

State Interagency Coordinating Council

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Governor Hotel
Legislature Room
621 Capitol Way S
Olympia, WA 98501

Members Present

Arnold, Valerie, *OSPI*
Barnes, Maryanne, *CHAIR, Provider*
Bushaw, Stacey, *HCA*
Cromar, Magan, *DDD*
Denman, René, *Provider/LLA*
DuBois, Paul, *OIC*
Greenwald, Lisa, *Provider*
Gunshows, Margaret, *Tribal/BIA*
Lavik, Jena, *Parent*
Liebe, Dr. Diane, *Provider*
McAlindon, Amy, *Parent*
Nardella, Maria, *DOH/CSHCM*
Perez, Evelyn, *DSHS*
Quigley, Suzanne, *Provider*
Sanchez, Sugely, *Parent*
Tolson MD, Major Daniel, *Military*
Williamson, Greg, *DEL*

Members & Staff Absent

Frangomeni, Anna, *Parent*
George, Janet, *DSB*
Ladwig, Darci, *Parent*
Sawyer, Rep. David, *Legislator 29th District*
Spybrook, Janet, *Personnel Prep*
O'Brien, Adrienne, *Program Consultant*

DEL/ESIT Staff Present

Brown, Jahla, *Administrative Assistant*
Donelan, Debi, *Assistant Administrator of Training and Technical Assistance*
Franck, Susan, *ESIT Data Manager*
Grant-Davis, Kathy, *Assistant Administrator of Policy, Contracts, and Compliance*
Palar, Ashley, *SLC Program Specialist*
Rose, Sue, *Family Engagement Coordinator*
Thomas, Laurie, *Administrator*

Community Attendants

Adame, Malissa
Ahn-Lee, Angie
Brown, Nichelle
Blood, Shannon
Carlson, Sandy
Christie, Kerianne, *CDHL*
Ching, Kris
Gray, Rachel
Greenwald, Lisa
Hall, Carol
Middleton, Linda
Muirhead, Shannon
Snyder, DeEtte
Stewart, Mike
Stuart, Erin, *Parent*
Watkins, Candy
Welsh, Jim
Wheeler-Thompson, Tiffany, *Parent*
Willson, Brayde

I. Introductions & Approvals

Maryanne Barnes, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:11 AM. The council reviewed the October 19, 2016 meeting minutes and they were approved by consensus. The council gave introductions then reviewed the February 15th agenda, which was approved by consensus.

II. Briefing/Good of the Order: DEL-ESIT System Design Proposed Plan

Laurie Thomas presented a power point detailing DEL/ESIT's draft plan for the system redesign, as well as DEL's proposed roles for: DEL, LLAs, Provider Agencies, Regional Lead Provider Agencies, and Family Resources Coordinators. Laurie explained the definition of a provider agency.

Suzanne Quigley asked Laurie to comment, in regards to serving the deaf and hard of hearing community. Laurie responded that they will be an exception.

The ESIT team has been scheduling meetings and webinars to cover all bases regarding how we can ensure all families in need of services have access in their own region. Decisions will be made at the regional level.

Maryanne Barnes asked, 'What is the plan for state and local ICCs?' Laurie responded that there is currently interface between regions and state ICCs, and will be more connection between ELAC and state ICC. Children in our system are included in the larger early childhood system.

Lisa Greenwald asked, 'What is the connection between the ELAC and State ICC?' In response, DEL ESIT is looking at the potential that the ELAC and the state ICC schedule find opportunities to overlap meetings to connect.

Maryanne Barnes followed up, 'Will ICC form around regions?' Laurie answered that that is a regional decision.

Rene Denman asked if it would be out of contract to have two ICC meetings per year; Laurie responded, DEL would love to see the local interact with regional ICCs.

Maria Nardella then asked when the proposed System Design is set to begin. The response being, that the plan was to phase in system changes based on funding. Funding will be shifting in context of Blue Ribbon Commission. July 1, 2018 is when changes will be made.

Lisa Greenwald mentioned, they are used to having many LLAs and there appears to be only three LLAs. Laurie responded we are going from 25 to 4; the state office will contract directly with those offices so those providers can have more access, with program consultants. The plan is not to phase out LLAs completely.

Diane Liebe brought up one concern that has been raised: 'Is this going to change interest in becoming a provider agency? Do you anticipate that this increase of people served will decrease in quality?' In reply, provider agencies will have to go through an approval process, which will be developed to ensure quality.

