

## **Arkansas Special Education State Advisory Council Report Early Childhood Summary May 2018**

### **Current Activities**

- Working with Division of Developmental Services (DDS) on proposed changes to DDS Policy that were put out for public comment on April 9, 2018
  - Proposed changes will merge Developmental Day Treatment Services (DDTCS) and Child Health Management Services (CHMS) centers under the new Early Intervention Day Treatment (EIDT) Program
- Continue working to support districts and cooperatives regarding the new opt in/out procedures established through DDS policy changes
- Working with the Arkansas Special Education Early Childhood Professionals (ASEP) group to plan summer conference and review impact of DDS policy changes
- Attending Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) task force
- Attending one year celebration for Behavior Help (suspension/expulsion work group) supports launched by Division of Childcare and Early Childhood Education (DCCECE)
- Webinar participation with Arkansas Association for Infant Mental Health (AAIMH)
- Building conversations related to itinerant early childhood special education services with other states that have established effective technical assistance for early childhood educators

### **Statewide Collaboration Projects (ongoing)**

- ELAN (Equity Leaders Action Network) led by Headstart
  - Inequities in preschool services for african american boys
- AAIMH (Arkansas Association of Infant Mental Health)
  - Mental health needs of infants through preschool and supports available
- Project LAUNCH
  - Developing state and local networks to improve the coordination of the early child-serving system, in particular behavioral health and primary care services, and enhance the practices, programs, and services for young children and their families
- Suspension and Expulsion Work Group led by DHS Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education (DCCECE)
  - Increase understanding of needs of children behaviorally in the EC setting

- IDEA Early Childhood Inclusion Community led by Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) Center
  - Enhance awareness and improve inclusive practices