

Minutes

(Digitally recorded)

EC3 Meeting / September 11 & 12, 2014

Idaho State Capitol Building, House Majority Caucus Room, Boise, ID, 83702

Attendees:

Members: Sherry Iverson, Shannon Dunstan, Kathy McGill, Christy Cronheim, Beth Oppenheimer, Sara San Juan, Paula Mason, Ellen Neff, David Allen, Justin Coleman, Senator Fred Martin Gary Rillema, Kris Spain, Nancy Luevanos, Emily Petersen, Bill Foxcroft, Ericka Medalen Rupp, Holly Whitworth, Natali Pellens, Mechelle Wilson

Excused: Judge Greg Culet, Melissa Carico, Representative Cindy Agidius

Guests: Lauren Ertz, Jacquie Watson, Rick Harris, Melaine Shephard, Jennifer Surrusco, Aubrie McArthur, Omair Shamim, Dr. Noreen Womack

Staff: Lorraine Clayton, Diane Foote

Meeting Called to Order at 11:05am

Co-Chair Sherry Iverson opened the meeting with a welcome to new members, introductions and review of meeting protocol.

Co-Chair Justin Coleman addressed housekeeping items:

Approval of Meeting Minutes: The May 2014 meeting minutes were unanimously accepted.

Membership: The list was passed around for any updates. It will be available on the portal.

Committee Membership: The importance of participating with an EC3 committee was discussed and each committee chair reported briefly on their projects and number of committee members. Please see the committee membership list posted on the portal for details and who to contact.

- Data and Resource – Paula Mason: Discrepancies in Reporting and referrals between CPS and ITP plus ACES has been the two projects for this committee.
- Head Start – Sara San Juan: They are working on professional development on social and emotional training for teachers.
- Education and Child Care – David Allen: The core competencies for early care and education project has been their main focus.
- Home Visiting – Holly Whitworth: A home visit survey project has just been completed with results being compiled.
- Infant Toddler – Sherry Iverson: This committee is newly formed with several projects being discussed.

Regional Early Childhood Committee: The RECC Charter and Guidelines were brought back to the regional committees from the annual meeting with chairs in August. EC3 members reviewed and approved the charter. Discussion also centered on the challenge of having a 20% participation of parents in each region. Holly reported it is a priority with RECC.

Conflict of Interest Statement: The statement has been approved by the State Deputy Attorney General. Each member was asked to sign and date a statement.

Screen Time Brochure: A “No Screen Time” brochure was developed, printed and disbursed to members to share with their agencies and organizations. The pdf is also available for future additional printing.

Crying Plan: The concept of the website is for a parent to go online and choose methods to sooth the baby and stay calm. It will list options of who to call then ask the parent to sign and commit to the plan. The goal is for all birthing hospitals to

share this information at the time of discharge. Next step is for pediatricians and family doctors to implement care plans in their offices with revisions being done at two, four and six months. It was developed by a coalition of EC3, Children's Trust Fund, AAP and Shaken Baby of Idaho and will roll out with a press conference scheduled for October 27th with real stories from parents. Introduction of the site and brochure will also be presented at the Early Years Conference October 28th at Boise State. Please visit the site at <http://cryingbabyplan.org> and share with your agencies.

Strategic Plan Framework: A public review process of the plan and meeting with specific individuals over the last few months brought additional feedback to the plan. Council members were asked to review later today for discussion tomorrow.

Take-away from May Meeting:

- Holly shared the Crying Plan information with young parents and it is now a part of the curriculum. She also spoke with the RECC regarding the ACEs study and how to bring awareness to each region.
- Emily also discussed the Crying Plan with several parents and received positive feedback.
- Nancy passed around information regarding a Spanish Special Education Symposium event on September 27th.
- Sarah invited Gary Rillema to present to Eastern Region Early Head Start regarding immunizations and also had other in-service trainings around the state with ACEs, immunizations and dental health.
- IDAEO will be hosting a booth at Boo at the Zoo promoting dental health.

