

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION
Early Intervention Committee Meeting

LOCATION
Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference

Meeting Date
December 14, 2010
9:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Amy Simpson, Chair
Linda Borghols
Lizette Stiehr

Community Members/Guests:

Geri Benshoof
Amanda Faulkner
Melora Gaber
Carolyn Coe
Diana Marsh
Elizabeth Tracey

Staff:

Teresa Holt

Prepared by:
Paula DiPaolo, Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order – 9:00 a.m.
Roll Call

WELCOME AND CELEBRATIONS

Announcements – New Members

Elizabeth Tracey introduced herself to the committee members.

Upcoming Trainings

- Anchorage Association for the Education of Young Children - February 3 – 5, Anchorage
- Head Start Conference – February 8 – 10, Juneau.

Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled teleconference is January 11, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.
Suggestion for main topic: Invite Erin Kinavey to the meeting to discuss Medicaid issues.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Election of Four New Voting Members

Amy Simpson suggested adding Elizabeth Tracey and Margaret Kossler as voting members on the EIC. Elizabeth Tracey accepted, and this item will be moved to the next meeting's agenda for a vote.

Approval of the Agenda

There was not a quorum, and the agenda could not be approved.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Amy Simpson noted a correction on the minutes from the face-to-face meeting of October 26 – 28, 2010. In the second paragraph she noted a typographical error in that “reel” should be spelled “real”.

Approval of the minutes will be forwarded to the next meeting's agenda due to lack of quorum for this meeting.

Correspondence

Teresa Holt stated that there was an e-mail from Erin Kinavey asking they pull a group together to look at the ILP website and make suggestions for improvements.

Amy Simpson volunteered. Amy also suggested adding Margaret Kossler to that work group. Lizette Stiehr also volunteered. Teresa Holt suggested asking Mary Deitz and Heidi Haas to participate in the group.

PARTNER REPORTS

OCS/ILP – Linda Borghols

Linda Borghols stated that the APR is out for public comment as well as review by NECTAC and other folks. She noted that the input of the EIC is very important as well.

Linda stated that they are also very involved in the AAIEYC conference in February.

AILPA – Lizette Stiehr

Lizette Stiehr stated that AILPA is working with the State on the coordinator's meeting that is taking place the day before the AAIEYC conference.

Lizette stated that AILPA is teleconferencing monthly and they are going to be doing a quarterly newsletter through Community Connections with a link to Community Connections' website.

She stated that one of the driving forces behind AILPA right now is to enhance communication between the State and programs.

Lizette Stiehr stated that currently, Early Intervention Part C law allows for 14 different services that range from PT/OT, case management, etc.,

that they can currently bill Medicaid for, but they are billing Medicaid for those services under a rehab clinic umbrella. She stated that if they were to align Medicaid billing with the 14 services, it would mean that Early Intervention could bill for those 14 services plus specialized instruction, respite care, etc. She noted that the State office has been working very closely with the commissioner's office and DSDS to move this forward. Key Coalition has agreed to make this one of their three primary platforms.

Teresa Holt shared concerns with Key Coalition bringing this up at a legislative level, because as far as she was aware, this was going to be able to move forward between OCS and the Medicaid office. Lizette Stiehr stated that the involvement with Key Coalition was at the request of Erin Kinavey.

Amy Simpson suggested that she and Teresa Holt meet with Erin Kinavey to figure out the best plan in a strategic way. It would also give them an opportunity to discover what has changed between now and last month to cause this turn of events.

DEED – Melora Gaber

Melora Gaber stated that the Head Start leadership conference is in February, and they have some strands going on in that with TACSEI.

Melora stated that Art Arnold is no longer with the Department and has moved over to Vocational Rehabilitation.

SESA – Patrick Pillai

Patrick Pillai was unavailable to provide a report from SESA.

COMMITTEE MAIN TOPIC

Review of the ILP APR

Teresa Holt and Amy Simpson reviewed the past process for the EIC review of the Infant Learning Program's Annual Progress Report.

Amy Simpson stated that she would like to see four or five people

available to get together to review the APR, develop questions or comments about the indicators, and finalize it in a formal letter accepting the APR. Teresa Holt noted that this meeting and review of the APR needs to take place the first 10 days of January so that Erin Kinavey can finish her work on it.

Potential volunteers for this group include: Melora Gaber (upon availability), Diana Marsh, Elizabeth Tracey, and Amanda Faulkner.

Teresa Holt also noted that the EIC was invited to go to Juneau to look at the Part B APR. She also intends on inviting an EIC member who works in a preschool to attend and be a part of that meeting.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.