

State Interagency Coordinating Council

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

Puget Sound Skills Center
18010 8th Avenue S.
Burien, WA 98148



Attendance:

Members

Maryanne Barnes, Service Provider, Developmental Center
Magan Cromar, County Human Services
Melinda Dyer, OSPI/Education of Homeless Children and Youth
Janet George, Department of Services for the Blind
Jena Lavik, Parent
Maria Nardella, Department of Health
Kris Pederson, DSHS/Division of Developmental Disabilities
Sugely Sanchez, Parent
Janet Spybrook, Personnel Preparation

Members Unable to Attend

Val Arnold, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
Amy Kocher, Parent

Others Attending

Angie Ahn-Lee, Snohomish County
Janna Bardi, Department of Health (DOH)
Chris Bess, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Medicaid
Kris Ching, Center for Childhood Deafness & Hearing Loss
Teresa Davenport, Hearing, Speech, and Deafness Center (HSDC)
René Denman, Island County
Amanda Fagan, Holly Ridge
Kathy Fortner, Kinderling
Nancy Hatfield, WA Sensory Disabilities Services
Christine Johnson, Head Start/Early Head Start/ECEAP
Karen Neidt, Early Hearing-loss Detection, Diagnosis and Intervention (EHDDI)
Janie Nelson-Achodor, Concerned Citizens
Phil Olson, Progress Center
Suzanne Quigley, Listen and Talk
Michelle Stiller, Wonderland
Candy Watkins, A Step Ahead
Connie Zapp, Kitsap County

ESIT Program Staff Who Participated

Karen Walker, Program Administrator
Kathy Blodgett, Program Consultant
Kathy Grant-Davis, Program Consultant
Sheila Ammons, Program Consultant
Linda Jennings, Program Specialist
Debbie Jackson, Program Specialist
Bob Morris, Data Manager
Juliet Jack, Fiscal Manager

BUSINESS MEETING

I. Introductions/Announcements

As Acting Chair, Maryanne Barnes called the meeting to order.

Ms. Barnes led introductions of the Council and audience present.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the February 26, 2014 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Motion: A motion was made to accept the April 23, 2014 agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

II. EHDDI Exchange Update Washington Sensory Disabilities Services

Karen Neidt, from the Department of Health (DOH) Early Hearing-loss Detection, Diagnosis and Intervention (EHDDI) Program, and Bob Morris, Data Manager for Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) program, gave a presentation on the Data Management System (DMS) Exchange System with EHDDI.

Highlights:

- Linking EHDDI with ESIT
 - In 2009 a data sharing agreement was established
 - 2011 – work began on a direct data exchange
 - 2012 – ESIT developed a data transfer module and EHDDI began modifying its system to link with the ESIT module
 - April 2014 – the EHDDI-ESIT linkage goes live
- EHDDI – ESIT Linkage
 - Allows audiologists and EHDDI staff to refer infants with hearing loss to ESIT
 - ESIT will also send demographic and early intervention services information to EHDDI for infants that FRCs have indicated as having a hearing loss
- Next Steps
 - Train audiologists to make referrals to ESIT using the EHDDI system
 - Continue to stress that FRCs indicate “hearing loss” as a diagnosis if one is present
 - Audiologists have requested improvements

- Ability to send diagnostic results with the referral
- Notification that the referral was received by ESIT

Nancy Hatfield, Director Early Childhood, Washington Sensory Disabilities Services, and Kris Ching, Outreach Director B-5, Center for Childhood Deafness & Hearing Loss presented information on Birth to 3 Deaf/Hard of Hearing Services.