Early Literacy /Home Visiting Model – Dr. Noreen Womack

Dr. Womack updated the Council on the latest programs of the Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

- Feedback from a Council viewing of the Early Brain and Child Development video was taken into consideration and is now the initial training video for child care providers through Idaho STARS.
- Early Learning is at the forefront of the AAP and with grant monies Dr. Womack has developed a home visiting program on early literacy entitled Books Build Brains. It is based on the success of The Reach Out and Read program, which trains doctors and nurses to teach parents about the importance of reading aloud to their children. A partnership with Scholastic Books will provide quality books for the program along with First Books. Books Build Brains presentations have been given to home visitors through MIECHV, Family Advocates. Dr. Womack is requesting members email Sherry with information on other home visiting programs.
- The former CEO of Procter and Gamble, and early education promoter, John Pepper, will be visiting Boise February 11th. An early learning summit is being built around his visit and details will be shared with the Council as the planning is completed.

Lunch & Networking

Data and Resource Committee – Paula Mason and Rick Harris

In May the committee reported on the discrepancies of substantiated case referrals between Child Protective Services and the Infant Toddler Program. Rick Harris presented recent data on the breakdown of referrals. Presently, there is a 71% referral rate, but 100% is required. For details, please see his slides on the portal at <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/ec3/Home/tabid/2593/Default.aspx>

The committee is looking for direction after their May reporting on ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences). It was stated by Holly Whitworth that the Council is not trying to be the definitive ACEs study for the state of Idaho. The Council is trying to gather relevant information within our scope of influence which will allow us to give informed presentations to communicate the ACEs issues to legislators and the community. It was discussed that coordination with partners to gather data is needed and once data is compiled what the scope of influence is for each EC3 member and what and how to embed into existing programs. The Council voted to identify an ad hoc committee to organize a template of how to address Goal 2 to bring key

partners to synthesize and evaluate potential data and report at the November meeting. Council volunteers for the newly formed committee are Justin, Paula, Ellen, Mechelle and Omair. Suggestions for other people to approach are:

- University professors who are required to do research (Paula will ask Janice Carson at U of I)
- Center for Health Policy and the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant
- Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence
- Idaho Children's Trust Fund – Strengthening Families

Infant Toddler Committee – Lauren Ertz and Sherry Iverson

Lauren gave an update on the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). The SSIP is a new quality indicator required by OSEP that must be included in the state's submission of the FFY 2013 State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR). The SSIP is expected to be a comprehensive, ambitious, yet achievable multi-year plan for improving results for infants and toddlers with disabilities. An OSEP visit with ITP is scheduled for mid-September at the DHW office.

The initial meeting of the committee was on August 19th and 20th to decide a theory of action. Members of the newly-formed committee are:

- State Team: Lauren Ertz, Christy Cronheim, Melaine Shepard, Anna Smith, Rick Harris, Jennifer Surrusco
- Stakeholder Team: Melissa Carico, Mandy Maxcer, Sherry Iverson, Ericka Medalen, Jessica Smith, Pete Peterson, Scott Neff, Owen Shelly

Broad data analysis of Idaho vs. National was done and also regional comparisons regarding early intervention in three areas: Social-Emotional, Use of Knowledge & Skills and Use of Appropriate Behaviors. This information was utilized in an in-depth analysis to decide a focus for the committee. The recommendation from the committee to the council was to concentrate on the Social-Emotional aspect which was voted on and approved.

Break

State Systemic Improvement Plan Stakeholder/ State Department of Education – Shannon Dunstan

Dr. Bonnie Gallant, has been appointed as the interim Special Education Director. She comes to the position with a special education background and will be in the position until the election.

The SDE is in Phase 1 of the SSIP surveying stakeholders to identify a focus area that would show the biggest impact. There are 8 OSEP performance indicators:

- Graduation Rates
- Drop-Out Rates
- Students with disabilities vs. Students without disabilities on statewide testing
- Least Restrictive Environment
- Least Restrictive Environment for Pre-Schoolers (In Idaho, Head Start, day care, etc.)
- Outcomes from Social-Emotional, Pre-academic Communication Skills, How Do Children Get Their Needs Met
- Parent Involvement
- Post-Graduation – what are students now doing

Several phone calls with OSEP assisted in narrowing down to two options: Indicators 1 and 3. Council members then participated in a survey to help decide the focus indicator.