Magan Cromar asked, 'How can we nurture new agencies with less LLAs and maintain accountability in counties?' Laurie replied, ESIT has been working with the regions to incorporate needs and concerns into the plan. We will be working with specific regions to see what the needs are; for example, local areas that are smaller will get more support from the regional. They will still be the provider but there will be more support from regional Program Consultants. Under the new plan, you cannot be a provider and LLA at the same time. ESIT's PCs will provide monitoring and training. ESDs may want to be regional lead providers; the idea came out of ESDs that are currently providers, which takes them out of oversight, but provides a single point of entry.

Lisa Greenwald asked, 'Is this format cost effective?' Laurie responded, yes; we need to determine how many children are served in a year. Having 25 LLAs with no criteria around capacity is not an effective system. Overall the new plan saves money.

Suzanne Quigley asked, 'How will the state be able to make these changes?' In reply, ESIT plans to cover this topic and it is on the agenda to be discussed.

Maryanne Barnes then asked, 'Are you updating the system design plan based on the latest info?' Laurie answered, yes; the plan has been updated February 10, 2017.

Kathy Grant Davis – Cost Study

*Note: [The report of the Program Committee was received and placed on file see Appendix A: Briefing/Good of the Order: DEL-ESIT System Design Proposed Plan]: **WAC FAQs***

Kathy presented the next section of the power point and went over Berk Cost Study Update highlights. Some had difficulties completing the survey since they collected data in various ways. In the future DEL

plans to be more uniform about the data we collect and how we collect it so the study results can be more accurate across the board. The cost study has been posted on ESIT's main page.

Lisa Greenwald pointed out, 'There are some inaccurate statements in the study that need to be removed. We are aware of the inaccuracies; how are those cases being handled?' Kathy replied that ECDAW would like to write a statement regarding the inaccuracies to attach to the study. Kathy Fortner is the contact for ECDAW and can assist. The difficulty of gathering and complexity of the system revealed the need for system redesign.

Maryanne Barnes noticed, 'Family training, counseling and home visiting are not included. That number is high but was not attributed to home visiting since it was not included. To answer, we would like to get that cleared up statewide then when we should use that category. We are looking at that. Also, 45 day timeline is too short and that needs to be removed. There were comments included in the survey which illuminated the confusion across the field.

Rene Denman stated that, 'There is a huge amount of in-kind happening in the state that needs to be accounted for.'

Kathy replied, 'We expect to have future clarifications and guidance around the WAC and rules. The WAC has been in place as of January 2, 2017. It will be a key component of the system change. It is not a detailed regulation for implementing the plan and refers to policies and procedure, with guidance from Program Consultants. It applies to contracts. The link is posted at the bottom of [ESIT's main page](#).

Questions regarding the [WAC FAQs](#) handout:

Q: Do all providers need to provide everything?

A: Providers ensure everything on the child's IFSP is contracted out and all services are covered.

Q: What about the LLAs?

A: LLAs will be providing components of services: public awareness, child find, ICC, etc.

Q: Do we have to wait to receive reimbursement?

A: No.

Q: Billing?

A: There will be support from DEL provided.

Q: Transition activities?

A: Listed what you can use them for.

Val Arnold asked, 'One of the things under discussion is currently the state early intervention allocation flowing to OSPI, then to the districts. They are subject to the state auditor's office which includes an established formula. Indirect rates are set through that process. Between state auditor's office, OSPI and DEL; how might DEL under the current system have authority? How are DEL and OSPI communicating with districts?'

ESIT is planning to send out a memo, to the entire field, based on DEL's understanding and authority. Two separate letters from Ross and Chris went out stating that these conversations are currently under discussion. It would be helpful to provide some guidance to providers to not sign contracts higher than

5%. If there are further questions or concerns, contact your program and cc your LLA!

Laurie Thomas – ESIT Funding

*Note: [The report of the Program Committee was received and placed on file see Appendix A: Briefing/Good of the Order: DEL-ESIT System Design Proposed Plan]: **ESIT FFY17 Budget – Draft***

Laurie continued the power point and presented on ESIT funding, regarding (for full details, see handout in appendix):

- Multi-Year Comparison
- System Redesign Phase One Financing
- System Redesign Financing

The applications are located on [ESIT's page](#) on DEL's website, at the bottom of the page. Refer to ESIT FFY 17 Budget – Draft. Cost analysis has been requested; since DEL doesn't control the funding, over the next couple of years we have been trying to develop some tools to help. A copy of this will be provided with the [WAC questions](#), and will be posted to ESIT's webpage.

The finance committee of the SICC will be aid to this discussion. The committee will be reforming and will be a topic presented at the April SICC meeting; committee reformation will be on the agenda. We are not making changes this year and will be based on existing formulas.

Magan Cromar stated, 'If we are signing contracts in accordance with the new WAC, hopefully providers can have guidance and support around this process. ESIT plans to send out a follow-up memo regarding the WAC with the FAQs.

