# Kansas Early Childhood Transition Task Force

# Community Engagement Tour

# Outreach and Social Media Toolkit

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## Task Force Background

On January 10, 2023, Kansas Governor Laura Kelly issued Executive Order 23-01, establishing the Early Childhood Transition Task Force. The group is charged with "creating a framework for a model single-agency governance structure for early childhood programming that consolidates initiatives and funding under the leadership of a new cabinet-level position," with the expectation that **the committee will develop and submit an interim report on its work to Governor Kelly by July 1, 2023, and a final report by January 1, 2024.**

The Task Force will be led by two Co-Chairs, and consist of:

- The Secretary of DCF, the Secretary of KDHE, the Executive Director of the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Commissioner of Education, or their designees
- Representatives from business or chambers of commerce, philanthropic organizations, service providers or industry organizations, and advocacy groups
- Members of the Kansas House of Representatives and Kansas Senate

Across the entirety of 2023, Governor Kelly's Executive Order tasks the group with four major deliverables:

1. **Conducting a formal analysis of how Kansas' early childhood services are delivered and financed, with a specific focus on gaps, inefficiencies, and redundancies that might be eliminated by a single administrative agency.** This analysis will include:
    a. A review of current programs and programs and policies.
    b. A review of how programs currently blend and braid funding, to include a "fiscal map" detailing the routes that public, private, federal, and state funding streams follow from funding authority to program implementation.
    c. A review of how Kansas might integrate existing programs into a consolidated service delivery system and what needs might exist for programming currently lacking in the state.
    d. Recommendations for how cross agency collaborations might foster a "whole of government" approach for children and families, to include the exploration of the data infrastructure necessary to ensure an integrated approach.
    e. Recommendations for how an executive agency might maximize efficiencies for early childhood providers and the state's early childhood workforce, to include a review of existing regulatory structures that complicate the process of entering the sector.
    f. Recommendations on how an executive agency might strengthen the existing healthcare workforce to better support the needs of young children.

    g. An analysis of key lessons learned from states already advancing consolidated systems of early childhood systems governance to inform Kansas' own process.
2. **Conducting a series of stakeholder engagement opportunities to elicit feedback on the current early childhood governance structure, to include a synthesis of stakeholder feedback and recommendations on how an improved structure might better engage with parents, families, and communities.**
3. **Drafting a transition plan to ensure the continuous operation of state services upon creation of a new state agency for early childhood to include:**
    a. Detailed recommendations for what programs should remain in their current administrative homes and/or transition into a new agency.
    b. A description of how programs should transition between agencies and how collaboration can be strengthened with non-executive agencies, to include any needed interagency agreements.
    c. A review of what additional funding and resources might be needed to transition to a single agency governance structure.
4. **Drafting proposed legislation creating a new, cabinet-level single state agency that oversees Kansas's early childhood education and care programs.**

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## Tour Schedule

Tuesday, June 27th

- 9AM: Chanute—Neosho County Community College (Student Union)
    - 800 W Fourteenth Street, Chanute, KS 66720
- 2PM: Wichita—Child Start
    - 1002 S. Oliver Street, Wichita, KS 67218

Wednesday, June 28th

- 9AM: Garden City—Russell Child Development Center
    - 2735 N. Jennie Barker Road, Garden City, KS 67846
- 2PM: Hays—Rockwell Administrative Center
    - 323 W 12th Street, Hays, KS 67601
- 5PM: Salina—Donna L. Vanier Children's Center
    - 155 N Oakdale Avenue, Salina, KS 67401

Thursday, June 29th

- 9AM: Manhattan—Manhattan-Ogden School District—College Hill Early Learning Center

- 2600 Kimball Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502

- 1PM: Topeka—Bishop Professional Development Center
    - 3601 SW 31st Street, Topeka, KS 66614

Friday, June 30th

- 10AM: Overland Park—Shawnee Mission School District—Center for Academic Achievement
    - 8200 W. 71st Street, Overland Park, KS 66204
- 1PM: Kansas City—Children's Campus of Kansas City
    - 444 Minnesota Ave, Kansas City, KS 6610—Floor 3

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## Sample Social Media Posts

***Not all sample messages below meet the Twitter character limit. If using a post that is too long, modify to fit the social media format.**

General:

"The Early Childhood Transition Task Force is on a mission to expand access and improve the quality of early childhood services throughout Kansas. They want to hear from you! Join the Task Force at a community engagement session near you!"

"Families and communities across Kansas are facing challenges accessing quality child care and early childhood services. The Early Childhood Transition Task Force wants to hear your experiences navigating the state's system of programs. Join them at a community engagement session!"

City-Specific (include city graphic with each):

"The Early Childhood Transition Task Force is coming to [City]! This is your opportunity to share your experiences finding early childhood care and education for services in our community. Join us at [Location] on [Date] at [Time]!"

"[City]! Do you want to help expand access to child care and early childhood services? Join the Early Childhood Transition Task Force to discuss how Kansas can better support working families and communities.

“Save the Date! The Early Childhood Transition Task Force will be in [City] on [Date] at [Time]. We want to hear from you about the successes and challenges of finding early childhood care and education services in your community!”

Providers:

“Early childhood service providers! We want to hear from you about navigating the state’s early childhood care and education system. Through your interaction with state-level programs and services, you know firsthand how challenge in can be to navigate Kansas’s system. The Early Childhood Transition Task Force is hosting public listening sessions to learn how the state can better serve you! Join an upcoming meeting in your region!”

“We know navigating Kansas’s early childhood system can be challenging. The Early Childhood Transition Task Force wants to hear your experiences in providing services to our youngest Kansas. The good, the bad, and the difficult—nothing is off limits. Join the Task Force at an upcoming public meeting in your region!”

Parents and Families:

“Expanding access to child care and early childhood services is one of the greatest challenges facing families across the state. The Early Childhood Transition Task Force wants to hear your experience looking for care and services. Join them at a meeting in your community to make your voice heard!”

“Has it been challenging for you to find child care? The Early Childhood Transition Task Force want to hear from you about how Kansas can better support working families and expand access to care. Look for a public meeting in your area!”

“A strong, healthy start is vital for the success of all Kansas kids. The Early Childhood Transition Task Force is committed to improving access to critical services for children and families. Join them at an upcoming public meeting in your community to share your experience raising your family in Kansas.”

Community and Business Leaders:

“Expanding access to early childhood care and education is vital to the success of our cities, towns, and communities. We want to hear from you about how the state can be a better partner in your efforts to address child care issues. Join the Early Childhood Transition Task Force at an upcoming regional meeting to share your experience!”

“The economic success of our communities and businesses is dependent on our ability to fully engage our workforce. We know one of the greatest challenges facing our business community is access to quality early childhood services for their workers. Join the Early Childhood Transition Task Force at an upcoming meeting to discuss how Kansas can better serve as a partner to expand opportunities for care.”

“Vibrant communities and successful businesses are the backbone of the Kansas economy. To reach our full potential, more must be done to support the early childhood needs of our communities and business. The Early Childhood Transition Task Force wants to hear from you about the successes and challenges of working with the state to support your workforce and community.”

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**Tour Graphics**




Full Graphic Toolkit: [Early Childhood Transition Task Force Tour Graphics]

Password: EarlyChildhood