



State Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

Highline School District Office
15675 Ambaum Blvd. S.W.
Burien, WA 98166

Attendance:

Members

Sheila Ammons, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
Kelli Bohanon, State Lead Agency, Department of Early Learning
Melinda Dyer, OSPI/Education of Homeless Children and Youth
Christine Johnson, Service Provider, Head Start
Jena Lavik, Parent
Michael Luque, DSHS/Children's Administration (Foster Care)
Dennis Mathews, Service Provider, Education
Maria Nardella, Department of Health
Diane Patterson, Service Provider, Public Health
Sharon Reddick, DSHS/Health and Recovery Services Administration (Medicaid)
Janet Spybrook, Personnel Preparation
Tiffany Wheeler-Thompson, Parent

Members Unable to Attend

Maryanne Barnes, Service Provider, Developmental Center
Charles Cowan, MD, Service Provider Physician
Magan Cromar, County Human Services
Representative Mary Lou Dickerson, Legislature
Sarah Fader, Parent
Steven Finch, Service Provider, School District
Janet George, Department of Services for the Blind
Marijean Holland, Office of Insurance Commissioner
Amy Kocher, Parent
Robin McIlvaine, DSHS/Children's Mental Health

Marie Preftes Arena, Parent

Others Attending

Angie Ahn-Lee, Snohomish County
Keri Boiter, Assistant to Representative Mary Lou Dickerson
Kerianne Christie, SICC Family Leadership and Involvement Committee
Deborah Couch, DSHS/DDD
Rene Denman, Parent/FRC Island County
Athena Elrod, Pierce County
Kathy Fortner, Kindering Center
Kim Hamren, Listen & Talk
Brian Herseeth, ESIT DMS Project Manager
Debbie Jackson, PAVE
Mike Stewart, Boyer Children's Center
Rachael Watters, Spokane Regional Health District
Candy Watkins, A Step Ahead
Jan Wrathall, King County
Connie Zapp, Holly Ridge Center

Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program Staff Who Participated

Karen Walker, Program Administrator
Kathy Blodgett, Program Consultant
Kathy Grant-Davis, Program Consultant
Wayne Vrona, Program Consultant
Linda Jennings, Program Specialist

BUSINESS MEETING

I. Introductions/Announcements

As Acting Chair, Diane Patterson called the meeting to order.

Diane led introductions of the Council and audience present.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the April minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Motion: A motion was made to accept the July 27, 2011 agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

II. Department of Early Learning Update

Kelli Bohanon, M.Ed., Assistant Director for Partnerships and Collaboration in DEL gave the Council an update on Department of Early Learning activities.

Highlights:

- Race to the Top: Early Learning Challenge Fund
 - Competitive federal application, focused on supporting an early learning system
 - There are five key draft priorities and funding is based on population and demographics. Washington is eligible to apply for \$60m over four years - \$15m per year
 - Funding is one-time only. The application to apply will be released in late August 2011 and will be due 6-8 weeks later.
- The Early Learning Guidelines are currently undergoing a redesign. On timeline for final release in December 2011.
- In June 2011, Washington will submit their FFY10 Updates State Home Visiting Plan to the feds. July 1st, DEL will submit a federal competitive Home Visiting Grant. Then on July 21st of 2011, Washington will submit their application for the federal FFY11 formula grant.
 - Updated state plan, including FFY10 formula funding plan
 - Funding for 4 communities (high-risk, high capacity)
 - Yakima
 - Pierce County (districts 2,4,5 and 6)
 - Snohomish County: North Everett
 - South King County (based on Medicaid births to AI/AN and AA women)
 - 2 models: Nurse Family Partnership and Parents as Teachers
 - FFY11 application for formula funding (\$1.8M)
 - Continued funding for FFY 10 communities, 4 communities, 2 models (PAT, NFP)
 - Proposed FFY 11 communities, Parents as Teachers
 - 1) Clallam
 - 2) Pend Oreille
 - Rural work: Grays Harbor County
 - Planning with tribes
 - MIECHV competitive grant application
 - WA requested \$34.36 million over four years
 - Funding for 24-30 programs
 - Serve an additional 1,500-1,800 families
 - Review panel process; anticipate decision by end of September
 - Can reapply in future

III. Cost Study Presentation

Natasha Fedo and Heather Rogers from Berk and Associates, presented.

