

State Interagency Coordinating Council

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

ESD 113/Capital Event Center
6005 Tye Drive SW
Tumwater, WA 98512



Attendance:

Members

Val Arnold, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
Magan Cromar, County Human Services
René Denman, Service Provider, Island County
Melinda Dyer, OSPI/Education of Homeless Children and Youth
Wendy Galloway, Office of the Insurance Commissioner
Janet George, Department of Services for the Blind
Margaret Gunshaws, Tribal Representative
Amy Kocher, Parent
Darci Ladwig, Parent
Jena Lavik, Parent
Dr. Diane Liebe, Service Provider, Physician
Maria Nardella, CSHCN, Department of Health
Evelyn Perez (for Kevin Quigley), DSHS/Division of Developmental Disabilities
Suzanne Quigley, Service Provider
Sugely Sanchez, Parent
Rep. David Sawyer, Legislative
Janet Spybrook, Personnel Preparation
Greg Williamson, DEL, Lead Agency

Members Unable to Attend

Maryanne Barnes, Service Provider, Developmental Center
Anna Frangomeni, Parent

Others Attending

Malissa Adame, Pierce County
Angie Ahn-Lee, Snohomish County
Teresa Barnes, PAVE
Chris Bess, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Medicaid
Kris Ching, Center for Childhood Deafness & Hearing Loss
Stephanie Dunkel, Department of Health
Kathy Fortner, Kindering
Pat Fournier, Hope Sparks
Anna Gibson, Sherwood
Rachael Gray, Hope Sparks
Carol Hall, ESD 112
Heather Hebdon, PAVE
Tracy Kahlo, PAVE

Draft

Others attending, Continued

Erik Kramer, Listen and Talk
Vicky McKinney, PAVE
Susan Ray, CSHCN, Department of Health
Victor Rodriguez, Department of Health
Gloria Smith, PAVE
Kim Smith, South Sound Parent to Parent
Michelle Stiller, Wonderland
Andrew Urie, Sherwood
Tiffany Wheeler-Thompson, Parent to Parent, Island County
Sybille White, PAVE
Candy Watkins, A Step Ahead

ESIT Program Staff Who Participated

Karen Walker, Program Administrator
Kathy Grant-Davis, Program Consultant
Sheila Ammons, Program Consultant
Debi Donelan, Program Consultant
Linda Jennings, Program Specialist
Debbie Jackson, Program Specialist

BUSINESS MEETING

I. Introductions/Announcements

As Acting Chair, Maria Nardella called the meeting to order.

Ms. Nardella led introductions of the new Council members and audience present. New members spoke briefly about the area they represent. Greg Williamson is the new Assistant Director for the Partnerships and Collaboration Division of DEL and is the lead agency representative to the Council. Greg gave the Council information about his background.

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

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

Executive Order

The Council discussed the Executive Order and noted that some updating or refining of the language would be appropriate. ESIT staff will coordinate with DEL's legislative liaison to determine steps required.

SICC Bylaws

Council members read through the proposed bylaws and discussed. It was determined that the SICC agenda will be posted to the website prior to the meeting and this step would be included in the bylaws.

Motion: A motion was made to ratify the Bylaws with the provision that they will be updated to include the website posting requirement, prior to the October meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

II. Innovative EI Programs

Five programs from Snohomish County provided presentations to the Council on happenings in their area.

Highlights:

- Sherwood – Anna Gibson/Andrew Urie
 - ExCEL Team consists of Special educators, OT, SLP, FRC and Intake Coordinator
 - Have provided services in natural environments for over 25 years
 - Collaborate with TechSTEP to provide:
 - Assistive Technology assessments
 - Augmentative Communication Groups
 - Individual Training for parents, caregivers and other professionals
 - Equipment programming, fabrication and fitting, short term loans
 - Adapted book lending library and training
- Wonderland – Michelle Stiller
 - 100% natural environments
 - Innovative, evidence-based
 - Colorado tiered model of intervention
 - Prevention focused
 - Geographic teams; north, south and floater
 - Primary Service Provider Model
- Kinderling – Kim Gerdes
 - Program uses the Developmental Systems Approach
 - Family-centered, individualized and comprehensive
 - Evidence-based, culturally sensitive, inclusive
 - Infant Mental Health Team
 - Cherish Program
 - Promoting First Relationships
- Providence Children’s Center – Jenna Buzzard
 - Neurodevelopmental Center – one of 14 in Washington
 - Autism Diagnostic Clinic
 - Parent Coaching, natural environments
 - Hanen Groups
 - Camp Providence
- Child Strive – Terry Clark/Mary Cline-Stively
 - Early Intervention Services
 - Primary Service Provider Model
 - Outreach
 - Parents as Teachers
 - Nurse-Family Partnership
 - Transdisciplinary Teaming
 - Capacity Building Integration

