

# Strong Beginnings

## QuickStart Guide Section 3: ISD Administration

### **The role and responsibilities of the ECC are mostly the same.**

- The ECC will partner with the Strong Beginnings Family Liaisons and the Strong Beginnings family Liaison Supervisor to ensure seamless support for children and parents engaged in family advocacy.
- The ECC may only serve as Family Liaison or Family Liaison Supervisor if they have the required social work-based education and experience needed as well as sufficient time to fulfill each role.

### **The role and responsibilities of the ECS are mostly the same.**

- ECSs with appropriate training and experience with toddlers and young preschoolers may serve both Strong Beginnings and GSRP classrooms if they have sufficient time to fulfill each role.

### **Guidance on branding is similar.**

- The program name Strong Beginnings must be used to identify all funded pilot programs, activities and materials. In addition the following statement must be used as required on printed materials "This project is supported by the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five Initiative (PDG B-5), Grant Number 90TP0055 from the Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services."

### **Guidance for child eligibility files, security of sensitive information, electronic files and educational vs. eligibility records is mostly the same.**

- Information related to the Family Partnership, including family goal sheets, should be kept in children's educational records.

### **Guidance for Assurances, Child Recruitment, Closure Procedures, Communication, Community Needs Assessment, Community Partnerships, Fiscal Policy and Review, Monitoring Subrecipients (program), Parent Advisory Committee, Philosophy, Professional Learning, Program Evaluation, Record Keeping, School Readiness Advisory Committee, Sliding Scale of Tuition, Distribution of Funds and Written Agreement are mostly the same.**

- Funds from both Strong Beginnings and GSRP may be used for a coordinated recruitment campaign.

- Communication with families should include information about the Family Partnership process and activities.
- ISD administrative policies must also reflect how the ISD will provide monitoring/oversight of program provider practices and policies for Family Partnership and goal setting documents, and supervision of and planning for professional learning and reflective supervision of family advocates.
- Strong Beginnings and GSRP parent advisory committees may be joined or separate. If there is a joint committee, representation should be proportional to the number of children in each program. Sufficient time should be given to addressing issues relating to Strong Beginnings.
- The local parent advisory committee should have a representative that is a Family Liaison.
- Program provider philosophy statements should include the program's philosophy regarding the Family Partnership Process.
- The ECC, in conjunction with the Family Liaison Supervisor, ensures Family Liaisons are provided reflective supervision at least monthly during the school year and are able to attend professional learning events in important topics such as motivational interviewing.
- Program evaluation plan reflects the use of Family Partnership as well as other data.
- The School Readiness Advisory Committee, which includes proportional representation from Strong Beginnings families, decide/approve whether subrecipient that provide Strong Beginnings must also provide GSRP, the Family Partnership Process, and the agency/organization that provides Family Liaison supervision.
- The sliding tuition scale for children slightly over income must be submitted to CCRESA if over income children are admitted to the program.
- No waiver to serve children over the 10% cap is allowed in Strong Beginnings.
- For the pilot of Strong Beginnings, ISDs may select program providers and sites and the agency/organization providing leadership for the Family Liaison component without undertaking a request for proposals or prioritizing CBOs.
- A written agreement is required between the ISD and the agency/organization providing leadership for the Family Partnership/Family Liaison component of Strong Beginnings. Details of what this agreement must include are provided in #17 at the end of Section 3 of the Strong Beginnings Pilot Implementation Guide.
- A policy on how the agency/organization providing Family Partnership/Family Liaison oversight will be selected after the pilot phase of Strong Beginnings is completed is required. Details of elements needed in this policy are in #18 at the end of Section 3 of the Strong Beginnings Pilot Implementation Guide.