Highlights:

- D/HH Workgroup Members:
 - CDHL – Kris Ching, Kerianne Christie
 - WSDS – Nancy Hatfield
 - DOH/EHDDI – Deb Doyle, Karin Neidt
 - DEL/ESIT – Karen Walker, Sheila Ammons, Kathy Blodgett, Kathy Grant-Davis
 - ODHH – Claudia Foy
 - GBYS – Christine Griffin
 - Goal: Children who are Deaf/HH will reach age 3 with communication/language at a level commensurate with their chronological age or cognitive level, regardless of communication modality
- Works in Progress:
 - Pathway to Services
 - CDHL B-5 Registration Form
 - Guide to EI at a Glance: Children w/Hearing Loss B-3
 - Areas to address with all families
 - Guidelines for Infant and Toddler Programs (D/HH)
- CDHL Birth-3 Registry
 - CDHL is building a data management system – tracking services, developmental progress, transition plan.
 - CDHL is mandated to collect demographic information for children with hearing loss
 - Goal is to ensure timely, appropriate, effective services
 - Lead FRCs fill out (with parents) CDHL registration form for each deaf or hard of hearing child
 - Strengthen transition from Part C to Part B services
- WSDS/CDHL can provide a checklist and guide for FRCs and EI providers for areas to address with all families
- WSDS/CDHL can provide self-evaluation guidelines for birth-3 programs serving D/HH children
- Step-by-step process for referral:
 - 1) Audiologist diagnoses baby as deaf or hard of hearing
 - 2) Audiologist uses new system to contact Lead FRC to make a referral to ESIT EI services
 - 3) Lead FRC meets with family to go over intake paperwork – including CDHL registration form (be sure to add CDHL to ESITs Release of Records form)
 - 4) Lead FRC sends CDHL registration form to CDHL
 - 5) Lead FRC contacts Kris Ching if more support is needed to meet the needs of child, family or other professionals working with the family
- Future Goals
 - Tele-therapy services
 - Guide By Your Side program for all families
 - Deaf and Hard of Hearing Guide Program
 - Fine Tuning work in progress

III. Agency Reports

Agency reports, when available, are included in handouts within the Council packets.

Department of Services for the Blind, Janet George

Highlights:

- DSB has been working with Washington Sensory Disability Services (WSDS), Washington State School for the Blind (WSSB), ESIT and other agencies on a B-3 task force. The goal of this committee is to create better vision service provision for vision impaired infants and toddlers.
- A State Coordinator of Early Support for Blind/Visually Impaired Infants and Toddlers position has been posted by WSSB and King County.
- DSB continues to provide consultations to B-3 families with vision impaired children on both sides of the state.

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

Highlights:

- 2014 Legislation Highlights: The newly passed state budget includes new money for DOH for these activities:
 - WA Autism Alliance
 - Healthiest Next Generation Initiative
 - Tobacco and Marijuana Prevention
- Action Learning Collaborative (ALC): DOH was chosen by the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) to participate to address state and national issues for children with special health care needs and Medicaid Managed Care. Washington is one of eight states selected. Washington will send a six-person team to Washington DC in late April. The team will represent Parent to Parent, CSHCN, Medicaid Managed Care, Health Care Authority and the WA Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. For more information, contact Ellen Silverman at ellen.silverman@doh.wa.gov or 360-236-3580.
- CSHCN is collecting success stories and challenges encountered by children and their parents as they try to enroll in the Affordable Care Act and Washington State Medicaid Expansion. Please share stories with Susan Ray at susan.ray@doh.wa.gov or 360-236-3504.
- The 2014 Summer Camp Director for Children with Special Health Care Needs is now available as a searchable database or pdf at: <http://cshcn.org/resources-contacts/summer-camp-directory> . To request multiple copies, please contact Alta Basset at alta.bassett@seattlechildrens.org.
- Child Health Notes (CHNs): These are one page newsletters designed to share with primary care providers and others, current information about identifying or caring for children and youth with special health care needs. Each CHN has space for communities to add local resources including contact information for the county early intervention program, CSHCN public health nurse services, school district special education services and family support. Four new or revised CHNs are produced each year and are extensively researched and reviewed by developmental pediatricians at the UW, DOH staff, and subject experts. Please contact Kate Orville if you would like more information. www.medicalhome.org/leadership/chn_network.cfm
- The WA Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (WCAAP) invites Medical Home Leadership Network members and children's health advocates to join the WCAAP mailing list and receive regular copies of their monthly e-newsletter. The e-newsletter, *Developments*, is

a resource for timely notice of issues pertaining to child health in Washington, including immunization news, pediatric practice resources, and advocacy efforts. To be added to the mailing list, email Jennifer Donahue, Communication Coordinator, at jdonahue@WSAAP.org. Recent issues can be seen on the WCAAP website under the physician tab at: <http://wcaap.org/newsletters/>.

