

We envision Illinois as a place where every young child – regardless of race, ethnicity, income, language, geography, ability, immigration status, or other circumstance – receives the strongest possible start to life so that they grow up safe, healthy, happy, ready to succeed, and eager to learn.

Illinois Early Learning Council
Research, Evaluation and Data Committee
April 27, 2023, 1:00-2:30 pm

Join via [Webex](#) or Call-in 1-415-655-0002

Access Code/Meeting Number: 2458 871 0786

Password: mAcqvbd945

Agenda

1:00 PM Welcome: Open Meetings Act, Meeting Norms

- Co-Chairs Mariana Souto-Manning, Ph.D. and Dawn Thomas, Ph.D.

1:15 PM Statewide Data Initiatives

- ILDS Overview-Ben Boer
- Funding Equity Map (FEM/GEAM)- Dr. Theresa Hawley and Mitch Mraz
- IECAM- Keith Hollenkamp

2:05 PM Breakout Groups

- Co-Chairs Mariana Souto-Manning, Ph.D. and Dawn Thomas, Ph.D.

2:20 PM Report out from Breakout Groups

- Co-Chairs Mariana Souto-Manning, Ph.D. and Dawn Thomas, Ph.D.

2:25 PM Public Comment

2:30 PM	Adjourn
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- **Next Meeting: June 1, 2023, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm**

Racial Equity Definition: A racially equitable society values and embraces all racial/ethnic identities. In such a society, one's racial/ethnic identity (particularly Black, Latino, Indigenous, and Asian) is not a factor in an individual's ability to prosper. An early learning system that is racially equitable is driven by data and ensures that:

- Every young child and family regardless of race, ethnicity, and social circumstance has everything s/he/they need to develop optimally;
- Resources, opportunities, rewards, and burdens are fairly distributed across groups and communities so that those with the greatest challenges are adequately supported and not further disadvantaged; and
- Systems and policies are designed, reframed, or eliminated to promote greater justice for children and families.

Racial Equity Priorities:

- 1) Align and standardize race/ethnicity data collection and reporting;
- 2) Evaluate and identify whether processes for distributing resources exacerbate racial disparities, including agency contracting;
- 3) Address race/ethnicity disparities in terms of workforce compensation and advancement;