



What Early Learner SD Offers Communities:

1. Early Learner Community Toolkit
 - a. A checklist of items to get a community started
 - b. Designed to allow flexibility for unique needs of your community
 - c. Option to use the [NLC guide](#) – This guide is an in-depth, extensive document that helps a community get from point A to point Z when becoming a true ‘Early Learning Community’. There is a rating tool that is provided in this document if a community chooses to go this way. (example: Rapid City and Brookings are choosing to use this whereas Lead-Deadwood is not at this moment but plans to work towards it). This guide has 4 main building blocks in which the works is based, those are the following:
 - i. Community Leadership, commitment and public will
 - ii. Quality services that work for all young children and their families
 - iii. Neighborhoods where families can thrive
 - iv. Policies that support and are responsive to families
2. Access to the Marketing page once a community formally commits to becoming and Early Learner Community
3. Information on current Public Policy discussions and the Public Policy Forum
4. Community ‘Launch Plan’
 - a. Access to ELSD Leadership
 - b. Explanation from ELSD Leadership on the unified language of ELSD
 - c. Press release template
 - d. Branding
 - e. Connections with local stakeholders to discuss process
 - f. Assistance timeline creation based on community wishes and availability
 - g. Technical Assistance with a Letter to help gain sponsorships or funds in their community
 - h. A place on the ELSD website (community must maintain their own info)
5. Financial: Black Hills has secured grant opportunities for communities in Black Hills - No funding opportunities have been secured for other communities yet
6. Guidance to gain support of community leaders and businesses
7. Access to data and the email distribution list