

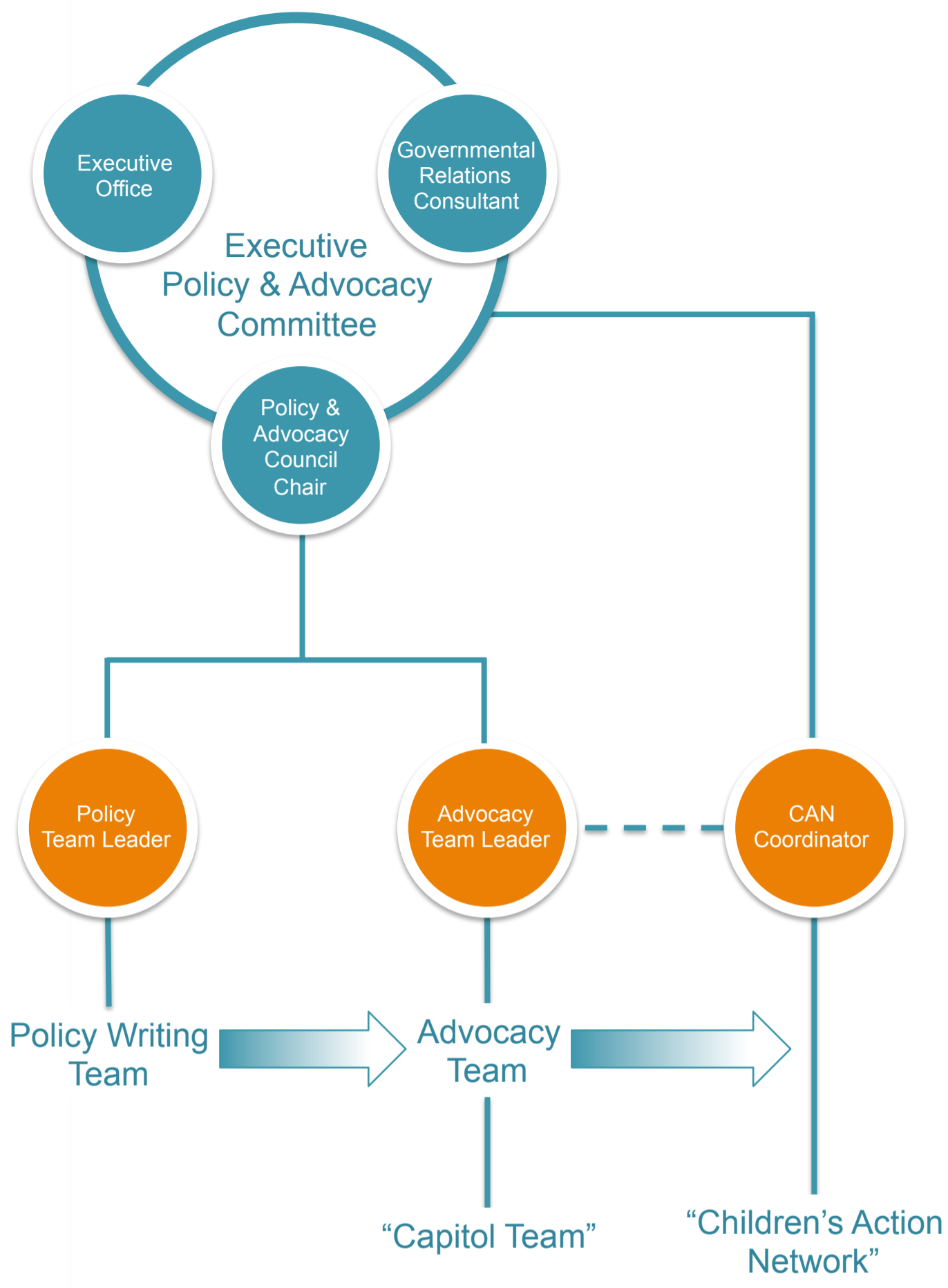


Division for
Early
Childhood
of the Council for Exceptional Children

Executive Policy & Advocacy Committee – This group is responsible for overall DEC policy, advocacy, and governmental relations activities. The activities of this group may be independent of or in partnership with the Policy & Advocacy Council members. The group will always act under the umbrella of DEC policy. This group provides flexibility and availability for DEC to take swift action for issues directly related to policy and advocacy. This group also offers sustainability needed for long-term relationship building with Congressional & Executive Branch representatives and other relevant organizations and agencies.

Policy & Advocacy Council – This council, led by the Policy & Advocacy Council Chair, is responsible for development of DEC policy and DEC advocacy initiatives. The Policy & Advocacy Council is an official arm of the DEC Executive Office.

Advocacy Team – This group, led by the Advocacy Team Leader, is responsible for advocacy initiatives of the Policy & Advocacy Council. This group reports directly to the Policy & Advocacy Council Chair.



Policy Writing Team – This group, led by the Policy Team Leader, is responsible for writing DEC policy. This group reports directly to the Policy & Advocacy Council Chair.

Grassroots Advocacy - The work of the CAN Coordinator is three-fold. One is to offer ongoing training to DEC State Subdivisions and members in how to participate in advocacy efforts. Two is to support those involved in grassroots advocacy to develop action plans for having an active subdivision advocacy initiative. Three is to support state-specific advocacy issues that relate to and can be supported by DEC policies.

Children's Action Network (CAN) – This group carries out the work of state/local/federal advocacy. This group of DEC members stands readily available and may be activated at any time to carry out grass roots advocacy. This group includes any DEC member willing to be involved. When asked, this group will write letters, sign letters, make phone calls, send texts, and participate on social media. They will carry the advocacy message.

Capitol Team - This group carries out official DEC efforts in relation to federal and national advocacy only. This group includes the Executive Policy & Advocacy Committee, the Advocacy Team Leader, and others on the Advocacy Team as designated. Official DEC efforts include Hill visits, inter-agency partnerships, taskforces, and stakeholder meetings.