Q: State recovery rate was not addressed in the FAQs; what were the conversations happening with OSPI and recovery rate?

A: DEL is working to get answers and clarification.

Diane Liebe asked, 'Are you feeling like the new rules will negatively impact current methods of negotiating contracts?' Laurie answered; some of the response is emotional and providers are afraid of cut-backs. State rule is something we follow. If the rule-change in SB 5879 exposes a problem in part B funding, it is a McCleary issue, so we can fix any issues or 'holes' in the system. That is a problem for the legislature.

Rene Denman followed up, 'Where do you see the system design transition? Everyone would like more clarification about the auditors and state rate. How much guidance through the FAQ can DEL provide?' In response, we will go through Bob (OSPI) to deal with these questions.

Lisa Greenwald followed up, 'We are asking providers to do more and spend less money; relationships matter and this can affect services to children and the information that providers receive. DEL's goal is to not let this affect special education. When can we expect a response to recovery rate?' In response, our goal is to get it out within the next 2 weeks.

Magan Cromar added, 'Rene was mentioning the benefits of not being under an LLA; is it equitable that LLAs are using their own funding?' To answer, we are still working out details and shifting expectations of what would and would not be covered.

Lisa Greenwald asked, 'What is the increase over the next year?' In response, we will withhold an additional 10% of funding. We are holding \$500,000 for transitional activities. We will not be taking the additional 10% until the funding shifts. We know we will need four Program Consultants placed around the state, more training dollars, and contract staff. We are looking at ongoing funding needs. We may need to go to the legislature again to fix problems that emerge in the process.

Diane Liebe brought up, 'Regarding ABA and infant mental health; are you looking at different models? How are they included? Those services are harder to provide in rural areas.' In response, ABA is not considered an early intervention service. Infant mental health is available at different levels across the state. This is a provider gap that we need to integrate into the provider system. A number of providers are getting infant mental health training, but there are still gaps in the system.

III. Public Comment

Q: Is everyone going to have to adhere to the same standards to be a provider? How will everyone meet these standards? We don't have 'the hammer', who's got 'the hammer'?

A: We adhere to statewide standards. Assuming that we will all follow regulations, if there are problems ESIT is there to assist and support. If you need a 'hammer', Ross Hunter is willing to be a 'hammer.'

Q: Please provide more clarification regarding 'included in the IFSP'; how will ESIT assure that all services, not just in IFSP, are accessible based on the needs? Often providers won't write services in IFSPs because they are perceived to be unavailable.

A: This is an issue than can be incorporated into our monitoring process. It will become more attainable as we expand our resources.

IV. Announcements and Business/EI State Program and Legislative Reports

Maria Nardella, DOH

*Note: [The report of the Program Committee was received and placed on file see Appendix B: Announcements and Business/EI State Program and Legislative Reports]: **Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Program Update***

DOH has a new Autism Grant Coordinator, Jean-Marie Dymond, who was not able to attend the meeting. Maria presented updates from Department of Health. For full details, see handout in appendix:

- AS3D (Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities) Grant
- 2017 Legislative Session
- Pediatric-Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (P-TCPI)
- Project LAUNCH Expansion
- Center for Children with Special Needs at Seattle Children's
- Child Health Note
- WithinReach
- Media Aware Child Care

Stacey Bushaw, HCA

Note: [The report of the Program Committee was received and placed on file see Appendix B: Announcements and Business/EI State Program and Legislative Reports]: 2017 Legislative Session & Early Learning Update

Stacey presented updates from Health Care Authority (HCA.) For full details, see handout in appendix. The primary early learning bills that are being analyzed and monitored include:

- HB 1661 / SB 5498: Creating the department of children, youth and families
- HB 1735 / SB 5246: Concerning the department of early learning's access to records and personal information for purposes of determining character and subsidy of child care workers and individuals who have unsupervised access to children in child care settings.
 - To see the list of bills HCA is also monitoring, please see attached 2017 Legislative Update handout in Appendix B.
- A cross-agency workgroup has been formed between OSPI, DEL and DOH to meet quarterly to explore expansion of health care related services and Medicaid billing opportunities in schools.
- HCA has submitted a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicaid and Medicaid Services (CMS) to allow Charter Schools & Tribal Schools to participate in the School Based Health Care Services (SBHS) Program

Val Arnold, OSPI

*Note: [The report of the Program Committee was received and placed on file see Appendix B: Announcements and Business/EI State Program and Legislative Reports]: **Superintendent of Public Instruction SICC Winter Quarter Update***

*Note: [The report of the Program Committee was received and placed on file see Appendix B: Announcements and Business/EI State Program and Legislative Reports]: **February 2017 Special Education Update***

Val presented updates from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI.) For full details, see handout in appendix:

