

State Interagency Coordinating Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 20, 2016

Tacoma Mall Plaza Building
2nd Floor Conference Room
2702 S 42nd St.
Tacoma, WA 98409



Attendance:

Members

Val Arnold, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
Maryanne Barnes, Service Provider
Magan Cromar, County Human Services
René Denman, Service Provider
Lisa Greenwald, Service Provider
Margaret Gunshows, Tribal Representative
Jena Lavik, Parent
Dr. Diane Liebe, Service Provider
Amy McAlindon, Parent
Maria Nardella, CSHCN, Department of Health
Evelyn Perez, State Agency, Dept. of Social and Health Services
Rep. David Sawyer, Legislative
Greg Williamson, State Lead Agency, Department of Early Learning

Members Unable to Attend

Kylee Allen, Headstart
Paul DuBois, State Agency, Insurance Commissioner
Anna Frangomeni, Parent
Darci Ladwig, Parent
Suzanne Quigley, Service Provider
Sanchez Sugely, Parent
Major Daniel Tolson, Military

Others Attending

Melissa Adame, Pierce County
Angie Ahn-Lee, Snohomish County
Shannon Blood, HCA
Sandy Carlson, CTC
Marti Cates, A Step Ahead
Michelle Duffy, Pierce County Community Connections
Kathy Fortner, Kindering
Ariane Gauvreau, College of Education
Rachel Gray, Hope Sparks Early Intervention
Christine Griffin, Parent

Others Attending – Continued

Rashi Gupta, House Democratic Caucus
Carol Hall, ESP 112
Lori Holbrook, Franklin Pierce Early Learning Center
Michele Jorgensen, B-3 Developmental Center
Carol Miller, Learning Support Services
Lou Olson, HopeSparks
Ashley Palar, Dept. of Early Learning
Anne Stone, Dept. of Social and Health Services
Candy Watkins, A Step Ahead
Michel Stewart, Boyer Children’s Clinic
Tiffany Wheeler Thompson, P2P
Connie Zapp, Holly Ridge

ESIT Program Staff Who Participated

Jahla Brown, Administrative Assistant
Debi Donelan, Program Consultant
Kathy Grant-Davis, Program Consultant
Adrienne O’Brien, Program Consultant
Alma Quinden, Family Engagement Specialist
Laurie Thomas, Program Administrator

BUSINESS MEETING

I. Introductions & Approvals

Maryanne Barnes, Chair, called the meeting to order.

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

Motion: A motion was made to approve the April 26, 2016 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the July 20, 2016 agenda with one additional agenda item to change the next upcoming SICC meeting date. The motion was seconded and passed.

II. Innovative Early Intervention Programs

HopeSparks

Highlights:

Debi began the presentation by introducing Rachael Gray, Program Director, and Lou Olson, LICSW, with HopeSparks Children’s Developmental Services; they prepared an informative Power Point presentation on the topic of Reflective Supervision, and highlighted the following topics:

- Reflective Supervision: Early Intervention Providers for diverse backgrounds face many challenges
- What is Reflective Supervision? Goals and key components
- Additional elements of Reflective Supervision
- Reflective Supervision at HopeSparks
- Real life experiences

A Step Ahead

Highlights:

Candy Watkins and Marti Cates, with A Step Ahead, shared a Power Point presentation about Story Alive: A community Collaboration for Early Literacy. This program is a multi-sensory story experience for children to be actively engaged with reading and understanding the story elements. Part of literacy, love for books, and attachment to stories is to develop interactive and reflective engagement connected to the stories. The intent is for parents to engage, explore and discuss with their child to be involved within the story. Story Alive pulls each element out of the story and recreates real-life props and costumes for children to interact with, and make the story literally come to life. Story Alive provides opportunities for touch, movement, light, colors, and live story-time singing productions. The program is a collaborative effort between A Step Ahead, The Children's Museum of Tacoma, and Tacoma School staff and students. Story Alive events are held at the Children's Museum of Tacoma and are open to the public to enjoy. The next event is in October, date yet to be announced, and the events are scheduled on Tuesdays.

Birth to Three Developmental Center

Highlights:

Michele Jorgensen presented on *The Hanen Program*. The goal of the program is to promote language, social and early literacy skills. The program incorporates 3 core principles: the parents and caregivers are the primary teachers in their child's lives, it is very important to start early, and the power in building language in everyday routine. The program mostly serves children from 1 – 5 years of age, from non-verbal to children with speech delays, autism spectrum disorders, and all stages of speech development. The intent is for parents to learn what is motivating their child to speak, how to practice, promote and develop those early verbal and social skills.

