

***Iowa Council for Early ACCESS  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, October 31, 2012***

**I. Call to order**

**Julie Hahn**, ICEA chair, called the meeting of the Early ACCESS Executive Committee to order at 11:00 AM on October 31, 2012 in Des Moines, IA at the Grimes State Office Bldg, 400 E 14<sup>th</sup> St., Room 3 North.

Chairperson Hahn provided a brief update regarding parent member, Dr. Ray Brownsworth. Dr. Brownsworth submitted his resignation from the Council; he has taken a position as a hospital administrator in Florida.

**II. Attendance**

**Council Members Present:** Maria Cashman via conference call (cc), Paula Connolly, Chad Dahm, Julie Hahn, Heather Moorman, and LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl

**Staff Present:** Jodi Bruce, Jim Donoghue, Rae Miller via (cc), Chris Rubino, Cindy Weigel, and Meghan Wolfe

**Absent:** Michael Bergan, Gretchen Hageman, and Deb Waldron

**III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

August minutes were reviewed. Motion made by Paula Connolly, 2<sup>nd</sup> by LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl to the minutes. Approved unanimously.

**IV. Lead Agency Update**

LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl, designee to represent the Department of Education as Lead Agency, reported the Signatory Agencies are meeting to draft the Early ACCESS Interagency Memorandum of Agreement since the current agreement ends June 30, 2013. The agencies are working on revising text for their commitment to the Early ACCESS system over the next five-year Memorandum of Agreement.

LauraBelle indicated one Early ACCESS state position is still open for compliance and monitoring (Cindy Weigel's previous position) and interviews are scheduled for next week.

**V. Medicaid Update**

Jim Donoghue provided information regarding the *Good Standing Visit* with Grant Wood AEA 10 & Northwest AEA 12. A handout of the Table of Revenue was shared; all sites were paid a total of \$479.7k and retained \$293.2k.

Cindy Weigel, Early ACCESS Coordinator, shared that Julie Curry (retired Early ACCESS Coordinator) had started dialog with Iowa Educational Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired about billing as a Part C provider. Arrangements

were hoped to be made by October, but implementation may not occur now until January.

**VI. Informal System Concerns report**

Chris Rubino, Early ACCESS state liaison for Department of Human Services, shared there were no new updates for the EA Informal Concerns Reporting System.

**VII. Connecting EA Leadership Group priorities to ICEA activities**

Cindy Weigel provided information that the Early ACCESS Leadership Group participated in an activity to prioritize their future work as a statewide system. She suggested presenting this information to the ICEA, so members would be aware of these priorities to align both groups' work. The EA Executive Committee agreed this would be a good idea; Cindy will follow-up with asking the facilitator to attend the ICEA meeting in November.

**VIII. Governor's report update**

LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl indicated the Early ACCESS report is due to the Governor in January, but first it has to be approved by the DE Deputy Division Administrator, David Tilly, by December 19, 2012.

She shared the progress of the Early ACCESS Governor's Report Committee in using suggestions discussed at the last committee meeting. They stressed the importance of describing the amount and the sources of funding for the Early ACCESS system. This information can be provided; three main funding streams support the system and can be researched. It was noted that the AEA Directors of Special Education and the Early ACCESS AEA Liaisons feel stretched beyond their capacity to provide service coordination and support services as the child count number continues to increase.

The EA Executive Committee members discussed the importance to have information of each agency's contributions to the Early ACCESS system as a part of the report. The AEAs contributions were considered important to include in the report too.

**IX. Plan for November ICEA meeting**

Julie Hahn, ICEA Chair, lead the discussion for planning the November Council meeting. The following topics were discussed for the agenda:

- Open with family story
- DHS, Chris Rubino, present American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funded project
- Governor report update (leave it to Committee meeting over lunch)
- Legislative update – Sheila Hanson
- Charlie Brunner present about Iowa children at-risk data shared at an Early Childhood Iowa meeting

- State staff present Part C Annual Performance Indicators 1, 7, 8; Council provide input from small and large group discussions
- Medicaid update – Jim Donoghue
- Sharing of group and adjourn

**X. Sharing and adjourn**

- A Feasibility and Planning Study Committee for the Iowa School for the Deaf compiled a report for the future plans of Iowa School for the Deaf. The report is available for public comment. Go to the Department of Education's website, and see posting on the Special Education Advisory Panel' link. Julie Hahn
- Attended *Pit Stop* meeting, Julie Hahn
- Attended Parents as Presenters training, Heather Morman and Aryn Kruse
- Going to attend state bowling event, Susie Morman (reported by Mom, Heather Morman)

**Julie Hahn** adjourned the meeting at 12:18 pm.

Motion made by Paula Connolly to adjourn meeting and Heather Morman seconded; approved unanimously and meeting was adjourned.

**Minutes submitted by:** Jodi Bruce

**2012-2013 Executive Committee future meeting dates:**

- December 19, 2012
- February 6, 2013
- April 3, 2013
- June 19, 2013