

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

October 11, 2011
10:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Amy Simpson, Chair
Lizette Stiehr
Linda Borghols
Mary Deitz
Dean Gates
Sharon Miranda

Community Members/Guests:

Beth Kaplan
Carolyn Coe
Christine Inglet

Staff:

Jennifer Jones

Prepared by:

Paula DiPaolo, Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order – 10:00 a.m.
Roll Call

WELCOME AND CELEBRATIONS

Review of the Council Mission Statement

The mission statement was recited.

Announcements

Dean Gates announced that the Alaska Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Deaf Blind Council will be having their statewide membership meeting this coming Saturday at the Charter College conference room 130. Dean will forward the agenda to Jennifer Jones so she can send it to any interested committee members.

Amy Simpson announced that she received an e-mail from Millie Ryan explaining that Diane DiSanto from Senator Begich's office would like to meet with people regarding early childhood issues on the 19th. People who are interested in attending this meeting should contact Jennifer Jones.

Upcoming Trainings

- Face-to-face committee meeting – possible November dates.
- Fall ILP Coordinator's Conference, October 19 - 21

Jennifer Jones will send committee members a Doodle to find out what dates in November work best for everyone to participate in the face-to-face meeting.

Amy Simpson stated that on October 21st, the Infant Learning Program will have an introductory training on a program called SafeCare. This is an evidence-based practice designed to help build relationships and to help children in the CAPTA category. Everyone is invited to attend.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Approval of the Agenda

Lizette Stiehr **MOVED** to approve the agenda. The motion **PASSED**.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Jennifer Jones and Amy Simpson will work together from their notes to prepare minutes from the September 13, 2011 meeting to present at the next meeting.

Correspondence

Part C Regulations

Amy Simpson stated that she received the final Part C regulations in mid September. She noted that things they anticipated being changed were not changed in the new regs. Linda Borghols agreed and added that there are no drastic changes that she is aware of at this time. Linda also noted that they still need to set up a time to compare these federal regulations to the proposed State regulations.

Dean Gates asked for the federal register citation for these regulations. Amy Simpson stated that she will get that information for him.

Survey from Part C Staff on Indicator 7

Jennifer Jones stated that they received an e-mail that the Part C folks were doing a survey on indicator 7, which is the percentage of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and an assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline.

Lizette Stiehr added that her understanding is that the State is doing surveys on a number of the indicators that have been problematic. They are asking for feedback from people in the field about things that could facilitate assuring good compliance with that indicator.

Linda Borghols stated that the survey is still open, and when it is closed,

Lisa Balivet will have information to be able to provide a report.

PARTNER REPORTS

OCS/ILP

Linda Borghols stated that Coordinator's Conference is coming up this month. They will be meeting at the Child Welfare Center on Diplomacy Drive. Part of their conference activities includes reviewing the Part C modules. Meghan Johnson and David Tarcy will be there to review those.

Linda reiterated that SafeCare will be here on Friday. She noted that they plan to start a SafeCare pilot project in Anchorage, and they have one staff person coming in from Soldotna. Of the six ILP staff trained, two will be additionally trained to be coaches, and one of those staff will also become a trainer.

Linda Borghols stated that Erin Kinavey is working diligently on the APR, and she expects to have the first draft ready for review by the first of November.

Linda notified Amy Simpson that she sent Jennifer Jones the local determinations that Amy had asked for during the August meeting. Jennifer will get that information out to the rest of the committee members. Linda also mentioned that people can go to the ILP website for data on indicator 7.

AILPA

Lizette Stiehr stated that AILPA has put together a newsletter. She will forward the link to the newsletter to Jennifer Jones. They are also doing a quarterly newsletter connected to Community Connections.

Lizette stated that AILPA has just completed a survey, and one of the points of interest from the survey was recruitment and retention.

AILPA is providing the State with some fairly strong feedback about things they would like to see at the February conference, which will be in collaboration with the Association for the Education of Young Children.

Lizette Stiehr stated that at the next AILPA meeting, they will be discussing whether or not AILPA wants to help support travel expenses for a family to attend Key Campaign this year, knowing that there may be an increment for early intervention.

They have also been discussing social-emotional tools at AILPA. They are also working on a letter to support UAA's program for the graduate certificate to enhance new people coming into the field.

DEED

Jennifer Jones stated that DEED is in the midst of hiring their last person, and that person will be the liaison to the EIC.

COUNCIL MEETING DEBRIEFING

Amy Simpson stated that they spent a great deal of time discussing the Council bylaws. They had a lot of conversations about term limits and committee configurations. Amy noted that the EIC is missing a few committee members that fulfill their federal requirement as the ICC, and they need to have continuing conversations to ensure that these roles are filled.

Dean Gates suggested approaching Eric Gebhart and asking that the section of the bylaws that pertain to the EIC contain the federal law requirements so that it is clearly spelled out. Amy Simpson asked for Dean's legal expertise to help determine how much of that detail needs to be included in the bylaws.

Jennifer Jones added that the bylaws changes will be an ongoing discussion through May, so there is still time to make changes.

Jennifer Jones stated that the last day of the Council meeting was a Midwest Academy session on SESA's funding and sunset clause. Dean Gates added that they did an afternoon Midwest Academy session on the Alaska Complex Behavior Collaborative Hub.

FACE-TO-FACE MEETING PLANNING

Amy Simpson stated that Lisa Balivet would like them to review the APR at their face-to-face meeting in November.

Amy Simpson stated that they also need to determine which topics of their work plan they would like to address at each EIC monthly teleconference.

Amy stated that the big work plan topic is Goal 1, eligibility change. She noted that they need to get information from Erin Kinavey and Linda Borghols about when they think the committee might be ready to move on those activities.

Amy Simpson suggested that Goal 2, early intervention services for children who are deaf or hard of hearing, could be the main topic at the December meeting. She then reviewed the work plan activities for Goal 2.

Lizette Stiehr commented that at the last AILPA meeting, one of their big discussions was the difficulty some programs were having in terms of doing hearing screenings. And when asked, the programs reported during the child conference that what they did for screening varied greatly from program to program. Amy Simpson suggested adding an activity to support local ILPs to create expertise in deaf and hard of hearing.

Dean Gates suggested that the staff for the EIC research and gather all the materials given to parents from hospitals, care providers and audiologists from around the state. He would also like to see what kind of information parents are given by region. He suggested they work to gather this information by December, and then after that they can begin to have the conversation regarding best practices.

Beth Kaplan stated that at the December meeting she can give an overview of what is happening statewide with newborn hearing screening and the information that people are given. She noted that there are three different medical systems: private, Native and military, and she would be happy to go over how that is working. She noted that the EHDI conference in March would be a good opportunity to gather

information on best practices.

Amy Simpson reviewed Goal 3: Advocate for an EIFA chapter/participation for Alaska.

She stated that she and Jennifer Jones have been talking to Stone Soup Group about their new navigator for early intervention. She suggested that hopefully they can build a relationship with them.

Amy stated that Kelly Donnelly expressed her interest in EIFA being housed at Stone Soup.

Amy Simpson then reviewed the remaining goals and activities.

- Goal 4: Support Stone Soup Group to host an annual parent conference.
- Goal 5: Increase EC qualified workforce, and increase ILP staff recruitment and retention.
- Goal 6: ICC duties.

Jennifer Jones stated that as part of their ICC duties, they will need to host public testimony at their face-to-face meeting. Amy Simpson suggested holding public testimony during the afternoon, which may be a more convenient time for families with small children.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.