Shannon shared a draft version of a survey that will be sent out to all Head Start, Idaho STARS, etc. regarding challenging behaviors in their centers. Data collected will be used to develop training for teachers. Council members were asked for feedback on the survey which will be sent out in October. The goal is for training in summer of 2015.

The Early Years conference will be held in October at the BSU Student Union and the SDE is covering costs for any special education teacher and staff who attend. They will also pick up expenses for any substitutes needed.

Education and Child Care Committee – David Allen

The Idaho Core Competencies for Early Care and Education is completed after two years of detailed work. David reviewed the final document with the Council and explained the mapping and different levels. This document is 37 pages and will be linked to an electronic document that takes the competencies and looks at standards for that concept. The second document will be finished in a few weeks. The Council unanimously voted and approved the document for publication and distribution. Please see the ECIC website and/or portal for the completed document. The Council thanked David and the committee for their dedication and hard work.

Health and Welfare Response to Child Welfare/ITP Referrals – Cameron Gilliland, Bureau Chief

Cameron oversees the Infant Toddler Program, among other FACS programs, and addressed the discrepancies in referrals between Child Protective Services and ITP. Federal law requires 100% referral with a time frame standard of 2 days. Cameron agrees that the numbers found by the Data and Resource committee are unacceptable and the departments need to take steps for improvement. They will be addressing the issues through training and more communication between the two departments. Health and Welfare is also rewriting the child welfare standard to make the practice trauma-informed. The numbers will not change enough by the end of the year, so a continuation of monitoring and revisiting the data by EC3 next spring was requested.

The EC3 ACEs conversation was shared with Cameron and was asked if CPS staff is knowledgeable in regard to toxic stress. He reported staff is trained in trauma and also utilize the screening assessment tool CANS (Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths) – an evidence based practice.

Regarding the 2-day referral from substantiation, Cameron feels they are closer to a 5-day referral time with Part C requiring a 7-day referral.

A revisit of this issue with Cameron is scheduled for the May meeting.

Adjourned

MINUTES

EC3 Early Childhood Coordinating Council - DAY 2 – September 12, 2014 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Justin Coleman who recapped the previous day.

Home Visiting and Parent Education Committee Report - Gary Rillema

The committee's home visiting assessment survey was sent electronically and they are seeing a 50% response rate. Qualitative data has been analyzed and will be compiled and utilized for Deborah to apply for additional funds to expand home visiting in Idaho. An executive summary of the results will be presented at the Home Visit Summit October 28. Overview of survey results:

- Assessment surveys were sent to 23 programs across the state
- They received 11 completed responses + 5 partial response = 16 responses (47% completion rate)
- An overview of strengths and needs revealed:
 - ✓ 3 top strengths -- programs standards/evaluation quality assurance/professional development and tactical assistance
 - ✓ 3 top needs -- needs assessment and program planning/financing and sustainability/public engagement

Deborah will make the survey results available on the EC3 portal in the near future.

An update on Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) funding: They have been notified regarding their application for fiscal year 2013 and 2014 they did not receive funding. The program did receive verbal notification that they will be receiving an award for fiscal year 2014 expansion in the amount of \$3.2 million.

Maternal Child Health Assessment – Kristina Spain and Jacquie Watson

Kris, Jacquie and the BSU Evaluation team were in Seattle for technical assistance training where they learned more on the needs assessment process and the expectations of the MCH Block Grant. With that training they have developed three surveys to collect data from a variety of stakeholders which will be analyzed by Boise State later this fall.