Highlights:

- Purpose of the study
 - Determine the costs and revenues available for providing Part C birth to three early intervention services across Washington

- Help ESIT identify and recommend funding policies that will lead to a more sustainable, equitable, and cost effective system of services across the state
- Planning-level study
 - NOT a precise calculation of costs and revenues
 - Intended to provide a reasonable estimate of system-wide and geographic area costs and revenues
 - Because early intervention is a highly decentralized system, there are inconsistencies in the data

IV. ESIT Data Management System Replacement Project

Bob Morris, ESIT Project Director gave a PowerPoint presentation of the new Data Management System (DMS) Replacement Project.

Highlights:

- The goal of the DMS Replacement Project is to design, develop, and implement a new, improved, and modern DMS that provides greater functionality and more efficiently aligns with the workflow needs of business users.
- Terminology is aligned with the Process and Policy document from the System Improvement Project
- More efficient data entry, eliminating duplicate or unnecessary data entry
- Robust reporting capabilities for all users
- A survey was sent out with questions regarding use and expertise of users of the current system. Training will be designed in response to the survey answers.

V. Committee Reports

Family Leadership and Involvement Committee (FLIC), Jena Lavik

Highlights:

- At yesterday's meeting, the Committee reviewed the Transitions Curriculum and accompanying workbook.
 - Workbook will be presented to families preparing for transition from IDEA, Part C to Part B
 - The workbook will be translated into Spanish
 - PAVE will provide two webinars to showcase FAI and transition materials
- Developed a letter to be sent to Parent to Parent Coordinators, local lead agencies, and lead FRCS to ask to offer referrals to statewide family support programs, i.e. Parent to Parent and Fathers Network.
 - A sample referral form will be attached to letter. Agencies can adapt letter and have families sign, and forward to appropriate agency for follow-up.
 - Draft letter was forwarded to ESIT for further review

- Conversations with Families was discussed. At the October SICC meeting, FLIC would like to have four members present their family story to the Council. Members would like to discussed the services received that worked and what challenges were encountered.

Motion: A motion was made to have FLIC members present their stories to the Council at the October SICC meeting. Motion was seconded and passed.

Data Committee, Kathy Fortner

Highlights:

- The Committee met on July 15th to review the status of the ESIT Data Management System redesign.
- Committee was very impressed by new features and scope of the new system
- The deadline for the DMS is challenging, however the project is currently on track
- The Committee gave a big thank you to the team for the tremendous amount of work they have put into managing this exciting and complex project

Joint Funding/FLIC/PP, Karen Walker

Karen gave an update of the joint meeting held on July 13, 2011. Karen reminded the Council that the Cost Study presentation is preliminary. At the joint meeting, the committees gave their feedback and some revisions have been made. Maureen Greer, from Emerald Consulting, and Cost Study contributor, also attended the meeting to provide insight and clarity.

It was also determined that the data would need continued analysis in order to determine and then prioritize the fiscal policy issues that must be addressed. The Committee felt that a definition of “indirect cost” for the purpose of the Cost Study needed to be further clarified, because many fund sources define indirect costs in very specific and limited ways which was not how the Cost Study used this terminology. The final report is due from Berk and Associates on September 30th. The Cost Study Executive Summary will be presented to the Council at the October meeting.

VI. Agency Updates

Agency reports were given in handouts within the Council packets.

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Education, Sheila Ammons

Highlights:

- Sheila Ammons, Karen Walker and Mary Perkins presented a joint session at the Infant and Early Childhood Conference on May 6, 2011. The session addresses the Child Outcome Summary Form (COSF) and connections to program improvement.
- Sheila and Karen will also present at the annual Special Education Administrator’s Conference on August 5, 2011. This session will address early childhood transition.
- OSPI has designed a three hour training module series on early literacy and early numeracy development in preschoolers.

- Modules will be posed on the OSPI early childhood special education webpage. Clock hours credit will be available for teachers that complete both training modules.

