

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

November 15, 2011
10:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Amy Simpson, Chair
Heidi Haas
Lizette Stiehr
Diana Marsh
Linda Borghols
Dean Gates

Community Members/Guests:

Beth Kaplan
Geri Benshoof
Sue Armstrong

Staff:

Jennifer Jones

Prepared by:

Paula DiPaolo, Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order – 10:00 a.m.
Roll Call

WELCOME AND CELEBRATIONS

Announcements

Lizette Stiehr announced that AILPA had a face-to-face meeting in October, during which time they agreed to collaborate with the Governor's Council to each sponsor an infant learning family to attend Key Campaign. AILPA will use the Governor's Council's process of selecting a family to attend, and they are soliciting families from Ketchikan or Chugiak because they have legislators on the budget committee.

Upcoming Trainings/Meetings and Follow Up

Face-to-Face Committee Meeting

The committee members discussed possible meeting dates for the spring face-to-face meeting and felt that the first week of April would be the best possible dates. Jennifer will send out a Doodle to the committee members with possible dates in March and April.

Fall Coordinators' Conference

Lizette Stiehr felt that it was very interesting to have a chance to really look at the Part C credential that the State has organized and put together in a series of nine modules. They also looked at the study guides that would be used with programs in addition to the modules. After the conference, they decided that coordinators would have until the beginning of December 2012 to complete the modules.

Lizette also stated that the feds have just passed the new early intervention regulations, and at the conference they got to see an overview of what the changes look like.

Lizette stated that PIC has agreed to dedicate staff to go through a very intensive SafeCare training to be the trainers for the rest of Alaska for early intervention providers going into family homes to look at the safety

in the home, health, and parenting. Amy Simpson added that someone from Soldotna also participated in the training.

Meeting with Senator Begich's Staff

Jennifer Jones stated that Senator Mark Begich's staff met with the Council to discuss early intervention issues. They wanted to get a sense of what the Council was working on, so Jennifer reviewed the EIC work plan with them. They have a staff person who used to be a Council member, who has taken early intervention on as her area of interest. Senator Begich's staff would like to do what they can to support the Council's efforts. Jennifer and Amy Simpson discussed inviting this staff person to sit in on EIC committee meetings if she is interested.

Zero to Three Training Institute in Washington D.C., 12/8-12/11

Jennifer Jones stated that there are a couple of EIC members interested in attending, and they need to get started on making travel arrangements with the Council. She noted that two people will probably be able to attend. Heidi Haas expressed her interest in attending.

Council Meeting Debriefing

Committee members agreed that it was a very busy Council meeting in October.

Other

Diana Marsh stated that she will be attending the ASHA Conference in San Diego. Geri Benshoof will be attending as well.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Approval of the Agenda

Heidi Haas **MOVED** to approve the agenda. The motion **PASSED**.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Linda Borghols noted a correction to the minutes under the partner

reports under OCS/ILP. The second to the last paragraph states that Erin Kinavey is working on the APR. It should state that Lisa Balivet is working on the APR.

With the above noted correction, Diana Marsh **MOVED** to approve the minutes. The motion **PASSED**.

PARTNER REPORTS

OCS/ILP

Linda Borghols stated that Erin Kinavey is on her way to D.C. for an all-day workshop on the new regulations for all Part C coordinators. Linda stated that hopefully Erin will bring back some clarification on the regs. Linda gets the sense from Erin that the feds would like immediate implementation of the new regulations.

Linda reported that Lisa Balivet was in Denver last week for a gathering to review the APR and any changes in the formatting or reporting. When Lisa gets back to Alaska, she will be doing the edits on the APR, and her hope is to have the report available for review by the EIC and AILPA by the first part of December.

Linda also noted that the registration for the AEYC conference is open now. The conference dates are February 2 – 4 at the Hilton in Anchorage. There are scholarships available. She reviewed the agenda for the conference with committee members.

AILPA

Lizette Stiehr stated that at the face-to-face meeting they decided to reactivate the AILPA awards for recognizing people in the field, so they will be sending out nomination forms. The next AILPA teleconference will be this Thursday, and they plan to discuss areas of recognition as well as where to make the presentations. They are hoping to do that at the AEYC.

Lizette stated they are continuing to do the newsletter and will send out the links for that.

DEED

Jennifer Jones stated that DEED hired their last staff person. She will contact Don Enoch this week to see if they can get the new person to start attending the EIC meetings.

DISCUSS PART C APR AND INDICATORS

Jennifer Jones stated that Lisa Balivet had hoped to attend the meeting today, but since she was unavailable, they will table some of this discussion for next month's meeting.

Jennifer stated that in the attachments sent to the committee members was a summary of the changes from the new regulations, which outlines the main topics that committee members should be aware of. She noted that this summary will also be in the Council's newsletter.

Amy Simpson stated that the State statutes regarding Part C were really out of date, and she doesn't believe that the changes that were proposed in the federal regulations will have much effect on the State regs.

Amy did note, however, that they were anticipating there would be changes in how the 45-day timeline regulation was interpreted, but that change was not adopted in the new Part C regulations. She noted that they will need to do a slight modification to that.

Lizette Stiehr added that the State has been considering the draft federal regulations while they have been working on their own regs, so she thinks there will be a nice alignment in both timing and content.

Linda Borghols added that the regulations have been a high priority for Erin Kinavey, and Linda looks forward to getting the updates on specific items upon Erin's return.

CORRESPONDENCE

Survey from Part C Staff on Indicator 7

Amy Simpson stated that this indicator has a multidisciplinary assessment, and if children eligible have the first IFSP meeting. Amy stated that what it means is that if a child is deemed eligible for Part C services, they have a plan in place within 45 days. In early intervention, the 45-day timeline includes weekends and holidays. The only exception to that timeline is if a parent requests more time.

Amy stated that their target for success for that indicator is 100 percent, and if they don't meet 100 percent, they have to provide a justification and form a plan on how they are going to meet it next time.

Jennifer Jones stated that they will bring this topic back for discussion at the next meeting.

WORK PLAN

Jennifer Jones stated that under work plan goal 2: Address concerns about early intervention services for children who are deaf or hard of hearing, they are going to be looking at best practices and what other programs are doing. She stated that she would like to have Beth Kaplan and Dean Gates share information they have during the next meeting.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next EIC teleconference is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURN

Lizette Stiehr **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. The motion **PASSED** and the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.