



[Interagency Coordinating Council – Meeting Minutes]

Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) Business Meeting
Friday January 24, 2014 | 11:30 am-1:00pm
810 First Street, 5th Floor Conference Room

Members in Attendance:

Alfonso, Kim	[EI Provider]
Berman, Jeri	[EI Provider]
Carter, Almo	[Parent]
Coward, Charles	[EI Provider]
Durden, Cheryl	[CFSA]
Hagler, Royace	[Head Start Representative]
Jawetz, Tom	[Parent]
Lewis, Jennifer	[Parent]
Long, Toby	[CSPD]
Palmar, AJ	[EI Provider]
Sonosky, Colleen	[DHCF]

OSSE Personnel in Attendance:

Brown, Ja'Sent	[OSSE]
DeHaan, Kerda	[OSSE]
Johnston-Stewart, Jerri	[OSSE]
Morrison, Kim	[OSSE]
Smith, Sandra	[OSSE]

Guests in Attendance:

Murphy, Renee	[Children's Law Center]
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Agenda Item I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:45am followed by roll call: all were welcomed by the Chair.

Initial concerns conveyed by the Chair:

Membership status of the ICC:

Cheryl Hill, HSCSN representative tendered her resignation on the ICC as a specialist for children with special needs and disabilities. This position is currently open. Charles Coward informed the ICC that applications will be submitted by February 1st from interested parents and professionals. The ICC still needs 1 parent representative to fulfill the minimum requirement of 4 or 20%. Several ICC member commissions expire May 3, 2014. Those interested in re-appointment and continued services are to inform ICC Chair, Almo

Carter. The office of Boards and Commissions must be notified in advance. By the next meeting Saturday May 3rd all should be re-commissioned and hopefully current vacancies will be filled.

Agenda Item II. Annual Performance Report

The annual performance DC Early Intervention (EI) report is generally due the first of February and submitted to the US Department of Education. A draft report was presented and reviewed with the membership highlighting the following indicators: (1) timely services, (2) child outcomes, (3) family outcomes, (5) Child Find metrics, (6) birth to three national data comparisons, (7) the 45-day timeline, (8) transition planning, (9) timely compliance, (10-13 indicators) not applicable, and (14) timely report submission. The report will be available this summer.

Agenda Item III. Extended IFSP Option

The extended option policy will be posted within the next two weeks. A FAQ sheet was provided at this meeting so that everyone understands what is being proposed. An opportunity to comment will be available during this time. The comment period is 30 days. OSSE anticipates that the posting will occur by February 1st, which allows all of March to respond. A hearing will be held as well.

Agenda Item IV. Recap of November 8, 2013 Retreat

The retreat was held at the Charles Sumner School. It was a very productive session. The ICC learned what the priorities are in early learning, which is where we are from an organizational structure perspective. The group engaged in an exercise that allowed the members to rank priorities. This exercise helps to guide ICC work for the next year ensuring that the committee is doing required work and that which is helpful to early learning. The top four initiatives selected by the group includes, child find system of services, defining disability and special needs, written documentation/feedback from families about EI services, educating parents, consumers about EI services, and transitioning from part C to part B.

Agenda Item V. Discussion of Early Learning Priority Topics

A significant issue from the retreat centered around a standardized fair and equitable definition of special needs, disabilities, and developmental delay, whereby children are still able to receive services to meet their needs. The DC EI Program Manager shared that it's best to use the automatic eligibility list; otherwise families may lose their childcare benefit. Using this approach enables families to maintain childcare vouchers regardless of income. The automatic eligibility list is on OSSE's website. A child could test at 50% delay then later test below the requirement, which would jeopardize the childcare voucher. With automatic eligibility, children receive services without interruption. The ICC can support this decision for finalization. The childcare providers will receive a higher rate of reimbursement for children eligible. There is no need for the ICC to focus on this priority.

