

*Iowa Council for Early ACCESS
Meeting Minutes, May 17, 2013*

I. Call to order

Julie Hahn called to order the regular meeting of the **Iowa Council for Early ACCESS** at **10:06 AM** on May 17, 2013 in **Clive, Iowa at the Country Inn and Suites**.

II. Attendance

Council Members Present: Gladys Alvarez, Marty Andera, Robert Anderson, Michael Bergan, Mary Butler, Paula Connolly, Gary Guetzko, Julie Hahn, Angela Hance, Shari Huecksteadt, Heather Moorman, LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl, Janet Stauss, Kim Thomas, Kasey Vermillion, Debra Waldron (CC).

Staff Present: Chris Rubino, Melissa Schnurr, Cindy Weigel, Kate Small, Meghan Wolfe

Absent: Brenda Best, Maria Cashman, Chad Dahm, Kevin Koester, Aryn Kruse, Gretchen Hageman (Megan Wolfe represented Gretchen).

III. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Minutes from the March 8, 2013 meeting were reviewed and corrected as follows:

- 1) Marcus Johnson was noted as a guest representing Gretchen Hageman
- 2) Under committee reports: Implications of C-sections were correlated with high school dropout.

Motion made by Gladys Alvarez and seconded by Marti Andera to approve the minutes. **Approved** unanimously.

IV. Family Story

Kasey Vermillion presented the story her sons Peter and Elijah

V. Susan Maude presentation Reflections on IA Endorsement 100 Unified Early Childhood Education.

Professional Development in Early Childhood. This is ONE way to prepare competent and qualified practitioners in Early Intervention. We need to promote the training of professionals who are Appropriately and Adequately Prepared including the establishment and maintenance of qualifications.

Evolution of the Unified Endorsement in Iowa: started in the 1990s and “families” was not in the original definition. 1993 proposal to the board of educational examiners to have a 2-level endorsement (unified and field specialist); rejected field specialist. In 2002 it was implemented. Infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities are being left out of a lot of programs. Current initiatives in Iowa that have impacted Early Intervention include (but are not limited to): Parents as Presenters, Kirkwood Community Alliance, and National EC personnel center (Julianne Woods).

One problem in the state of Iowa is inconsistent practices in curriculum; Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs) lump endorsements for Early Intervention. Other issues

include: the loss of the “Family Voice” in higher education, students report not feeling prepared to work with diverse children and/or families, some difficulty in findings Early ACCESS sites to allow “shadowing” experiences, and some IHE’s report that they cannot find Early ACCESS sites to take students for an 8-week “student teaching” experience. 9 IHEs currently offer endorsement 100. The Board of Education Examiners (State of Iowa) has endorsement 100 up for revision this fall. We are hoping to offer suggestions on how to improve this endorsement. Medical practice- need to focus on competencies, not necessarily endorsements.

VI. Medicaid Update

Jim Donohue gave an update on Medicaid.

Up to date on revenue. The FAQs and Talking Points are complete. We will follow up on the service coordinator Medicaid billable matrix, which clarifies activities that are billable to Medicaid.

Educational Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be able to bill Medicaid directly starting next year.

The current contract to provided services for the AEAs is up June 30.

Prairie Lakes AEA was visited and the report is pending.

VII. Part C Updates

LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl updated on Part C.

We will not have the impact of sequestration until 2014-2015. That is going to impact us \$200,000. Part C does not have a lot of money, and will impact our discretionary projects. We have had to tap into making cuts across other line items. We are trying to conserve how much we cut services to the children. We want to maintain the Distance Mentoring Model project since that is a 5-year project. We have been able to avoid those cuts.

We had to give input on the State performance plan. Now the Annual Performance Report is up for public comment. The good news is that they are going to delete 2 indicators that are “redundant”.

It might be useful to have reminders emailed to the council if representation from the council is needed. Maybe have a follow-up email with links.

Discussion on Public Health no longer doing service coordination effective July 1st. Information was sent out to Early ACCESS liaisons. We need to talk about some next steps for how to distribute information.

VIII. Early ACCESS Leadership Group

Shari Huecksteadt gave an update on the Early ACCESS Leadership Group.

IX. Iowa Early Learning Standards Update

Trying to finalize family surveys and file reviews. This year families could choose to do a paper survey or an electronic survey. This is the last year that the agencies will be

in charge of distributing the surveys; next year the Department of Education will be in charge of the surveys. For file reviews, most regions are completed or close to being completed.

The distance mentoring model is going well. We had Julianne Woods from Florida State University to talk through what the adoption of the model will look like in Iowa. At the last meeting, the Leadership Group worked on refining a technology survey for the regions to complete, as well as a leadership letter to find mentors.

Save the date: June 24,25,26 for the DMM (Distance Mentoring Model) Mania. We will send out information for the dates/location and rough agenda. We want to plan what the model will look like in Iowa.

We are also working on revising the Service Coordination Models with Melissa Schnurr.

Web IFSP (Individual Family Service Plan) and IMS (Information Management System) will be connected as of July 1st.

X. Membership/Slate

Gladys Alvarez reported that there will be four open positions on the council next year. One parent, One Early Childhood Iowa, A private/provider for childcare, and a private provider.

We need to update the slate as well and will be voted on in the fall.

XI. Committee Reports

Parent

Parents as Presenters brochures are out and will be posted online.

Public Policy none to report

Governor's Report none to report

Membership/Nominations reported earlier

By-Laws none to report

XII. Sharing of Activities and Upcoming Events

A big THANK YOU to Chris Rubino, Mike Bergan, and Robert Anderson for their service to the council. You will all be missed. Also, a big THANK YOU to Julie Hahn for serving as the council chair for the past 3 years. We are fortunate that Julie will still be with us for the remainder of her term.

We are working on dates for next council meeting.

Dates are tentatively Sept. 13, Nov. 15., January 17., March 14., and May 16.

Shari: reported attending a training related to the ASQ: Ages and Stages Questionnaire.

Paula Connolly: hosted a state-wide convention May 4th and gave stipends for families to attend. Contracted with VNS to provide daycare and also had activities for children.

National speakers and education LeDerrick Harris (poet) and others were speakers at the conference.

Gladys: Trauma and Informed Care Conference in June. If you haven't gotten a flier- Trauma and informed care website. www.traumainformedcareproject.org
Module on informed care- learning development management.
Integrated Health Homes will be in Des Moines this July. If you hear about this and who has that it is the mental health component, pay attention and get connected in your area with whoever is providing the service.

Mike Bergan: In April there will be a 3A conference related to child abuse.
Birth to Three is doing their conference online May 21-22.

Janet Stauss: Taken lead on training in agency and just finished on the new infant toddler on train the trainer. Mental Health has been a strong focus in our agency.

Robert Anderson: Far from the Tree by Sullivan is a good resource. Jen Best (ISU outreach) formed a study group and they came up with a paper on the Art of Hosting.

XIII. DHS Update

Chris Rubino gave an update for Department of Human Services. Information can be found on DHS website under public information → about us.

The Power of Teaming Training has been going on throughout the state.

Focused on where the laws came together

Big presenter coming in September Todd Bogie; he is going to present on socio-emotional relationships. Opening up the presentation to community partners at no-charge.

XIV. Adjournment

Julie Hahn adjourned the meeting at **3:14**

A motion was made by Paula Connolly and seconded by Robert Anderson. It was approved unanimously.

Minutes submitted by: Kate Small