

**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, April 22, 2015
9:00 a.m.**

Attendees:

Karli Lopez, Chair
Angie Fraize
Amy Simpson
Laurie Thomas

Community Members/Guests:

Cassidy Jones
Kathleen Yarr
Brittney Howell
Carrie Truett
Janice Braden

Staff:

Christie Reinhardt
Rich Sanders

Prepared by: Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

Committee met last month in Sitka and developed the recommendations they plan to forward to the leadership team around adjustments to the list of anchor tools. One of the recommendations is related to the lack of tools for consistently and accurately identifying children who have social/emotional needs. The committee also looked at quality standards for Alaska.

Laurie Thomas reported that their Part C application has been submitted. It is still out for public comment because some of the documents that were posted were incorrect, so they extended the public comment period.

Laurie Thomas reported that they attended the Early Childhood Mental Health Conference, which was focused on technology. There were many great speakers, including a representative from GCI who explained the current state of technology in Alaska as it relates to telepractice.

Laurie Thomas noted that she and Cassidy Jones plan to attend the Leadership Conference.

AILPA

Amy Simpson reported that AILPA continues their focus on the organization of AILPA. They are reviewing strategic plans from different agencies and are working with a facilitator to define the purpose and role of AILPA for the future.

EED

Cassidy Jones highlighted the following activities of the Department:

- Attending Governor's Council's Education Committee, Autism Committee, and Developmental Disabilities Committee meetings.
- Working with OSEP on the final submission of the APR.
- GAINS no-cost extension.
- Rewriting the GAINS/SPDG grant application.
- APR/SSIP review.
- A Freedom of Information request for restraint and seclusion policies.
- Assurance Project.
- Director's training planning.

- Reviewing the annual travel plan.
- Employment First data collection negotiations.
- Website updates are nearly complete.
- Implemented the GMS.
- Supplemental workbook has been distributed.

Cassidy Jones reported they are beginning a new monitoring process, and the monitoring schedule has been posted on the website. The FY15 monitoring will be completed once the reports for Dillingham and Anchorage are submitted.

EHDI/WCFH

No report was available for the meeting.

FASD SUBCOMMITTEE

Britteny Howell reported that the FASD work plan has undergone positive changes. They have clarified their agenda and plan to bring in speakers that will help them to understand DD eligibility and the waiver and wait list systems. The FASD Work Group is also working to collaborate with the Statewide FASD Partnership and may be looking into legislative changes that would help gain FASD eligibility under developmental disabilities. The FASD Work Group will also be looking towards changes related to Medicaid reform or expansion.

AUTISM SUBCOMMITTEE

Christie Reinhardt reported that the Autism Work Group scheduled their face-to-face meeting on May 1st. They will have a facilitator from Agnew:Beck present, and they will review the feedback from the work groups. Christie Reinhardt stated that the five priority areas are as follows:

- Screening and diagnosis
- Early intervention and education
- Funding and system issues
- Workforce development and training
- Comprehensive integrated service delivery across the lifespan.

TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Early Intervention Committee is scheduled for May 14, 2015, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Karli Lopez adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m.