- WA Community Feeding Teams: The DOH Healthy Starts and Transition Unit is providing funds for two three-person groups from WA Community Feeding Teams to attend the August 2014 Fragile Infant Feeding Institute (FIFI). FIFI focuses on neurodevelopmental aspects of feeding, infant-parent relationships, and the development of systems to support best practices. Participants will return to their location and develop an action plan for their team to incorporate the knowledge and skills learned. Selection of the two groups is in process and attendees will be announced by May 1, 2014.
- Respite Vouchers Arrive – Easter Seals Washington and partners launch respite program: Short respite for unpaid family caregivers (parents/kinship caregivers/etc./spouses) not currently served by the publicly funded systems is now available. This pilot voucher program is providing respite for caregivers of children and adults who have disabilities or other special needs. For more information call 1-800-678-5708 or visit the website www.LifespanRespiteWA.org.
- A Certificate in Autism Theory and Practice is now available through the UW. For more information: info@pce.uw.edu or call 206-685-8936 or 888-469-6499. Additional information is available at the program website: www.pce.uw.edu/certificates/autism-theory-practice.html

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction – Homeless Children/Youth, Melinda Dyer
Highlights:

- The McKinney-Vento program will be working with districts to implement the new language that was passed into law this session. SSB 6074 will serve to support the federal McKinney-Vento Act by requiring additional resources and training materials for school district liaisons, additional data reporting and analysis, new legislative reports, tracking of drop-out rates, and more.
- A new resource, *Birth to 5: Watch Me Thrive!*, will provide early childhood programs with specific strategies for schools and shelters working with homeless children and families. For more information: www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ece/shelter_screening_guide.pdf

Health Care Authority, Chris Bess
Highlights:

- Part C of IDEA: The School-Based Health Care Services (SBHS) program will expand to include the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C services. SBHS currently reimburses participating school districts for health-care-related services to Medicaid children in Special Education ages 3 to 21 under IDEA Part B. Reimbursement for Part C services provided by licensed school staff under the SBHS program will allow schools to draw down additional state and federal monies. A SPA was submitted to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on June 30, 2014. Once approved by CMS participating districts will be able to bill for services provided on or after April 1, 2014.
- B to 5 children who have experienced abuse and/or neglect
 - HCA is moving forward with developing a SPA to cover mental health services for infants and toddlers in the current MTCC program. A SPA can take up to a year or more for approval and once approved the SPA is retroactive to the first month of the quarter in

- which it is submitted to CMS for review and approval. Before we can begin to finalize program design and SPA language we must meet with DEL to:
- Discuss fiscal roles and responsibilities of each agency for administering and overseeing the program including impacts
 - Crosswalk services with procedure codes to determine how providers will bill for services rendered.
 - Collaborate with DBHR regarding Mental Health Agency Licensing and Agency Affiliated Counselors to get guidance regarding what is needed for a provider to become licensed and the role of agency affiliated counselors.
- Chris Bess retires July 31. Stacey Bushaw will be taking her place on the SICC.

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Val Arnold

Highlights:

- *Birth to 5: Watch Me Thrive!* is a national initiative to encourage developmental and behavioral screening. Resources include:
 - List of research-based developmental screening tools appropriate for use across a wide range of settings
 - Guides on how to use the screens for a variety of audiences, from early learning teachers to doctors, social workers and families
 - Toolkits with resources and tip sheets
 - Guidance on finding help at the local level
 - A screening passport that allows families to track a child's screening history and results
- Summer Camp Director for Children with Special Needs can be found at: www.cshcn.org
- OSPI annually posts summaries for due process hearings and citizen complaints on its website. The summaries for 2013 are now available at: www.k12.wa.us/SpecialED/DisputeResolution/DueProcessSummaries.aspx. Each citizen complaint decision includes summary links to the complete decision maintained by the Special Education Section.
- The 2014 Combined Summer Institute will be July 24-25, 2014 at Seattle University. The theme is "Educating Students with Special Learning Needs: From Access to Statewide Assessment." Housing will be located at Seattle University in their dorms. Information is updated weekly at www.ncesd.org/csi. Registration opens May 23. For more information, please contact Jackie Messer at jackiem@ncesd.org.
- The Washington Initiative for Supported Employment (WISE) Statewide Transition Conference will take place on May 2, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, WA. For questions or information, contact Marsha Threlkeld at marsha@gowise.org or 206-343-0881. Or visit their website at www.gowise.org.
- OSPI is pleased to announce the availability of training opportunities regarding "Common Core Instruction and Special Education". The training has been jointly developed by OSPI Special Education and the Washington Education Association with input from numerous special education personnel throughout the state. For a training opportunity near you, please contact your Educational Service District (ESD) special education director for details. The Common Core Instruction and Special Education training materials are available and updated periodically. See the website: www.k12.wa.us/specialed/pubdocs/CC_Instruction_SpEd.pdf.