- 1) General population survey (10 questions) – 2000 postcards sent to households with 88 responses to date
- 2) Consumer survey – will target patients, clients, new moms, i.e. and is currently being developed and translated into Spanish. Once completed, they will ask the Council to disseminate the survey through their respective agencies. It will be in electronic form with approximately 20 questions.
- 3) Provider survey – will be sent to those who are serving the MCH population in the state. It will consist of three questions that will be added on to an existing annual survey which is conducted by the Bureau of Rural Health and Primary Care.
- 4) Another mode of data collection is key informant interviews.

The Newborn Screening program launched a free service to all providers who draw first specimens. A next-day courier service is offered in order to expedite the transit time to get blood samples to their Oregon lab for processing. This will allow for a quicker diagnosis and proper intervention. MCH is also considering adding Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) to the newborn screening panel.

Two years ago Health and Human services put out a call to address infant mortality and morbidity in Region IV. The success from this action resulted in all other regions being asked to participate in a CoIIN Summit. (Collaborative Improvement & Innovation Network) The team from Idaho attended the July summit in Arlington, VA., where they discussed how to move forward in reducing infant mortality in our state. Next steps include creating a draft blueprint for change which is due September 22nd. One of the strategies is to develop and implement a pre-conception health plan along with adopting policies to eliminate non-medically indicated early elective deliveries before 39-weeks' gestation which is called a hard-stop policy. The final blueprint will be shared with the Council.

Children's Mental Health and Regional Behavioral Health Boards – Gary Rillema and Mechelle Wilson

July 1st brought a new format of health boards statewide. A combination of the Regional Advisory Council for Substance Abuse and the Mental Health Board has become Behavioral Health Boards in each region. The hope is to be in a

development and service provision role as to primarily advisory. The Regional board is appointed with subcommittees open to members at-large. Every region is also required to have a committee devoted to children. Each region is in a different phase of the organizing process:

- 1) Fill Board Positions
- 2) Elect Officers & Executive Board
- 3) Evaluate options for organization

The options for organization are:

- 1) Maintain Status quo – advisory only
- 2) Partner with another entity such as a public health district or county – “stand up w/partner”
- 3) Become independent entity – “Stand up alone”

The Council and their respective agencies are encouraged to attend the regional meetings.

Please see the portal for PowerPoint presentation details and contacts for each region.

School Readiness Initiative – Beth Oppenheimer and Bill Foxcroft

It is imperative that Idaho be concentrating on building a policy and strategy for bringing preschool to Idaho. Several opportunities have been missed in the past to fund this issue. Previous efforts have been made on the early education front and the hope is the steering committee being formed will be more effective when approaching the legislature. The issue was brought to EC3 because of it falling into the framework of EC3’s strategic plan and the committee will be asking for guidance and participation from the Council.

Strategic Plan – ALL

The Council reviewed all components of the plan and gave comments.

- Keep mention of funding sources general as opposed to specific entities.
- Change to “Regional Behavioral Health Boards and children’s mental health sub-committee”
- Under Nutrition – Add “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-ED)”
- Under Nutrition – Collaborate with agencies regarding child obesity

The Council approved the 2014-2019 frame work and will address the individual strategies at the next meeting.

An update on one of the Council’s goals, “Health-Outcome #4/Child oral health outcomes will improve” a report shows that through a collaborative effort on the first year dental visit to reduce cavities:

- In 2013 out of 12,000 available for dental services >1 / 235 received services -- between 1 & 2 there were 7000
- The next year of the 26,000 available -- 7,000 received services

Head Start Collaboration – Omair Shamim

Omair introduced himself as the new Head Start Collaboration Director. His background includes being a Head Start parent and working in the program for several years followed by a stay in Washington, D.C. as a Head Start fellow in the National office. His experience working under a physician in Pakistan exposed him to early childhood health issues. He looks forward to his new position at Head Start in conjunction with his Council role.

Idaho Head Start Association – Bill Foxcroft

Bill continues to meet with Head Start staff since his being hired seven months ago. He is becoming more familiar with the programs and is currently updating the website. Parent stories and advocacy will be an important component of the next year’s agenda.