III. Public Comment

No comments or questions

IV. Agency Reports

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

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

- The McKinney-Vento law ensures that children experiencing homelessness receive the educational services they need, including early intervention and special education.
- Washington’s public schools identified 26,049 children and youth experiencing homelessness last year; 956 were ages three to five.
- The program is working on strategies to overcome barriers. These strategies include:
 - Increase coordination between McKinney-Vento liaisons, ESIT and ECSE programs
 - Improve outreach to families experiencing homelessness
 - Implement strategies to address mobility
 - Help parents participate

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Val Arnold
Highlights:

- Interagency Agreement for Early Childhood Transition – This agreement states that the electronic notification of “students potentially eligible” for Part B services serves as the initial referral for special education eligibility. Based on Part B regulations, the district must respond to all referrals, regardless of the age of the student, and make an evaluation determination within twenty-five school days of the receipt of the referral. Given Part C referrals are for toddlers, and that the electronic notification comes as early as *nine months* prior to the child’s third birthday, the practicality of meeting the timeline and ensuring a meaningful decision which reflects the individual needs of the toddler and their family is very challenging. A recommendation for Part C consideration would be for the electronic notification to be sent as early as *six months* but no later than three months prior to the toddler’s third birthday.
- 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.

Department of Social and Health Services, Developmental Disabilities Admin., Evelyn Perez
Highlights:

- www1.dshs.wa.gov/DDD/index.shtml
- WACs - 71A RCW
- Website updated for ease of use by families

Department of Services for the Blind, Janet George

Highlights:

- DSB has hired DeEtte Snyder, M.Ed. as the State Coordinator of Early Support for Blind/Visually Impaired Infants and Toddlers. She will begin in August.
- DSB continues to provide consultations to B-3 families with vision impaired children on both sides of the state.

Representative David Sawyer

Representative Sawyer stated a concern for the paperwork families are required to complete for services, as stated by the morning presentations.

Motion: A motion was made for ESIT staff to develop a brief/concept paper of the regulatory requirements at local/state/federal levels that clarifies the information required, why, and by whom. Motion passed.

Office of the Insurance Commissioner, Wendy Galloway

Highlights:

- The insurance exchange is having technical difficulties
- OIC is reviewing the mental health parity rules. A public comment timeframe will be developed.

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

Highlights:

- New Child Health consultants in Healthy Starts & Transitions
 - Stephanie Dunkel will manage portions of the WithinReach contract, the Tribal Maternal Infant Health contract with the American Indian Health Commission, and others.
 - Victor Rodriguez will focus primarily on issues affecting the middle childhood populations. He will also promote comprehensive pediatric care across medical health practices and other health related systems serving children.
- The Office of Financial Management (OFM) has asked state agencies to show how they would reduce state general fund (GF-S) by 15%. GF-S dollars make up about 11% of the DOH budget. Affected would be NDCs, maxillofacial, and newborn hearing screening.
- Maternal and Child Health Bureau is revising the grant application and reporting process and is seeking comments on the proposed changes from stakeholders across the country. The published Notice can be viewed at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-06-27/pdf/2014-15051.pdf> . Comments should be submitted by August 27, 2014 to paperwork@hrsa.gov.
- A new grant proposal was submitted in June to Great LINCS (Links to Integrate and Coordinate Care) for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs for a three-year system of services grant. If funded, the grant would enhance WithinReach.
- Autism Updates
 - A summer intern is currently updating portions of the Autism Guidebook. If you have content changes to suggest please contact Carol Miller at carol.miller@doh.wa.gov.
 - The state legislature has asked DOH to consider a proposal to license behavior analysts. Please see the *Notice of Written Comment Period and Public Hearing* for details on how you can submit comments on this proposal. The proposal and application documents are posted on the Sunrise web page. A public hearing is scheduled for August 12 at DOH in Tumwater for oral testimonies.

