



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
IDEA Part C Office
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MINUTES

Name of Organization: Nevada Early Intervention Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC), Child Find Subcommittee

Date of Meeting: May 12, 2015

Meeting was held via teleconference at:
IDEA Part C Office
4126 Technology Way, Suite 200
Carson City, NV 89706

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Sherry Waugh called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. and quorum was established.

Members Present: Deborah Aquino, Sally Cannon, Marty Elquist, Terri Golish, Sarah Horsman, Marnie Lancz, Janice Lee, Erika Magana, Julie Ortiz, Christine Riggi, Martha Schott-Bernius, Robin Tolkach, Dr. Debra Vigil, Sherry Waugh, Tammie Williams, Jack Zenteno,

Members Absent: Lisa Cridland, Sarah Cwiak, Naomi Davidowitz, Dr. Rutu Ezhuthacham, Kate Green, Aimee Hadleigh, Sherry Halley, Stephanie Houle, Thomas Kapp, Robin Kincaid, Dr. Catherine Lyons, Mary Pennington, Ann Polakowski, Angela Tate

Public Present: Brooke Lombard, Advanced Pediatric Therapy (APT), Janelle Mulvenon, Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) – Northwest (NW)

Part C Office Present: Brenda Bledsoe, Ewelina Meade, Dan Dinnell, Mary Knight

II. Public Comment

No public comment was given.

III. Review and Approve Minutes of the February 3, 2015 meeting

Ms. Waugh asked for any corrections to the minutes but none were offered.

MOTION: Approve the minutes as written.

BY: Deborah Aquino

SECOND: Janice Lee
VOTE: PASSED

IV. Update of Progress on State System Improvement Plan (SSIP) Phase I and Phase II

Brenda Bledsoe stated the next step will need to be implementation and as with Phase I there will need to be a written plan which will be due April 1, 2016. She noted she had received an email from the Infant Toddlers Coordination Association (ITCA) reporting the US Office of Special Education (OSEP) had indicated at the IDC conference in Jacksonville they would be extending the submission date for Phase II from the February 1, 2016 date to April to make the timeline consistent with when Phase I of the SSIP was submitted.

Ms. Bledsoe then reported many good ideas came out of the ICC Strategic Planning meeting. A couple which she will be working on soon is a public information document about the SSIP and the goals hoped to be achieved through this process and providing training to early intervention staff starting with assessment tools. She also related the IDEA Part C office is collaborating with the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) for the Early Childhood Inclusion Conference to be held in July. Through this conference, information will be provided to demonstrate how improving outcomes for children, providing training and technical assistance around assessments, writing outcomes and social emotional development are all linked by the SSIP stakeholder process and which was identified as needed improvements in the statewide system. The SSIP will be in the forefront of the work of the IDEA Part C Office for some time to come.

Ms. Bledsoe related a meeting to review our state monitoring system is scheduled for June 10, 2015. The goal is to look at the monitoring process to try to align it with the outcomes-based approach to systems improvement and the SSIP. Tammie Williams stated her interest in partnering with the IDEA Part C Office on training.

V. Update on Progress of Petal Poster Revisions

In the absence of Sherry Halley, Ewelina Meade reported no adjustments had been made to the poster. Ms. Williams elaborated that the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) subcommittee is working on revising their bylaws and once these are completed the plan is to start work on the Petal Poster.

VI. IDEA Part C Office Reports

• Review Compiled Data From Program Child Find Reports for 2nd Quarter

Ms. Bledsoe stated one of Ms. Meade's responsibilities in her new position with the IDEA Part C Office will be the Compiled Child Find Reports. She will be looking at a process for collecting and reporting data targeted to current efforts. At our statewide meeting participants will be asked to provide feedback on ways to streamline the process. She explained these reports were started in 2006 in an effort to see how broadly we were covering the state, if key areas were being addressed, if gaps in identification existed in places so an extra effort could be put forth, and what populations were being reported on. Each program in the state system is required to submit a quarterly report on their child find activities. These reports are used with the

TRAC data system to triangulate the data to determine how well the child find system is functioning.

- **Present December 1, 2014 Child Count Reports**

Ms. Bledsoe provided the subcommittee with comparison child counts from December 1, 2013 and December 1, 2014. She is hopeful this data will be helpful to others since it looks at population changes in counties, various age group break downs and other significant changes within the state. In 2013, the concern was around the large drop in birth to one numbers but as the 2014 data shows these numbers are up. As a reminder, she stated that the December 1 counts are point in time data; a snap shot of the system. This is the way OSEP asks us to report; there are also cumulative quarterly and annual counts compiled from the TRAC IV data system. The December 1st counts are our official numbers and what we are evaluated on in our APR.

Martha Schott-Bernius noted the birth to three total was missing for the Easter Seals Nevada (ESN) North program. Ms. Bledsoe stated the total should be 27 and the error would be corrected.