Idaho Child Care Program (ICCP) and TANF – Ericka Medalen

Health and Welfare's Child Care Assistance webpage has added an informational PowerPoint for families in both English and Spanish. It outlines the requirements and process for child care assistance and links to the online application form. The Office of Child Care reports the federal rules were not finalized this summer and are still in the management and budget office and due to come through later this fall. Once released, the rules will be written into the State of Idaho child care state plan.

ICCP is collaborating with partners to engage after school programming and home visiting programs in the Quality Rating and Improvement Rating System (QRIS).

Regarding child care licensing in Idaho, cities can set their own licensing as long as they meet state standards and regulations. Currently there are eight cities doing so in the state. The City of Boise in conjunction with IDAEYC and other partners has been working for a year and half on an ordinance to strengthen the city's child care licensing. It was open for public comment this week and is up for vote on September 30th.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is working with tribal entities in job readiness and cross referencing services across the state with Easter Seals and Goodwill.

Nationally, the Workforce Investment Opportunity Act has been revised with new initiative and program requirements which will lead to TANF collaborating with the Department of Labor in helping families.

Regional Early Childhood Committees – Holly Whitworth

The roles and responsibilities of the regional committees are to advise and assist the implementation of the Infant Toddler Program in each region and mirror EC3's goals and planning. Keeping this in mind at the annual meeting in August, the RECC adopted as their initiatives as The Crying Plan, Health & Nutrition, and Act Early.

In May, EC3 sent a letter to Optum regarding the gap in mental health services for children. RECC has started the dialogue with their Regional Behavioral Health Boards on this issue.

Detailed budgets are required from each RECC and discussion centered on the sharing of projects:

Region VI: Facilitated a special-needs fair where equipment could be swapped between families

Region VII: Prescription pads were prepared for the medical community that services special needs children listing local resources in the community and state along with a thank you gift of children's books for their waiting room

Other regional activities: Booths set up at health fairs and literacy fairs, promotion of Reach Out and Read program, Block Fest™ (Sherry and Holly will discuss the partnering of Block Fest™ and the Idaho AAP for events around the state)

Infant Toddler Program – Christy Cronheim

ITP is in the process of setting state performance plan targets for the State Systemic Performance Plan (SSIP). Targets must be equal to or great than the previous year's targets. Christy shared compliance indicators which have a federally mandated 100% compliance and performance indicators. Taken into consideration is the fact of increased enrollment with less resources and how it can result in sustainability issues. The targets were approved by the Council with Sherry and Justin to review a missing slide.

Please see Christy's PowerPoint -- ITP/SPP Targets for FFY13-18 -- on the portal for details.

The Council has requested a report from Jacquie at the November meeting regarding birth outcome data in addition to an update on PRATS.

Agency/Organization Reports – ALL

IESDB/Paula Mason: Currently, they are serving 1,800 children statewide – up from 1,100 in 2009. A student who received his lifeguarding certification wanted to give back and produced a swim lesson video in sign language specifically for a 4 year old in northern Idaho. Consequently, all students will now produce individual videos on something they shine at for the younger children.

SDE has approved paraprofessional training which will teach in-depth skills to parents, students and developmental specialists at a two-week training on campus summer of 2015. Also, SDE has funded the Unified Braille Code statewide workshop to teach teachers the updated code which has to be implemented by 2016.

Public Health District/Gary Rillema: Flu vaccination has begun statewide. Gary also reminded all about the Pertussis (DTap) vaccination and the recommendation for all agencies to have a policy in place as cases are up in Idaho. Enterovirus D68, which rapidly affects those children with asthma and respiratory conditions, currently has no vaccine. Simple steps to reduce the spread are being emphasized; hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes plus heightened awareness of the effect on children.

Migrant Seasonal Head Start/Sara San Juan: They are moving slots from the summer to the winter to accommodate families. This has brought an opportunity to collaborate with local school districts, specifically in Burley, to keep the center open in the winter. With state migrant ed funds, they will fund two teachers to continue pre-school classes plus infants and toddlers on the Head Start side. Data collected from Burley will assist them in partnering with more school districts in the future as the centers are fully furnished with resources, but closed seven months of the year. This will enable them to utilize the buildings to continue to serve children year round.