Documented feedback from families about EI services. A lot of families are not willing to share their experiences. The goal is to try to find ways for them to share their story such as; video recording to capture their experience, but it must be comfortable for them.

Completing a survey or talking to the service provider does not capture the essence of their

experience. Years ago there was a public campaign. The EI Program Manager (PM) shared that there's a part 2 public wellness campaign on the horizon. There's a physician guide that can be shared at the next meeting. It was noted that there are not enough families participating, which makes it hard to know their needs. The EI PM will notify parents of the next ICC meeting scheduled May 3rd in hopes of garnering attendance. The play group will be available so that people will have the option to bring their children regardless of EI enrollment. Are there training programs for large groups of parents? The DC EI PM stated that people say they are coming and one or two show up. The face-to-face visits by the service coordinators allows for one on one education/training. What role does the parent training assistance (p-tac) play? It's very active in MD? It was shared that a physician desk reference manual is under development for PCPs, pediatricians, clinics, etc. The DHCF has a Health Check provider website—that is part of the Salazar consent decree however, it is only for Medicaid providers. OSSE partnered with Early Stages to engage the entire provider community based on referrals. EI is always invited and attends the local American Academy of Pediatrics conferences. The ICC Chair inquired if the committee wanted to consider the extended IFSP option to educate parents? We can develop training so people can make well informed decisions. Jeri—service coordinators will be trained to disseminate this info to parents.

Agenda Item VI. Implementation Plan Development

The ICC Chair requested topics for the next meeting i.e., hearing about families and their transition process? A group of Georgetown students are developing an online model for transition. Could they draft a checklist for families to provide feedback for the ICC? Great idea—a good plan. Cheryl Hill chaired the legislative and policy committee, the Chair asked DHCF representative, Colleen Sonosky if she would consider chairing this sub-committee. Colleen requested to discuss independently due to her role change at DHCF. The DC EI PM will reach out to the Public Relations Committee chair. Public relations will be helpful to promote what we are trying to do and how we are a resource to parent/families in the community. The question was asked if the service coordinators could be encouraged to attend the ICC. The ICC Chair responded that all people connected to EI are encouraged to participate. We are learning from the community that we serve what's best to do and how to be supportive. The ICC role is to advise and assist. One concern is the transition—from Strong Start to Early Stages and what's available to meet the needs of the children coming and how they relate to families. The story finding must be shared with them. We should collaborate with the SAP around the issue of transition.

Agenda Item VII. Wrap-Up/Feedback/Comments

Clarification around the voucher and rate of reimbursement provided by the DC EI PM. The percent of delay and not losing your voucher after the child's criteria changes is best. Right now there's an income requirement that must be met. Next meeting is Saturday May 3rd from 1030-1200. Address 801 Buchanan St NE WDC 20017

Agenda—recruit as many families and service providers as possible so we can discuss issues surround the transition process. Reach out to the SAP and invite them to be a part of the discussion. Child care will be available.

In preparation for our May 3rd meeting, we'll need written reports noting the activity from each of the four (4) standing committees since the January 24, 2014, quarterly meeting i.e., Nominating, Membership & Parent Advocacy, Public Awareness & Program Development, and Legislative & Social Policy. Please submit written reports via email to the Executive Committee (Committee Chairs, ICC Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary) at least one (1) week in advance of the May 3rd meeting. Committee Chairs/designated representative will be reporting out during the ICC business portion of the quarterly meeting.

Agenda Item IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm

Submitted by Cheryl Durden, Secretary of the ICC

Acronyms

DHCF—Department of Health Care Finance (DC Medicaid)

EI—Early Intervention

EI PM—Early intervention Program Manager

FAQ—Frequently Asked Questions

HSCSN—Health Services for Children with Special Needs

ICC—Interagency Coordinating Council

IFSP—Individual Family Service Plan

OSSE—Office of the State Superintendent of Education

PCP—Primary Care Provider

SAP—State Advisory Panel

