



Nicholas A. Toumpas
Commissioner

Lorraine Bartlett
Director

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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July 7, 2015

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Approval is requested to accept private funds for the Spark NH, Early Childhood Advisory Council. Governor and Executive Council approval is required as a stipulation of Executive Order 2011-03. The Department of Health and Human Services is required by the Order to submit requests on behalf of Spark NH, Early Childhood Advisory Council. This request is in the amount of \$15,005 from the Endowment for Health to fund *Spark NH Community of Practice*, effective upon date of Executive Council approval, through May 31, 2016. 100% Other (Private Grant) Funds.

EXPLANATION

The Department of Health and Human Services seeks approval on behalf of Spark NH, Early Childhood Advisory Council to accept and expend private funds in the amount of \$15,005 from the Endowment for Health. The purpose of the Endowment for Health grant is to create better collaboration between New Hampshire's regional early childhood initiatives and Spark NH by creating a community of practice. "Communities of practice" are formed by people with a shared domain of interest (in this instance, early childhood) who engage in a process of collective learning to improve their practice. Grant funds will support technical assistance, convening costs and mileage reimbursement associated with the creation of a community of practice involving all of the regional early childhood initiatives and staffs and staff from Spark NH. A copy of the Endowment for Health grant award letter is attached. Spark NH is a federally mandated, Governor appointed early childhood advisory council established on September 7, 2011 by Governor John Lynch by Executive Order 2011-03, An Order Establishing the Early Childhood Advisory Council (attached). Item six stipulates that: "The Council shall be allowed to accept grants and other assistance to support its work upon the approval of the Governor and Council. Any such items shall be brought forward by the Department of Health and Human Services on behalf of the Council." Early Learning NH is a private, non-profit organization designated by Governor John Lynch as the coordinating body for Spark NH.

Should Governor and Executive Council determine not to approve this request, Spark NH will be unable to create a statewide early childhood community of practice, the result of which would have been well-connected state, regional and local stakeholders across sectors working together to implement shared early childhood-related goals.

Geographic area served: Statewide.

Source of Funds: 100% Private.

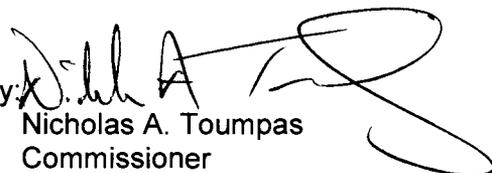
If private funds become no longer available, general funds will not be requested to support the program expenditures.

Respectfully submitted:

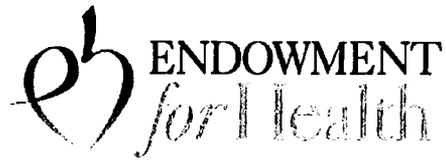


Lorraine Bartlett
Director

Approved by:



Nicholas A. Toumpas
Commissioner



One Pillsbury Street, Suite 301
Concord NH 03301
(603) 228-2448

June 24, 2015

Spark NH
Jackie Cowell, Executive Director
Early Learning New Hampshire
Two Delta Drive
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Ms. Cowell,

I am pleased to announce that an Early Childhood grant of \$15,005 was approved by the Endowment for Health Board of Directors to fund Spark NH Community of Practice.

Enclosed is our *Terms of Award* that define in detail the relationship between the Endowment for Health and Early Learning New Hampshire throughout the duration of the grant. Please read this document carefully before signing. Your grant payment will be paid upon receipt of a signed copy of the enclosed *Terms of Award* and completion of the Conditions outlined in the document.

Kim Firth is available to work with you throughout the grant period. She is a resource to you and I encourage you to contact her at any time if you have questions or concerns. Kim Firth can be reached at (603) 228-2448 X316 or KFirth@endowmentforhealth.org

We look forward to working with you as a partner to improve the health and reduce the burden of illness of the people of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Steven Rowe', written over a horizontal line.

G. Steven Rowe
President
Endowment for Health

Note: In some circumstances, grant awards from private foundations can have certain adverse tax consequences for grantees that are in the public charity category. We do not want our grant of private funds to adversely affect your organization's tax status. We encourage you to review this matter to ensure that your organization will not suffer an adverse impact.

