearinghouse with portable background checks

Next Steps

- + Award mini grants
- + Share child care information through digital flyers, social media, newspapers, radio, websites (Applying for assistance, finding child care, FFN, and health and safety)
- + Creating partnerships with districts, providers, OST providers to explore challenges and brainstorm solutions
- + Identify centers and districts that want to partner
- + Facilitate collaborative community conversations with districts, providers, OST providers, city govt., ECECD to problem solve



**Thank you!
Please reach
out with
questions or
suggestions!**

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