- The Washington Autism Advisory Council (WAAC) is planning a fall meeting in 2014.
 - The Washington Autism Alliance and Advocacy (WAAA) continues to assist individuals with autism and their families during the transition to federal health reform. They have developed a list of Apple Health Centers of Excellence where children can be assessed and diagnosed. The document is posted on their website:
<http://www.washingtonautismadvocacy.org/updates/providerresource-directory/>
 - The UW Medical Home Project and LEND program will be planning an autism conference in the fall of 2015. If anyone has suggestions for content, speakers or wants to participate in planning efforts, contact Kate Orville at orville@uw.edu.
 - The Georgetown National Center for Cultural Competence has developed Data Vignettes to put faces and names to the data from the National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs. The stories are composites from many families and do not represent any specific family or child. Each vignette contains links to additional resources related to concepts discussed and a set of questions for discussion.
http://nccc.georgetown.edu/data_vignettes/index.html.
 - Stories from families benefiting from services from many of the CSHCN programs are being collected with annual reports this year. These will be useful in defending the importance of state funding. Please submit to Susan.Ray@doh.wa.gov.
 - The 2015 Apple Health (Medicaid) managed care contract is now in draft. This contract serves families, children, CHIP eligible, the blind and disabled, and the expansion population – individuals newly eligible for Apple Health services through the Affordable Care Act. A separate contract is under development for children in foster care. Key contract changes include:
 - Enhanced provider directory requirements
 - Addition of mental health providers as priority providers for access requirements; additional requirements to offer assistance for enrollees seeking mental health services
 - Additional performance improvement projects
 - Requirement to conduct *Consumer Assessment of Health Plans (CAHPS)* Child and Child with chronic condition surveys
 - Additional carve-in services to the benefit package, including: applied behavioral analysis for children with an autism diagnosis; neurodevelopmental centers; and, hearing aids and supplies for children
- This is DRAFT – additional changes may be offered by both stakeholders and the agency during the next few months. For a copy of the full notice and materials contact: contracts@hca.wa.gov.
- HCA covers non-emergency medical transportation for eligible clients to or from covered services through contracted brokers. Eligible clients include: Apple Health (Medicaid and CHIP), and recipients of state-funded programs which include a transportation benefit. Link to the website: <http://www.hca.wa.gov/medicaid/transportation/pages/index.aspx>. For comments and questions contact HCA Transportation Services at hcanemtrans@hca.wa.gov.
 - The annual conference for the Washington State Fathers Network is scheduled for October 11th at Microsoft in Redmond. More information is available at: www.fathersnetwork.org.
 - Lifespan Respite Washington has some, but limited, access to respite services. Eligibility requirements are outlined on the website: www.lifespanrespitewa.org/lifespan-respite-washington-voucher-system/#welcome
 - This quarter's Child Health Notes (CHNs) are on Early Brain and Child Development. Child Health Notes are available at: http://www.medicalhome.org/leadership/chn_topics.cfm#screening.

- The Medical Home brochures for families is now available in Spanish and is available online and from the Medical Home Partnerships Project. A preliminary Spanish landing page on the Medical Home website has been developed: www.medicalhome.org.

V. Committee Updates

Family Leadership and Involvement Committee (FLIC), Sugely Sanchez

Highlights:

- The committee has two new members, Fabiola Tercero and Kylee Allen.
- Karen Walker attended the meeting yesterday and presented information to the committee on family involvement opportunities and challenges in the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP).
- The October SICC meeting focus is Conversations with Families. The committee discussed various areas of the state that Conversations have been held in and determined that Whidbey Island would be the committee's recommendation to the Council.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the FLIC recommendation and have the October 22, 2014 SICC meeting on Whidbey Island. The motion was seconded and passed.