Birth to Three Developmental Center offers *It Takes Two to Talk – The Hanen Program* as a free, 8-session class course run by speech therapists from B-3 Developmental Center who has been specially trained to teach the course. Grants from Boeing and United Way initially helped with the cost to keep the program free and accessible for those who need it. Through group activities and discussions, parents learn to create and take advantage of everyday opportunities to help their child communicate and use language. The parents are sent home with materials to teach and learn with strategies like with OWL – Observe, Wait, Listen strategy; which promotes letting the child lead. The classes are offered on Thursdays, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, at Birth to Three Developmental Center. Childcare is available for parents attending the classes; children will have the opportunity to attend a language enriched playgroup run by one of the speech therapists while parents participate in the classes. By the end of the 8-week course many children are gaining approximately 70-new words and outcomes have been proven successful. From the results of the after-course feedback, families reflected and saw that their child's vocabulary increased significantly and are seeing respective changes and the families felt more confident that they could use the strategies taught in class to help their children gain communication skills.

III. Committee Reports: Family Leadership and Involvement

Highlights:

Jena Lavik updated the group on the Family Leadership Involvement Committee (FLIC) meeting, Tuesday July 19. At the FLIC meeting Laurie Thomas and Debi Donelan spoke on the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and there was time for feedback. There was discussion around Department of Health (DOH); what it is and why it's important, how to connect, expand outreach, and bring more families into FLIC, as well as discussion around the October SICC meeting topic of engaging families, and the future direction of the Family Leadership Involvement Committee.

IV. Role of SICC

Highlights:

Family Engagement Specialist Role – The purpose of the Family Engagement Specialist’s role is to lead staff for the State Interagency Coordinating Council; with a focus on supporting family leadership, providing training, and other support.

Role on state ICC – Bylaws are a good resource; State agencies attend as representatives based on an interagency agreement. It is an advisory role to help influence and shape policy decisions made by DEL. Attending training and going to meetings help keep DEL stakeholders informed on all levels; providers have the chance to attend to and learn about the field, and the meetings provide an avenue for all stakeholders to represent their Washington counties. It is a great opportunity for others to connect, learn and bring information back to use in their work. We all have a responsibility to represent the state as a whole. Committees are very valuable to pull in expertise and do great work outside of the regular meetings; Committees are where the real SICC work happens.

Greg Williamson furthered the discussion by asking the group, “Do people feel like this is their group?” In the past it has felt more like everyone’s role was more valued. There may be a lot happening outside the meetings that isn’t shared back; it’s important to think about a more structured way to get reports and input, other than state agency reports (providers, families, etc.) DEL would really like to revive the committees, to best utilize the expertise of the members. There is a need to make more of an effort to intentionally seek out the parents’ perspective on the discussions. Family Leadership Involvement Committee was able to review the SICC agenda the day before at the FLIC meeting to be able to get full parent input. It’s key that we are aware of the diversity of the group; in the future we would benefit by adding a provider and SSIP committee. How can we form a stronger connection between SICC and ELAC? It is best to have a diverse group of people involved in legislative requests, to give the legislators a better understanding, and to give the request more teeth. It would be helpful to have a short handout for guests that outline how the meeting works for the audience, and to think about better ways to strategize the collaboration and coordination of different Washington State workgroups.

V. Department of Early Learning (DEL), Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) Update

Highlights:

Debi Donelan updated the group on State Systemic Improvement Plan recent efforts and progress.

Parent Engagement Specialist – Alma Quinden started as the new *Parent Engagement Specialist* on July 11, 2016 for Early Support for Infant and Toddlers (ESIT.) Alma has a strong background in childhood mental health, serving children and families with special needs as a therapist for 10 years, which included working in conjunction with school district social worker to ensure children with special needs received timely screenings and providing input on the development of appropriate education plans. Alma’s commitment to serving children and families spans 20 years of direct service in the community, which makes her a great asset to our team.

Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Updates – This year’s annual determination from OSEP validates that Washington Part C “Meets Requirements.” The framework includes results data in addition to compliance data.

OSEP reviewed Phase II of our State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). Their overall feedback was that it was well-organized, highly readable and coherent.

Legislative Update – Last session, the Legislature passed [Bill 5879](#), which requires the Department of Early Learning (DEL) to develop recommendations for the "redesign" of the Early Support for Infant and Toddlers (ESIT) program. In the past several months, DEL has been actively gathering information from stakeholders and consulting with national technical assistance centers to approach our requirements in the most effective and thoughtful manner possible.

