

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL  
EDUCATION**

**Early Intervention Committee**

**LOCATION**

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

**Meeting Date**

**Wednesday, September 11, 2013  
10:00 a.m.**

**Attendees:**

Karli Lopez - Chair  
Mandy Cleveland

**Community Members:**

Wendy Barrett  
Beth Kaplan  
Sue Armstrong  
Mary Aery  
Breanna Bryan

**Staff:**

Christie Reinhardt

Prepared by: Sheila Garrant,  
Peninsula Reporting

**CALL TO ORDER – 10:00 a.m.**  
**ROLL CALL**

**Welcome from the Chair**

**Announcements and Good News**

There were no announcements or good news reported.

**Approval of Agenda and Approval of Past Minutes**

**Approval of the Agenda**

There was not a quorum gathered and the committee continued without approval of the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes – 8/14/13**

There was not a quorum gathered and the committee tabled the approval of the minutes until the next meeting.

**Correspondence**

There was no correspondence to report at this meeting.

**Reports**

**Chair's Report**

Karli Lopez reported that the focus of her attention has been on the work plan and that her comments would be shared during the review of the work plan.

**Partner Reports**

**OCS/ILP**

There was no report available from OCS/ILP.

## **AILPA**

There was no report available from AILPA.

## **EED**

There was no report available from EED.

## **EHDI**

Beth Kaplan reported that EHDI has hearing screening equipment in four of the largest midwifery centers, and the screening rates have increased. She reported that the centers are following the protocol for early screening, early diagnostic, and intervention services.

Beth Kaplan reported that EDHI had an advisory committee meeting and the focus was around quality assurance. She noted that the Early Intervention Program is also working on quality assurance issues and that may provide a good opportunity to do a joint project with them.

## **Old Business**

### **Review of updated Work Plan for October Council Meeting**

Christie Reinhardt and Karli Lopez led the committee members through a review of the updated work plan that will be presented at the October Council meeting.

The goals and updates are as follows:

**Goal 1:** Advocate for and assist with developing a Medicaid/insurance guideline manual.

Update:

- There are IL programs that have been audited, and they have offered to assist with the guideline manual.
- AILPA is developing a manual as one of their goals, so EIC can partner with AILPA to produce a guideline.
- There was a billing guide done for speech language pathologists, and they may be able to look to that contractor to produce a document for

the IL Programs.

The target date for these activities is December. An additional piece of this goal is to secure funding for the manual. Jean Kincaid from AILPA has offered to write a grant to the Mental Health Trust. Once the costs have been determined, the grant writing activity can begin. The target date to secure funding for the manual is February.

**Goal 2:** Continue to advise the State in policy and procedural changes regarding early intervention services for young children who are deaf and hard of hearing.

Update:

- Ongoing activities include continued membership in EHDI and DEB.
- The committee attended a presentation by Beth Kaplan regarding infant hearing screening and evaluation.

Karli Lopez noted that becoming informed on ILP referrals and services, including ASL, has a target date of November. A review of the materials given to parents of infants and IL programs has a target date of March.

**Goal 3:** Continue to support the efforts to increase the recruitment and retention of highly qualified, sufficient early childhood workforce.

Update:

- Christie Reinhardt is on the board of the Alaska Pyramid Project.
- The Early Intervention Committee will participate in the ILP Coordinators Conference
- The committee is collecting information relating to training and education programs in the state.

Karli Lopez stated that regarding the recruitment of parents to become a part of governing boards and agencies, there are plans underway to create a play group for parents and children in Anchorage area. This will be an opportunity for agencies to have representation available to connect with the parents that are involved and would likely want to be engaged in the community.

Christie Reinhardt noted that the Early Intervention Committee is also



Fall Coordinator's Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska

September 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Special Educations Directors Training in Anchorage, Alaska

September 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – Alaska Department of Education & Early Development State Board of Education in Nome, Alaska

October 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – Governor's Council Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska

### **Time and Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Early Intervention Committee is scheduled for October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

### **Good of the Order and Adjournment**

Karli Lopez adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.