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Homeless Children & Youth, Melinda Dyer

Highlights:

- McKinney-Vento program is being monitored statewide
 - There will be a two-day workshop in Vancouver, August 9-10, 2011 for grant recipients
 - 2012 grant funds have increased slightly
 - Year 2 of the three-year grant will soon start. New budgets being determined.
- OSPI data collection of homeless students is changed to a more integrated system (OSPI CEDARS data collection system)(
- Training and technical development schedules for 2011-2012 are being set up now. Districts can contact Melinda for more information.

Health Care Authority, Medicaid, Sharon Reddick

Highlights:

- New location for Medicaid forms is: <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/mpforms.shtml>
- There are numerous benefit changes in the 2011-13 budget. Many programs were not restored, or with reductions in funding.
- Major changes were made for providers in the state's new biennial budget.
- A listserv is available at <https://fortress.wa.gov/dshs/hrsalistsrvsignup/> to receive regular email notifications. It is especially for providers.

Department of Health, Children with Special Health Care Needs, Maria Nardella

Highlights:

- The program received a number of funding reductions. Among the reductions, the CSHCN program lost the FTE and the funding that supported the Nursing Consultant.
- Community and Family Health becomes the Division of Prevention and Community Health on July 1, 2011
 - Division has new name and three new offices
 - Office of Healthy Communities integrates the programs and functions of the former Office of Community Wellness & Prevention (minus the WIC program), the former Office of Maternal & Child Health (minus immunization), and Family Planning.
 - The CSHCN program and staff are within the Office of Healthy Communities and moved intact to a newly integrated section called Practice Improvement
- The DOH Autism Grant will end on August 31, 2011, but the Learn the Signs, Act Early project with supplemental federal funding will continue through August 2012.
- DOH has received a new three year grant; Great MINDS (Medical Homes Include Developmental Screening)
 - Goals of the grant are: 1) Increase medical homes for children; 2) Increase training to pediatric providers and parents; and, 3) Impact state policies that support components of a comprehensive medical home.
 - A Great MINDS Project Coordinator will be hired as quickly as possible
- The 2012 issues of Starting Point Guide are now available online at www.cshcn.org and as hard copies.

- Care Tools for families continue to be available at www.cshcn.org

DSHS/Division of Developmental Disabilities, Debbie Couch

Highlights:

- Child development services are for eligible children from birth to 3 and their families through the Employment and Day Program services contract with counties.
- The Individual and Family Support (IFS) program was suspended in December 2010, causing 1712 families to lose support.
 - 738 eligible families were moved to the State Supplemental Payment (SSP) program at 60% of the amount they were receiving.
 - The Legislature reinstated the IFS program as of July 1, 2011 at a 10% overall reduction. The 10% reduction does not apply to family awards.
 - Families may choose to stay on SSP or return to the IFS program

VII. ESIT Update

Highlights:

- Karen Walker shared ESIT's determination status letter, received in June from the Federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) for FFY 2009. OSEP determined ESIT meets Part C requirements again this year. Receiving this determination means that ESIT has continued to achieve a very high level of compliance regarding the timely provisions of evaluations and initial IFSP meetings, service provision, transition planning and transition conferences. Because of this high level of compliance, ESIT will now be able to move beyond compliance with an increased emphasis on improving results that focus on child find, services in natural environments, child and family outcomes. Monitoring and technical assistance will now focus on compliance and results. The data we will be able to obtain from the new data management system will help us to better understand the practices that lead to improved results.
- Thanks to providers and local lead agencies that have helped with meeting our reporting requirements.
- Already have the data needed for our APR report due in February 2012
- Kathy Grant-Davis updated the Council on the use of the ARRA funds.
 - Data Management System – new build
 - Statewide Cost Study
 - System Improvement Project
 - Several states have approached ESIT regarding sharing some of the materials that we have created through this project
 - Statewide provider attendance at IECC and Autism Summit
 - End of the ARRA Conference will be held August 16-17 in Seattle
- Karen will be presenting at two conferences later this year. The Mega Conference in Washington DC, and the Outcomes Conference in New Orleans.

VIII. Emerging Issues/Other Topics

- Conversations with Families
- Final Cost Study Report
- DMS Update
- Project SEEK
- Update on new regulations/ESIT Policies and Procedures

Meeting adjourned.

Next SICC Meeting Date:

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. with a working lunch