DSHS – Developmental Disabilities Administration, Kris Pederson

Highlights:

- Legislative activities and the Governor's budget has directed DDA to implement a new Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver and increase waiver capacity for individuals who currently are not receiving services.
- SHB 2746:
 - Directed Ageing and Disability Services to refinance the Medicaid Personal Care program through Community First Choice State Plan Option
 - Allows the state to receive additional 6% enhance match from the federal government
 - Enhanced match savings shall be reserved to potential future investments for home and community based services, including recommendations from a joint legislative executive committee
- SSB 6387:
 - Directed Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) to convert Individual and Family Services (IFS) program into a 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver program
 - Increased the IFS program capacity by 4000 client from individuals currently not receiving services on the NPS caseload
 - Utilize enhanced match to increase Basic Plus caseload by 1000 individuals by fiscal year 2017
- SHB 2616:
 - Concerning parents with intellectual or developmental disabilities involved in dependency proceedings to have access to parenting training
 - Consideration to add supported parenting services in HCBS Waiver
- HB 2363:
 - Allow dependents of military service member to retain eligibility for DD services while out of state.

IV. Committee Updates

Personnel and Training, Janet Spybrook

Highlights:

- The committee sent out a recruitment retention survey and received 57 responses. This is a good response rate of all provider agencies across the state and a fairly representative sample.
- The #1 personnel need was in infant mental health. Cultural sensitivity and knowledge of families with very young children were also pre-service training needs.
- The Committee has also discussed retention issues such as competing with school districts – a 9-month contract vs. a 12-month contract.
- Will there be a state standard?

Data Committee, Kathy Fortner

Highlights:

- The Committee received updates on the improvements to the Data Management System (DMS).
- Ongoing system improvements emphasis will be on improving reports.

- Bob Morris, ESIT DMS Manager, is providing a session at the Infant and Early Childhood Conference (IECC) on DMS Reports.
- There is now a 2nd data exchange system using an interface with the DMS.
- The Committee reviewed some State Systemic Improvement Project (SSIP) data. Additional SSIP information will be shared at future meetings for input and feedback.
- An SSIP leadership group is meeting on a regular basis to review data and a stakeholders group will meet in May to assist in putting meaning to the data. Committee members were encouraged to participate in the stakeholder meetings.
- Nominations for a Data Committee Chair are being accepted. Please contact the SICC Chair if you are willing to be considered.

Funding Committee, Karen Walker

Highlights:

- The Committee continues discussion on state and Local Lead Agency (LLA) federal Part C funding.
- ESIT will host three statewide stakeholder meetings to discuss the allocation of federal Part C funds. These funds are contracted out to local lead agencies to ensure a local coordinated system is in place across the state. Because of the challenge this task presents, statewide stakeholders are being encouraged to attend, along with the Funding Committee.
 - There is variation in the level of public funding for services that must be provided at public expense, across the state; this is also true for those services that are subject to family cost participation (by using their private insurance or Apple Health), the family is determined unable to pay co-pays and deductibles
 - Federal Part C funding for services that must be provided at public expense has been fully utilized/maximized; program growth has outpaced federal Part C funding
 - Public funding for early intervention services are administered through other state agencies; other agency requirements must be met in order to access these funds
- To prepare for reporting maintenance of effort financial data, ESIT will require LLAs to submit public early intervention revenue data starting in FFY 14
- The Committee continues to seek a new Committee Chair (must be an SICC member).