A \$200,000 grant has been received from the Cambia Foundation to implement a two-year program to prevent childhood obesity specific to migrant families.

On the agency side, they are addressing the needs of the older children and going on to college specifically into a health field. A conference was held last year at BSU with Latino medical staff visiting with students and answering questions and was so successful that plans are being made to organize another one for next year.

They have invited the Food Truck Rally to come out on October 10th to promote the program, so watch for details on the Rally Facebook page.

Parent Representative/Nancy Luevanos: An upcoming IPUL symposium on September 27th will be held at the Riverside Hotel in Boise. The symposium will be presented in Spanish and Nancy asks the Council to pass on the information to all Spanish-speaking families in their programs.

Legislative Update/Senator Fred Martin: He reported on a bill last year that recommended dropping the word “child” from the vaccination program. Data gathered for the state does not differentiate adult or child. Hundreds of emails and calls asked legislators not to support the bill; hence it never made it out of committee.

Idaho AEYC/Beth Oppenheimer: Regarding the Boise City licensing initiative, some of the opposition was centered on lowering the ratios and increasing the training requirements. It was seen as a financial burden for those home-based centers. Idaho AEYC is in the initial stages of addressing this concern by working with a local financial institution to assist providers in creating a business plan and model to meet the standards and continue to be successful.

QRIS 2.0 rolled out in July and is going well. Five programs are already star-rated at a high level with 76 enrolled and 115 expressing interest. Several providers have expressed their satisfaction with the trainings. In the past year, the number of providers continuing in the professional development system has doubled.

The annual event for Idaho AEYC is September 18th at Zoo Boise and honors four individuals who have made a significant impact in the early childhood field: Teresia Kituko, Carolyn Keiffer, Hollis Brookover, Jen Ross.

Health Insurance Exchange/Kathy McGill: For 2015, the exchange will be entirely state based as opposed to 2014 when the actual enrollment and the determination of tax credit were done through the federal health care website. The open enrollment period for 2015 is November 15, 2014 through February 15, 2015. For those already enrolled, there will be a passive enrollment which will automatically re-enroll them. Letters from the health carriers with changes in premium rates will be going out in November to help make informed decision. The Your Health Idaho Exchange board will meet on September 22nd to hear presentations from the Department of Insurance on health plans that want to be certified to be sold through the exchange. The board will vote on those plans to accept and add to the exchange.

Head Start Collaboration/Omair Shamim: The Early Years Conference is taking place October 29 & 30 at the Boise State Student Union Building. Please register at <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Default.aspx?TabId=2151>

Idaho Head Start Association/Bill Foxcroft: A grant application has been submitted for a national early Head Start Childcare partnership. Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership in Idaho Falls applied hoping to get into early head start and expand the program.

Idaho Council of Developmental Disabilities/Natali Pellens: At July's Council meeting they had Mike Green present on asset-based community development. They are looking for direction in choosing a community project that is inclusive and have been traveling to other states to gather information on their programs.

College of Southern Idaho/Ellen Neff: The Snake River Association for the Education of Young Children (SRAEYC) conference, October 4, 2014, will have a presentation by Bill Cohen, leader in Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" program.

An early childhood education program matriculation has been started with Canyon Bridge High School where a CDA preparation class will be taught for dual credit or PTE matriculation. Participants will be able to graduate high school with nine college credits.

The CSI child care center has always been under student services and is now under the early childhood education program. This change offers another lab and the opportunity to bring the center up to NAEYC accreditation standards.

Idaho Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics/Sherry Iverson: St Luke's is offering a drop-off site for old car seats this Saturday, September 13th from 10am-2pm at Kohl's on the corner of Eagle and Ustick.

Final Business - Sherry Iverson, Justin Coleman

The Council thanked Lorraine for her years of service as she is retiring and this is her last EC3 meeting. Please contact Sherry or Justin if you have any questions in the timeframe before the hiring of a new executive director.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 6th and 7th.

Adjourned @ 2:00pm