- Homeless Children and Youth Program Updates
 - Sample Child Find Screening Notice at: <http://www.k12.wa.us/HomelessEd/Resources.aspx>
- Early Childhood Confidentiality FAQ for IDEA Part B and Part C
- Special Education Support Center Website Updated
- Early Literacy – State identified Measurable Result (EL – SiMR) Parameters
- Starting Strong Conference
 - Request for Proposals at: <http://www.startingstrong.net>
- Special Education Consistency Index Now Available through eLearning For Educators at:
 - <http://www.evergreen.edu/elearningforeducators>
- Legislative Updates
 - Weekly updates available at: <http://wssda.org/Legislative/LegislativeUpdates.aspx>

Evelyn Perez, DSHS

Evelyn presented updates from Department of Social and Health Services:

- Blue Ribbon Commission is submitting amendments to move forward. DSHS is making sure they retain the same authority.
- Mental Health Integration – Behavior health services with HCA.
- DSHS is currently watching many bills that could affect funding.
- DDA is renewing all waivers this year.
- Regarding the Individual and Family Support waiver; DSHS is finishing up, signing up families to make up the 6500 target.

V. Standing Committees/Special Committee Reports

Sugely Sanchez, FLIC Legislative Update

Note: [The report of the Program Committee was received and placed on file see Appendix C: Standing Committees/Special Committee Reports]: 2017 Legislative Priorities: Coordination of Early Intervention Services

FLIC members have scheduled a visit to our legislators after the upcoming FLIC meeting, February 16, 2017. For full details, see handout in appendix. Updates were shared regarding WeeCare's 2017 Legislative Priorities:

- SHB 1107: requiring all school districts to participate in providing Early Intervention services to children with developmental disabilities and delays under the age of 3.
- SB 5879: Establishing DEL as the lead agency for Part C IDEA
- WeeCare's recommendations

Greg Williamson, DEL Legislative Update

Note: [The report of the Program Committee was received and placed on file see Appendix C: Agency Updates]: Prenatal to 3 DRAFT Proposal EFC

Greg updated on the legislature and highlighted current work and changes at DEL. For updates on the following reports and information, click the following hyperlinks:

- Prenatal to 3 DRAFT Proposal (For full details, see handout in appendix.)
- [Blue Ribbon Commission Report](#)
- [Children's Mental Health Work Group Report](#)
- [Essentials for Childhood web information](#)
- [Heathier WA website](#)
- Those who are directly impacted by the decisions go to the [HCA website](#) and [attend a meeting](#) to let them know of services that are in need.

Maryanne Barnes asked for clarification regarding Replacement Data System. Greg answered that we are working with the national TA system. We would like to look into a data system to with potential for billing and are looking at costs. We will be bringing back recommendations and involve a committee. Susan Frank, our new ESIT data manager, will continue to report to Laurie Thomas. DEL hired Sharon Smith as project manager, supporting communication between developers and program, to keep the current system running, while creating the new data system.

Lisa Greenwald encouraged a data committee to assist in creating the new data system and is happy to participate. It's concerning to move forward without input of those who actually use the system. We've collected data about problems and would like to give input on new implementation needs. How does it fit with new Blue Ribbon Commission requirements? In response, DEL is looking beyond ESIT system to address all system capabilities.

Jena Lavik brought up the parent portion for data management system; it is currently very hard to use for parents. We need a better connection with parents and should aim to make the new system more client-centric.

Paul DuBois, OIC

Arriving at the end of agency updates, Paul presented updates from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner:

- OIC is seeking more support within legislature in hopes to pass.
- Another bill is in the works, which is being kept confidential currently.
- OIC is currently defending our Affordable Care Act (ACA) to avoid repealing the law. There needs to be viable replacement if there is repeal. There is no bill yet and uncertain what is to happen.

VI. Adjourn

Chair, Maryanne Barnes, adjourned the meeting was at 1:38 PM.

Next SICC Meeting Dates:

April 19, 2017: Statewide System
Navos Mental Health & Wellness Center
1210 SW 136th St
Burien, WA 98166

Appendix

Appendix A: Briefing/Good of the Order

- WAC FAQs
- ESIT FFY17 Budget – Draft

Appendix B: Announcements and Business/EI State Program and Legislative Reports

- Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Program Update (DOH)
- 2017 Legislative Session & Early Learning Update (HCA)
- Superintendent of Public Instruction SICC Winter Quarter Update (OSPI)
- February 2017 Special Education Update (OSPI)

Appendix C: Standing Committees/Special Committee Reports

- 2017 Legislative Priorities: Coordination of Early Intervention Services (FLIC)
- Prenatal to 3 DRAFT Proposal EfC (DEL)