

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

February 14, 2012
10:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Amy Simpson, Chair
Linda Borghols
Mary Deitz
Meredith Jaecks

Staff:

Jennifer Jones

Prepared by:

Jeannette Rice, Peninsula Reporting

REVIEW OF THE WORK PLAN

1. Eligibility Change

- Develop and implement an advocacy plan to increase State funding: AILPA and ILP made a fact sheet on the \$3 million increment, which was not in the Governor's original budget but may be in the supplemental budget. Key Campaign will also be promoting the increment.
- Education on implementation plan for Medicaid billing of EI/ILP services: Erin Kinavey will be bringing the new regulations to the EIC when Medicaid has finished working on the details.
- Update and report on data from state pilot project of eligibility expansion: Linda Borghols has prepared a report, which she will send to Jennifer to forward to the EIC for review.

2. Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- Review best practices for educating D/HH children: Dean Gates and Sharon Miranda are working on this. Amy Simpson sent them the new state service guidelines for deaf and hard of hearing.
- Parent to parent support: Amy Simpson will talk to Stone Soup Group about what is happening

3. Advocate for an EIFA chapter in Alaska

- Amy Simpson learned that there is a \$150 fee to join EIFA; Jennifer Jones will find out if the Governor's Council will pay that. Jennifer asked about the benefits of EIFA membership, and Amy replied that EIFA disseminates information about what is happening federally in early intervention to help people advocate. Amy suggested that Stone Soup Group would be a good partner because they already have a statewide system for parents.

4. Parent Training

- Support Stone Soup Group to host an annual parent conference: Amy will talk to SSG to find out what they are planning, probably for late summer or early fall.

5. Workforce development

- Identify agencies with EI vacancies specific to disciplines: Jennifer will start working on a survey for the EIC to review.
- Expand State loan repayment program (SHARP) to include OT, PT, and speech therapy: Jennifer will talk to UAA and ACPE