Section 6 of this legislation requires the department to develop and submit a plan to the Legislature on comprehensive and coordinated early intervention services for all children eligible for ESIT (Part C of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.) The proposed plan is to include, but is not limited to:

1. A full accounting of all the expenditures related to ESIT from both DEL and school districts, as collected by OSPI;
2. The identification and proposal for coordination of all available public financial resources within the state from federal, state, and local sources;
3. A design for an integrated early learning intervention system for all eligible infants and toddlers who have been diagnosed with a disability or developmental delays and their families;
4. The development of procedures that ensure services are provided to all eligible infants and toddlers and their families in a consistent and timely manner; and
5. A proposal for the integration of early support for infants and toddlers services with other critical services available for children birth to age three and their families.

To date, we have surveyed our Local Lead Agency (LLA) staff and school district contacts, gathered feedback at LLA meetings and at our State Interagency Coordinating Council meeting, researched other state's systems and rules, facilitated a question and answer session at the Infant and Early Childhood Conference, and met with several states to learn from their systemic successes and challenges. Next steps will include drafting rules, continuing to gather stakeholder feedback (including meetings with an OSPI stakeholder group), and to create a draft proposal to present to stakeholders. Dates for upcoming feedback opportunities are listed below:

- Starting Strong Conference, Tacoma Convention Center, August 3, 10:30 am (open)
- Special Education Conference, Hotel Murano, Tacoma, August 4, 10:00 am (open)
- Special Stakeholder Meeting, August 23, 9:00-3:00 (by invitation)

Data Management System (DMS) – DMS information on system updates and enhancements is provided through GovDelivery: <http://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WADEL/subscriber/new>. Users are encouraged to sign up to receive the most up-to-date news regarding the DMS.

Family Resources Coordinator (FRC) Training – The next FRC training/Professional Learning Community (PLC) is scheduled for October 18, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. interested individuals may participate in trainings as space allows. For more information, contact Sue Blount at Sue.blount@esd112.org.

August 23 Stakeholders Meeting – Laurie Thomas spoke on August 23's stakeholders meeting; we want opportunities for school districts, providers, Local Lead Agencies, SICC members, and all Department of Early Learning (DEL) stakeholders to provide feedback on the State Systemic Improvement Plan. The framework will be laid out today at the SICC meeting what will be discussed at the Aug. 23 meeting to get a sense of what is to come so there are no surprises.

There seems to be concern from the group regarding equal representation of eastern – west Washington agencies and DEL stakeholders at the August 23 stakeholders meeting. Since it is not a decision-making meeting, the meeting will not be open for everyone to attend. There is a sense of 'anxiety' about the group not all being represented and all voices will not be heard. A final draft will be presented at the October SICC meeting.

VI. Public Comment

Nothing to be added at this time.

VII. Agency Updates

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

OSPI, Val Arnold

Highlights:

Education of Homeless Children and Youth – The competitive McKinney-Vento grant application is currently under review and we will have a new group of grantees determined by July 1 (Grant 2016-17.) McKinney-Vento has been reauthorized, along with ESSA. New requirements include:

- State plans must include procedures that ensure homeless children have access to public preschool programs, as provided to other children.
- Liaisons must ensure homeless families and children can access early intervention services under IDEA Part C, if eligible.
- The definition of "school of origin" now includes preschools.

Early Childhood Special Education – Initial IEPs – Initial IEPs must be completed within 30 calendar days of the date that initial eligibility is established even though school may not be in session. This may be a challenge during the summer, so be sure to plan ahead.

Early Childhood Transitions – Timelines related to initial evaluation and IEP development by the third birthday for students transitioning from early intervention (IDEA Part C) into special education preschool services (IDEA Part B) are still in play over the summer even though school may not be in session. Resources are available at: <http://www.k12.wa.us/specialed/EarlyChildhood/PreschoolTransition.aspx>.

Citizen Complaint Protocols – Timelines for responding to citizen complaints and, if applicable, citizen

complaint decisions continue through the summer, as well. Does the district have an individual designated to respond to any dispute resolution responsibilities during the course of the summer?

Department of Health (DOH), Maria Nardella

Highlights:

Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant – DOH MCH staff reviewed initial comments July 7th for the July 15th grant application submission. Very few responses were received from families with children with special health care needs. The survey will close August 30th in preparation for the September 15th final grant submission. If you have any questions about the survey or MCH Block Grant, please contact Rabeeha Ghaffar at Rabeeha.Ghaffar@doh.wa.gov or call at 360-236-3634.

Upcoming New Grants –

Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems – We found out last week that our proposal was not accepted. We will have to determine how the staffing and Help Me Grow/Universal Developmental Screening efforts can continue without the ECCS grant funds.

Autism Spectrum Disorders & other Developmental Disabilities = "AS3D" – if awarded we would start September 1, 2016.