Family Leadership and Involvement Committee (FLIC), Sugely Sanchez

Highlights:

- The Committee met yesterday for our regular FLIC meeting with a Department of Early Learning (DEL) Parent Advisory Group (PAG) of more than 50. More than half of the parents in attendance had children who have/had participated in early intervention and or special education. FLIC members participated in a “gallery walk” style activity that covered several different topics that included:
 - DEL website redesign – create family friendly website
 - Ideas for increasing awareness of early learning and resources available
 - TABS – Parent input on payment system redesign
 - Strengthening Families parenting tips and resources
 - Strengthening Families Partner Harm brochure
 - Early Achievers
- Strengthening Families discussion – what do people already know about the Strengthening Families initiative? Do protective factors make sense and are factors meaningful?

- Members of FLIC will present an 'Ignite' session on Friday at Infant and Early Childhood Conference (IECC). The session will highlight the "top 10 things parents want professionals to know".
- FLIC made a presentation to Kathy Blodgett, ESIT staff, who is retiring. Kathy has been the staff support to the Committee for more than 20 years. Several FLIC members spoke of memories of working with Kathy and how much she will be missed.

V. ESIT Update

Karen Walker and ESIT staff provided updates.

Highlights:

- ESIT has received the new Executive Order for the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC). Appointments will be made soon and a workgroup will begin work on updating the Bylaws.
- Debi Donelan, MSSA, has begun her work as the new Program Consultant in ESIT. She replaces Kathy Blodgett who is retiring at the end of June.
- The Annual Performance Report (APR) was submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in February, 2014. ESIT applied for FFY 2014 in mid-April. The ESIT federal allocation will not be affected by sequestration for the FFY 14 year. A slight increase in Part C funding is anticipated for the coming year.
- OSEP has developed a new Results Driven Accountability (RDA) framework. As a result, ESIT is beginning a new strategic planning process. A new APR indicator, known as the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), APR Indicator 11, creates the framework for implementing the new indicator. ESIT has been consulting with Anne Lucas, OTR/L, TA Specialist; Megan Vinh, Ph.D., Educational Consultant, and Cornelia Taylor Bruckner, Ph.D., SRI Early Childhood Researcher.
 - The SSIP is a multi-year, achievable plan that, (1) increases the capacity of EIS programs to implement, scale up, and sustain evidence-based practices, and (2) improves outcomes for children with disabilities (and their families).
 - The purpose of the SSIP Phase 1 is to engage in a detailed analysis that will guide the selection of coherent improvement strategies to increase the State's capacity to lead meaningful change in EIS programs to improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
 - The SSIP will have stakeholder involvement throughout the process. An SSIP Leadership Team has been developed to begin work. Three Leadership Team webinars have been held in April and another is planned for May 2nd.
 - ESIT will use May LLA meetings as a facilitated SSIP stakeholder meeting to present work accomplished to date and to continue analysis of outcome data and infrastructure needs.
- The annual January-March compliance monitoring/data collection ended March 31st. DMS census data will be taken for compliance monitoring purposes by May 2, 2014. Based on data results, findings of non-compliance notification letters need to be sent to LLAs by August 2, 2014.
- Work continues on the development of WAC for the ESIT program. The WAC will govern the provision of IDEA, Part C early intervention services for eligible infants and toddlers in Washington. ESIT continues to work with DEL rule-writing staff to ensure the WACs are aligned with DEL WAC rule-writing policies and procedures. Additional information can be found at: www.del.wa.gov/laws/development.

- Data Management System (DMS) staff continues to work on rebuilding reports to generate faster. Information on updates and enhancements is provided through the listserve: <http://listserv.wa.gov/cgi-bin/wa?AO=DEL-ESIT-DMS-NEWS>
- The DEL Partnerships and Collaboration Division will be interviewing candidates for the Assistant Director position vacated by Kelli Bohanon.

VI. Emerging Issues/Other Topics

July meeting focus: Innovative Programs and Practices
Council members gave recommendations for programs to make presentations to the Council.

Meeting adjourned.

Next SICCC Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. with a working lunch (New Meeting Time)