State of New Hampshire
By His Excellency
John H. Lynch, Governor

Executive Order 2011-03

An Order Establishing the Early Childhood Advisory Council

WHEREAS, the healthy development of children provides a strong foundation for competent adulthood, responsible citizenship, economic productivity, strong communities and a prosperous New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, our youngest citizens represent the future of our economy, and their talents are essential for our state to remain competitive in today's global, knowledge-based economy; and

WHEREAS, success in high school, college, and career is directly related to a healthy and engaging early childhood; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire has long worked to ensure all of our youngest citizens are given the opportunities to develop to their fullest potential, laying the foundation for their success in school and in life; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, New Hampshire was named the best state in the country in which to raise children for the fourth year in a row; and

WHEREAS, the federal Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007, Public Law 110-134, requires establishment of a state advisory council on early childhood education and care to carry out the duties as enumerated in the Act;

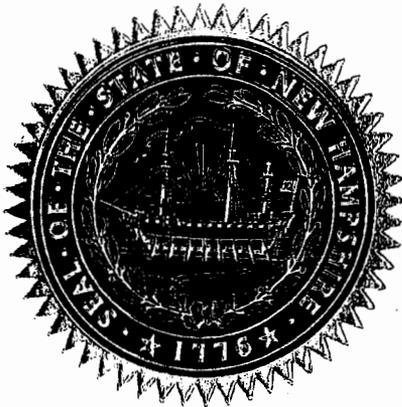
NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN H. LYNCH, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, by the authority vested in me by part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order the following:

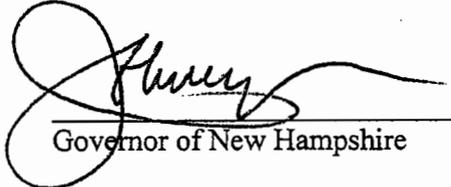
1. There is established the New Hampshire's Early Childhood Advisory Council ("the Council").
2. That the Council shall advise, make recommendations and undertake the following:
 - a) Strengthening New Hampshire's early childhood infrastructure;
 - b) Coordination of the development and implementation of an integrated and comprehensive strategic plan for early childhood in New Hampshire;
 - c) Development of a framework to evaluate the Council's outcomes/impacts and the progress of New Hampshire's young children and their families; and
 - d) Fostering public awareness of, promoting access to, and building commitment for quality early childhood programs and services.
3. That the members of the Council shall include the following members to be appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor:

- a) Administrator of the Child Development Bureau, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
 - b) Specialist from the Office of Early Childhood Education, Department of Education (DOE)
 - c) State Director of Head Start Collaboration
 - d) Title V Administrator for the Maternal and Child Health Section, DHHS
 - e) Chair of the NH Interagency Coordinating Council or designee
 - f) Chair of the NH Child Care Advisory Council or designee
 - g) President of Family Support NH or designee
 - h) President of the NH Association for Infant Mental Health or designee
 - i) A representative of Early Learning NH recommended by that organization
 - j) A representative of the DOE responsible for programs under section 619 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act recommended by the Department
 - k) A representative of DHHS responsible for programs under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act recommended by the Department
 - l) A representative of a local educational agency recommended by the NH Association of School Principals
 - m) A representative of higher education recommended by the NH College and University Council
 - n) A representative of a Head Start agency recommended by NH Head Start Directors Association
 - o) A representative of the Children's Alliance of NH recommended by that organization
 - p) A parent recommended by the NH Head Start State Parent Advisory Council
 - q) A parent recommended by the NH Parent Information Center
 - r) Member of the NH House of Representatives or Senate recommended by the Executive Committee of this Council
 - s) A representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services recommended by the Executive Committee of this Council from a regional interdisciplinary group
 - t) A representative of the NH philanthropic community recommended by the Executive Committee of this Council.
4. The members of the Council shall hold an organizational meeting prior to October 1, 2011. At their November meeting they shall designate a chairman and a vice chairman from among them. Vacancies on the Council shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
5. The members of the Council may appoint an Executive Committee as well as such subcommittees, task forces and work groups as necessary to carry out their duties.

6. The Council shall be allowed to accept grants and other assistance to support its work upon the approval of the Governor and Executive Council. Any such items shall be brought forward by the Department of Health and Human Services on behalf of the Council.
7. All meetings of the Council, its Executive Committee, and any subcommittee, task force or work group established shall be open to the public and noticed in accordance with RSA 91-A.
8. The Council shall submit annually by October 1st beginning in 2012 a report to the Governor, Commissioner of Education and Commissioner of Health and Human Services on its activities, recommendations and plans.
9. The Council is authorized to adopt such additional governing procedures that are consistent with this Order and the Act.

Given under my hand and seal at
the Executive Chambers in Concord,
this 7th day of September, in the year
of our Lord, two thousand and eleven.




Governor of New Hampshire