Great LINGS (Links to Integrate and Coordinate Care) for CYSHCN Grant – DOH recently completed work with ESIT to roll out a revised practice guide around medical homes for Family Resource Coordinators. Great LINGS also continues to work with Within Reach to expand its capacity to be a resource for children and youth with special health care needs, with a greater focus on marketing in year 3. For more information, please contact Allison Chee at 360-236-3526 or call at allison.chee@doh.wa.gov.

University of Washington Medical Home Partnership Project Child Health Note – A Child Health Note on postpartum depression was posted on: <http://medicalhome.org/stateinitiatives/child-health-notes/>. They are in the process of updating the Child Health Notes on Red Flags in Speech and Language Development and Speech Disfluency and Stuttering in Early Childhood. Contact Kate Orville at orville@uw.edu or call 206-685-1279, or contact Amy Carlsen at carlsa@uw.edu.

Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Evelyn Perez

Highlights:

Individual Family Service Waiver – IFS is about to amend their waivers; take the opportunity to apply! Age 3 and above can apply, and there is no particular eligibility. There are four levels of waivers; IFS will be awarding small grants to families to get equipment or services their child needs. Families are also eligible for personal care programs like Medicaid. This is a first come, first serve basis and there are 4,000 spots will be available. For more information, visit the IFS Waiver information page on the DSHS website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/dda/consumers-and-families/individual-and-family-services-waiver>.

Community Summit – It was a great Summit! It was a very good conference with a lot of people from all departments of the early intervention fields; partners and representatives from counties all over Washington were in attendance. It was an opportunity for statewide service providers and partners in early intervention to connect and learn.

On the topic of connecting, Magan Cromar mentioned that there is a 40-60% chance that a child has developmental delays. A referral system and better tools need to be in place to serve these children in need; this needs to be a statewide discussion.

Behavioral Health Organization – State law created Behavioral Health Organizations (BHOs) to purchase and administer public mental health and substance use disorder services under managed care. BHOs are single, local entities that assume responsibility and financial risk for providing substance use disorder treatment, and the mental health services previously overseen by the counties and Regional Support Networks (RSNs). These include inpatient and outpatient treatment, involuntary treatment and crisis services, jail proviso services, and services funded by the federal block grants.

The state Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) will begin the contracting process in 2015 for services starting April 2016. BHOs will be located within newly formed Regional Service Areas (RSAs). There will be one BHO per RSA.

For more information please visit:

- The DSHS BHO Development web page: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/bha/division-behavioral-health-and-recovery/developing-behavioral-health-organizations>
- The BHO Questions Mailbox: BHOtransition@dshs.wa.gov
- The HCA's Integrated Behavioral and Physical Health Purchasing web page: http://www.hca.wa.gov/hw/Pages/integrated_purchasing.aspx
- The HCA's Early Adopter Questions Mailbox: EarlyAdopterQuestion@hca.wa.gov

Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC), Paul DuBois
Highlights:

Review of 2017 health plans – The OIC is currently reviewing individual health plans for the 2017 plan year – this review includes the benefits, rates, and provider networks for health plans to be sold both inside and outside our state's Exchange, the Washington Healthplanfinder.

13 health insurers have filed 154 individual health plans for 2017 both inside and outside of the Exchange. The average requested rate change based on enrollment is 13.5 percent.

Nine of the 13 insurers intend to sell individual plans inside the Exchange and four will only sell plans outside of the Exchange.

Individual health plans sold in the Exchange need to be certified by the Health Benefit Exchange Board. All outside Exchange plans must be approved by the OIC by November 1, 2016 – the beginning of the 2017 open enrollment period. Once plans are approved, all rates take effect on January 1, 2017.

These filings are viewable to the public at <http://www.insurance.wa.gov/health-rates/Search.aspx>.

VIII. System Design Feedback

Ross Hunter, Laurie Thomas, and Greg Williamson presented on:

- SB 5879
- DEL Priorities for System Design
- WAC
- Overview of early intervention requirements
- Differences/Similarities between Part B and Pat C of IDEA

Group discussions – The large group broken into four smaller groups to discuss the “the four R’s”

- *Resources*, led by Laurie Thomas
- *Robust Data*, led by Kathy Grant-Davis
- *Regionalization*, led by Adrienne O’Brien
- *Rules*, led by Alma Quinden

IX. Public Comment

Nothing to be added at this time.

X. Wrap up

The group discussed and approved a change of date of the next SICC meeting from October 26th to October 19th.

Meeting adjourned.

Next SICC Meeting Dates:

October 19 –

Wenatchee School District Board Room
235 Sunset Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Conversations with Families