Ms. Schott-Bernius inquired as to where these counts put the State in terms of percentages. Ms. Bledsoe indicated for percentages the state demographers numbers are used to the calculations to see where we stand. However, the official percentages are based on what OSEP puts out as our projections, even though these never match. The OSEP projections are not available until November of each year. OSEP will then publish our percentages based on our child count and their projections. The measure, or the target that we always striving for, is to serve at least 1% percent of the general population for birth to one and then 2% of the general population for birth to three. Ms. Bledsoe remarked she is confident Nevada will be back on target this year.

- **Update on Upcoming Early Childhood Inclusion Conference on July 13-14, 2015**

Ms. Bledsoe has confirmed some of the sessions and presenters at the conference will focus on birth to three. A few of the sessions currently being finalized are a presenter for parent child interaction, the EAST team from NEIS-NW will be presenting their Trauma Training model, and social emotional assessment instruments comparisons. She indicated it is ramping up to be a very good conference and is appreciative Ms. Halley agreed to partner with the IDEA Part C Office.

- **Effective Practice Guidelines Workgroup**

Ms. Bledsoe stated Ms. Meade will be taking the lead on this. The current set of Effective Practice Guidelines was developed between 2005 and 2007. They were very well done but need to be updated. The first section to be focused on will be the Intake and Referrals module. There will be a work group created to review and provide feedback. Drafts of the revised modules will be presented to this subcommittee review and provide feedback on. One of the elements in the Effective Practice Guidelines that was good, but is certainly in need of updating, was the parallel between what was required in TRAC for data input and reporting and the actual practice guidelines.

VII. Update on Part C Office Child Find Activities

- **2015 American Indian/Alaskan Native Education Summit, March 16-17**
- **2015 NevAEYC conference, April 17-18**
- **Sent a packet of “Babies Have a Lot to Learn” to Social worker in Fallon, March 2015**

Dan Dinnell reported he had resource tables at both of these conferences. Ms. Waugh expressed it was great having Mr. Dinnell in attendance for those conferences and providing information.

Ms. Bledsoe inquired about the packet of brochures which were sent to Fallon. Mr. Dinnell reported he had received a call from a woman in Fallon asking for the “Babies Have a Lot to Learn” brochures which he sent to her. Ms. Bledsoe explained these brochures are also used in the “Pink Project” which is a packet of information given to new parents at hospitals statewide. She indicated the IDEA Part C Office has been participating in this program for several years and had just sent approximately 17,000 brochures, which is a six month supply, to the Immunize Nevada program who distributes the packets statewide. It is the largest distribution of brochures the office does. Ms. Schott-Bernius stated she was not aware of the program and doubted it was being done in the Northeast. Ms. Bledsoe indicated follow-up would be done to find out if families really take notice of the information and find out the packet distribution schedule as well as which hospitals receive them.

Ms. Schott-Bernius inquired as to the status on the updating of the Milestones booklet to include up to 6 years of age. Dr. Debra Vigil replied Ms. Halley had put something together and had submitted it to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) but they are waiting for their response. Dr. Vigil stated she would email with the CDC today to obtain a status. She explained the CDC wanted to ensure the wording was similar to what they already had and that it would be understandable at a 5th grade level. Ms. Bledsoe stated they would follow-up with Dr. Vigil at the next meeting and then inquired about the follow-up on the growth charts. Dr. Vigil stated she had not followed up on that, but she will talk to the CDC and get the template. She indicated the program she used is called “In Design,” and within that you can make changes pretty easily. Ms. Bledsoe remarked referral information including the three regional points of entry phone numbers should be listed so people would know where to call if they had a concern and wanted to have their child assessed. Deborah Aquino stated her program has a couple of copies of the software within the home visiting program and they may be able to help with the designing as well as being able to cover some of the cost of the new poster.

VIII. Consider Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

- Follow up with Dr. Debra Vigil regarding Milestones growth chart and booklet update. Possible use of InDesign program to update these.
- Child Find Activities Updates
- Review new program Child Find Reports
- Feature the work of one partner agency/program. Jack Zenteno will present on the Child Care Block Grant mission, goals, outcomes, and reorganization at the next meeting.

IX. Schedule Future Meetings

- June 23, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.

X. Public Comment

Terri Golish provided a program updates for NEIS Northwest - Reno:

- Staff went to childcare centers and community partners to talk to the providers about services offered and passed out brochures.
- Recent collaborating with Native American population in the form of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with the Reno/Sparks Indian colony as well as Hungry Valley.
- Staff, including a music therapist, has been doing monthly screenings in community play groups that feature music play. To date, there have been eight children screened and made eligible.
- A postcard was created and sent out to doctors, daycare providers, as well as home daycare providers, and community partners making them aware the program has had 14 consecutive months of no wait for families and requesting referrals from them.
- Staff recently participated in the "Justin Hope" walk.

Ms. Bledsoe inquired if data is being kept on the screenings that actually go to referral.

Ms. Golish stated that they are.

Ms. Schott-Bernius reported the Northeast had a Childhood Trauma Training.

XI. Adjournment

Ms. Waugh adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.