Data Committee, Needs Chair

Highlights:

- No meeting held.
- The committee continues to seek a new committee Chair (must be an SICC member). 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 update was deferred to the ESIT update
- The committee continues to seek a new committee Chair (must be an SICC member). Nominations for a Funding Committee Chair are being accepted. Please contact the SICC Chair if you are willing to be considered.

Personnel and Training, Janet Spybrook

Highlights:

- The committee met by conference call in June.
- The committee continued discussion of the recruitment retention survey
 - Infant mental health
 - Cultural/linguistic sensitivity
 - Knowledge of families with very young children
 - Retention Issues
 - Training needs

VI. ESIT Update

Karen Walker and ESIT staff provided updates.

Highlights:

- DEL has hired Greg Williamson as Assistance Director for the Partnerships and Collaboration Division. He joins us today.
- Debi Donelan and Kathy Blodgett conducted site visits with ESIT contractors during May and June to transition Program Consultant duties from Kathy to Debi.
- The federal monitoring focus has shifted to a new accountability framework, the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). ESIT is receiving national technical assistance from the Western Regional Resource Center (WRRC) as Washington's phased-in SSIP is developed.
 - SSIP requires states to identify a measurable result that will improve child outcomes
 - Held two stakeholder meetings in May to assist with focus
 - From May meetings, improving children's social emotional skills was recommended as a potential focus area
 - Stakeholders will continue to provide input in refining and narrowing this area of interest
- January-March 2014 compliance monitoring data from each LLA was taken the first part of May 2014. Any findings of noncompliance will be issued to LLA's by the end of July 2014. Then an annual LLA determination will be made based on compliance data obtained from the monitoring period. LLA's must correct any noncompliance as soon as possible, but no later than one year from identification.
- The System of Payments and Fees (SOPAF) policy became effective statewide on July 1, 2013 for all new families entering early intervention. Effective January 1, 2014 the SOPAF policy was implemented for families already in early intervention.
 - ESIT has scheduled a webinar on August 14 to discuss with the field how the first year of implementation went and give people an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.
 - SOPAF frequently asked questions (FAQ) documents are posted on the website at: <http://www.del.wa.gov/publications/esit/default.aspx>.
- 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.
 - Timeline:
 - Draft being reviewed internally
 - To Attorney General's office for review
 - Webinar on final draft
 - File
 - Public comment/public hearing
- 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>
- ESIT has scheduled a series of meetings, through the end of 2014, to begin exploring the revision of the current ESIT funding formula. The formula has never been fully implemented due to lack of funds.
 - Meeting dates: July 10, September 18, and November 5
 - Meetings are facilitated and held in a central location to ensure broad representation from all perspectives and stakeholders
 - The stakeholder group will assist ESIT in identifying the additional state funding that will be needed to fully implement a new formula
 - The stakeholder group will also assist in developing an implementation plan and timeline

- Funding Formula
 - Supplement, rather than supplant, already existing state and local public funding for the provision of or payment for services
 - Funds are considered Payor of Last Resort
 - Federal Part C funds have been used to provide the services that must be provided at public expense for which no fees can be charged. These include:
 - Implementing child find requirements
 - Evaluation and assessment to determine IDEA, Part C eligibility
 - Service coordination (Family Resources Coordination)
 - Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) development and review
 - Implementing procedural safeguards (parents' rights under IDEA, Part C)
 - Federal Funds distributed to 27 Local Lead Agency (LLA)
 - ESIT contracts with LLA's to ensure a local early intervention system, that meets Part C requirements is accessible to all families in each geographic region of the state
 - Between 2006 and 2012 the cumulative count of Part C eligible infants and toddlers has grown by 35%
 - Federal Part C allocation, 2006-2012, has only grown by 12%
 - For FFY 2015, without new state funding or without additional federal funding, ESIT will not be able to maintain current LLA Part C contract allocations.
 - Additionally, without these funds, implementing a new funding formula will be very challenging.

VII. Public Comment

No comments or questions

VIII. Emerging Issues/Other Topics

October meeting focus: Conversations with Families

No further recommendations for presentations to the Council in October.

Meeting adjourned.

Next SICCC Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, October 22, 2014

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. with a working lunch