

**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

**January 15, 2013
10:00 a.m.**

Attendees:

Amy Simpson, Chair
Linda Borghols
Mary Deitz
Meredith Jaecks
Karli Lopez
Diana Marsh
Lizette Stiehr

Community Members/Guests:

Geri Benshoof
Melora Gabor
Sharon Bohjanen
Beth Kaplan

Staff:

Teresa Holt
Christie Reinhardt

Prepared by: Sheila Garrant
Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – 10:00 a.m.
ROLL CALL

Review of Council Mission Statement

Amy Simpson recited the mission statement: Creating change that improves the lives of people with disabilities.

Announcements

Teresa Holt welcomed Christie Reinhardt to the staff of the Governor's Council.

Melora Gabor announced the Head Start Leadership Conference planned for the last week of January. She noted that they bring in families from all across the state to Juneau for training events and to meet their legislators and tell their stories.

Upcoming Trainings, Meetings and Follow-up

Amy Simpson reminded the committee members of the upcoming Council meeting in Juneau January 22nd – 24th. She noted that this is the time the Council members meet with the legislators. Teresa Holt mentioned the public testimony on the evening of the 23rd for anybody who would like to call in.

Amy Simpson announced the dates for the Head Start Conference in Juneau are January 29th – 31st. She also noted the AAAYC Conference January 31st-February 2nd will be held at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel. Teresa Holt noted that the Alaska Statewide Special Education Conference will be held February 2nd through the 8th in Anchorage, and the Key Campaign will be in Juneau February 20th and 21st.

Karli Lopez announced that the Stone Soup Group Parent Conference is planned for February 9th at the Millennium Alaskan Hotel with a focus on navigating the family and school partnership.

Approval of Agenda

Mary Deitz **MOVED** to approve the agenda. The motion **PASSED**.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Diana Marsh **MOVED** to approve the November 13, 2012 minutes as presented. The motion **PASSED**.

Correspondence

Teresa Holt noted that the Annual Performance Report and the action plan for ILP funding were the two items of correspondence and are on the agenda reports.

Part C Annual Performance Report

Amy Simpson asked committee members for volunteers to review the APR and provide feedback to the ILP. Teresa Holt pointed out that the task is to look at the indicators and identify indicators that need improvement and offer the State recommendations on systems change. She reminded the group that a significant amount of comment has already been identified in the areas of family outcomes, parent surveys, parental rights, child outcome data, identifying children and transition. She also indicated that the comments need to be drafted by January 28th. Amy Simpson and Karli Lopez offered to carry out that task.

Action Plan for ILP Funding

Teresa Holt informed the committee that the Council, on behalf of the Department, asked the Governor for early intervention funding of \$3 million based on an estimate of an automatic referral system from the Office of Children's Services. The Governor published his proposed budget December 15th, which included \$1.5 million for the Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act, so that additional money fits into the category the Council asked for. The Council made the decision to support the \$1.5 million in the Governor's budget and did not support asking for the additional \$1.5 million citing that there isn't enough data to substantiate the need at this time. The Council will be tracking that budget item through the budget process.

Partner Reports

OSC – Linda Borghols

Linda Borghols reported that OCS has been reviewing the APR. She also noted that they have a contract in place with the University of Oregon to help OCS develop their policies and procedures, making sure they fall within the new federal regulations that came out and that they are all in sync with the state regulations they are proposing. This is something OCS has been working on for years, and it will be beneficial to collaborate with the university to have good, workable policies for early intervention, both from the providers' standpoint and the State staff.

Linda Borghols informed the group that OCS will participate in the AAIEYC Conference with a track for ILP that includes Barbara Stroud and Dr. Linda Chamberlain, who will be doing a session on family violence.

AILPA – Lizette Stiehr

Lizette Stiehr reported the AILPA has been working on their priorities, the increment and working on their flyer. She noted that they have also been working closely with the Governor's Council and a policy council comprised of early childhood which includes Head Start, Best Beginnings, thread, and is a policy council of the AAIEYC. That policy council hires a legislative tracker as another way to look at what is happening with funding and giving updates about when concerns need to be addressed.

Lizette Stiehr reminded the committee that AILPA presents awards of appreciation in the following categories: to an advocate in the system; for leadership in the system; for a provider in the system; and a new category this year, team leadership, which is someone who has put together a team and program that is a role model and mentor to other programs. The nominations are in, and the awards in those four categories will be presented at the ASSEC Conference.

Lizette Stiehr noted that AILPA is working on the possibility of developing a billing manual that will help early intervention with auditing. This type of manual would assist programs currently billing for targeted case management of families who are eligible for Medicaid.

EED – Meredith Jaecks

Meredith Jaecks reported that EED has been working on the APR and the SPP and other yearly commitments. She noted that they are in contact with

Part C and working on making sure that communication is open and working on making sure they have updates for the new regulations that were put into place for Part C.

Meredith Jaecks informed the committee that several people in their office will be presenting at ASSEC.

EHDI – Beth Kaplan

Beth Kaplan reported that she is in the process of reporting to the CDC their yearly report and will have more information on that report next month. She noted that this is the time of year that EHDI is busy with grant writing.

Beth Kaplan informed that there are some OAEs available for otoacoustic emission screeners targeted for Head Start programs, and they are in contact with Paul Sugar about possibilities for disbursing that.

Time and Date of Next Meeting

The next Early Intervention Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

Lizette Stiehr **MOVED** to adjourn. The motion **PASSED**, and the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.