

Illinois Children's Cabinet

Logistics

Name of Coordinating Body: Governor's Cabinet on Children and Youth

Administrative Home: The cabinet is housed within the Illinois Governor's Office.

Staffing: The staff is composed of the Managing Director of Education Systems within the governor's office. The managing director also frequently interacts with the governor's education team.

Funding: The Governor's Cabinet on Children and Youth has no specific funding source. Individual initiatives are funded by agency budgets (GSA) and the managing director's salary is funded through an intergovernmental agency (IGA).

Membership: The cabinet is composed of the following members: the Governor, who acts as the chair; executive leadership of the 17 state agencies that oversee initiatives for children and youth; and the 4 members of the governor's senior team and the Department of Innovation and Technology.

Structure

- *Children's Cabinet meetings:* The Governor's Cabinet on Children and Youth meets quarterly in either Springfield or Chicago.
- *Staff meetings:* The implementation staff team meets at least quarterly following every cabinet meeting. Project teams meet at least monthly - these are composed of agency staff, agency directors and external stakeholders.
- *Agency head meetings:* The agency heads leading projects meet monthly with the governor to update him on their progress on each project.
- *Stakeholder meetings:* Stakeholders are involved in project team meetings.

History

Year & Method of Establishment: Established in February 18th, 2016 by [Executive Order](#).

Duties/Responsibilities/Goals: The Governor's Cabinet on Children and Youth was established to ensure that all children and youth in Illinois are healthy, safe, well educated, and self-sufficient. Each of these goals are monitored through key indicators and outcome metrics to evaluate progress. The cabinet works to unite existing boards and commissions dedicated to the common goal of improving educational outcomes for children.

Current Work:

The Governor's Cabinet on Children and Youth currently focuses on three inaugural projects in addition to four newer projects. The inaugural projects were an effort to decrease the childhood lead burden, the IL Apprenticeship Plus Initiative, and early childhood education workforce development.

Projects/Initiatives

- Multi-level Collaboration for Dually Involved Youth
- Building a State-Wide Community-Based Mentoring Network
- College and Career Readiness through Transitional Math and Alternative High School Equivalency
- Childcare Assistance Program and Self-Sufficiency

Accomplishments

The project-based approach to working has transformed the way that agencies interact with each other. Now that there is a relationship between agencies, leaders and staff, they are more collaborative with each other beyond cabinet projects.

Contact Information

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Words of Wisdom: *Focusing on only a few projects at a time allows the cabinet to really focus in on specific areas of improvement to build out statewide, collaborative systems. By incubating this type of work in a project-based fashion, we've been able to see changes in how all these agencies work together.*

Links

Council website:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/children/Pages/default.aspx>

Annual Report:

[https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/children/Documents/Children%27s%20Cabinet%20Report%20\(2017\).pdf](https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/children/Documents/Children%27s%20Cabinet%20Report%20(2017).pdf)

More Info:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/children/Pages/About.aspx>
