

APPROVED by ICC 7/26/02

**STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC)
ON EARLY INTERVENTION**

MEETING MINUTES

FRIDAY, May 31, 2002
Burbank Airport Hilton
Burbank, CA

ICC MEMBERS PRESENT

Raymond M. Peterson, M.D., Chair
Jim Bellotti, CDE
George Chance, DSS
Arleen Downing, M.D.
Rick Ingraham, DDS
Marie Kanne Poulsen, Ph.D.
Hallie Morrow, M.D., DHS
Martha Sanchez
Elaine Fogel Schneider, Ph.D.

ICC MEMBERS ABSENT

Livia Faure-Gault
Cynthia Jaynes, DADP
Nancy Lee, DOI
Cynthia Rutledge, DMH
Sharon Tettegah, Ph.D.

CALL TO ORDER

Raymond M. Peterson, M.D., Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ICC members, community representatives, staff, and members of the audience provided self-introductions. Dr. Peterson introduced Tony Anderson of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities who will serve on the Family Support Services Committee (FSSC). Dr. Peterson announced that applications for appointment to the ICC continue to be accepted. The Governor's Office is in the process of interviewing those who have recently applied for appointment.

Dr. Peterson welcomed Rhonda Ingel, California's Part C contact, and Larry Ringer, Associate Director, Division of Monitoring and State Improvement Planning, from the US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and expressed his appreciation to them for facilitating an informative interactive discussion on Thursday evening.

It was noted that a quorum of ICC members was in attendance.

AGENDA

The agenda was reviewed and approved as presented.

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APPROVAL OF MARCH 2002 ICC MINUTES

The minutes of the March 2002 meeting were approved as written.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Dr. Peterson reported that the Child Health and Disability Prevention program funding was reinstated in the Governor's May budget revise. Dr. Peterson thanked the ICC for their commitment to work as a cohesive group, maintain parent professional partnerships, and work with the Legislature to ensure adequate funding for programs serving vulnerable children and their families.

Dr. Peterson congratulated the twelve Family Empowerment Centers selected under SB 511. A list of the services provided and contact information for each center is attached.

Dr. Peterson reviewed the outcome of OSEP's Interactive Discussion held last night. Five major "cluster" areas for continuous improvement were discussed: general supervision; child find and public awareness; family centeredness; early intervention services provided in natural environments; and transition. DDS reviewed preliminary plans for continuous quality improvement and invited input and suggestions from those in attendance.

STAFF REPORT

The next ICC meeting will be held in Sacramento at the Red Lion Inn. Participants needing assistance with travel arrangements may contact Barbara Ferriera. Travel advances may be dependent on passage of the State Budget for fiscal year 2002-03; staff will look into this. The agenda for the upcoming July ICC meeting was discussed. It was agreed that there would be further discussion on the 2001 Early Start Program: Family Satisfaction Survey.

Cheri Schoenborn, DDS, briefly discussed the *ICC Orientation Handbook* and acknowledged DDS staff members Pat Hastings and Barbara Ferriera for their contributions to the *Handbook*. Ms. Schoenborn encouraged participants to review the *Handbook* and provide suggestions and input to DDS.

Ms. Schoenborn also reported on the impact the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act has had on the ICC. The ICC meeting agendas and minutes are now posted on the Early Start web site and can be accessed at <http://www.dds.ca.gov/EarlyStart/main/ESICCOverview.cfm>

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER NETWORK OF CALIFORNIA (FRCN-CA) REPORT

Mara McGrath, FRCN-CA Chair, reported on their meeting held on Wednesday. Thirty-two Network members attended the meeting, as well as Rhonda Ingel from OSEP.

Ms. McGrath reported that the meeting format has changed to support the activities of three subcommittees. The subcommittee topic areas include membership, legislation and technical assistance.

Ms. McGrath reported the meeting included: a presentation by Roberta Newton on Statewide Purchase of Service Standards; a conference call with Clarice Chesser on the implication of budget reductions on health care; a discussion with Jean Brunelli and Shelly Cox about planning speakers for the next FRCN conference; and an update from Juno Duenas on the activities of Family Voices.

Ms. McGrath reported the Legislative update at their meeting centered on SB 1703 (approved by the Governor and Chaptered in September 2000), that appropriated \$42,000,000 from the General Fund to the State Department of Education for the purposes of funding, on a one-time basis, the activities related to child care and development services, including grants for child care providers to make repairs and modifications to their facilities to increase inclusion of children with disabilities. Participants also discussed SB 1630 (introduced in February 2002). This bill would revise the provisions relating to the composition, powers, and duties of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities and the Area Board. The bill would increase the membership of the State DD Council from 19 to 24, and would specify that one member of each area board shall serve on the council, and would revise the Governor's other State DD Council appointments. The bill would eliminate the Organization of Area Boards, and would transfer certain of its powers and duties to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

FRCN-CA members expressed concern about the possibility of duplication of effort with newly created Department of Social Services, Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) family resource centers. The FRCN-CA is discussing plans to offer outreach, training and technical assistance to the OCAP centers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COTW)

Dr. Peterson thanked DDS staff for preparing the comprehensive information in the ICC meeting packet. He reviewed the results of the interim meeting of the FSSC and their plans to participate in the development of a "Transfer of Knowledge on Child Care" symposium. He acknowledged the completion of the *2001 Early Start Program: Family Satisfaction Survey* conducted by XenologiX, Inc. and for thanked Rick Ingraham and Ken Freedlander for sharing the results with the ICC. Dr. Peterson thanked OSEP representatives for attending the committee meetings and providing support to California Early Start.

Potential agenda items for the next COTW meeting included:

- 1) A discussion with XenologiX, Inc. about the *2001 Early Start Program: Family Satisfaction Survey*.
- 2) Continued discussion on child care issues and a report from the FSSC on the results of the symposium planning committee meeting.
- 3) A presentation from DHS and CDE regarding Hearing Assessments.

PUBLIC AWARENESS COMMITTEE (PAC)

Elaine Fogel Schneider, Ph.D., Chair, thanked Larry Ringer from OSEP for joining their meeting and reported on PAC activities. PAC requested that their July committee meeting be held in conjunction with the HSC to continue their collaboration on outreach to physicians. PAC also reviewed the *ICC Orientation Handbook* and suggested adding a copy of the ICC Community Representative membership application.

PAC discussed the ICC's recommended *California Early Start Comprehensive Strategic Plan for Child Find and Public Awareness 2001-2003*. The committee is looking at a options for a data-based evaluation component to assist DDS with tracking the effectiveness of public awareness activities.

PAC discussed the Newcomer's Orientation meeting held just prior to the start of the COTW meeting and making it a part of all future ICC meetings. The Newcomer's Orientation meetings have been well received and are currently held on an informal basis. PAC discussed options for mentoring visitors and committee members agreed to individually research possibilities and share results at the July meeting. PAC suggested that a representative from the FSSC participate in the Newcomer's Orientation meeting. PAC would like to continue to refine their efforts toward recruiting parents and professionals to attend and participate in ICC meetings. Dr. Schneider reported the DDS Babyline report has shown a consistent increase in the number of Spanish calls to the toll-free Early Start information line. PAC would like to explore receiving additional data on how callers became aware of Early Start and the toll free information line.

Rick Ingraham also attended a portion of the PAC meeting he stated that an Early Start strand would be included in the Health and Wellness Conference planned for the fall of 2003. He would like ICC representatives to assist conference planners with determining topics, speakers and other logistics for the Early Start strand.

QUALITY ASSURANCE, PROGRAM AND PERSONNEL STANDARDS COMMITTEE (QAPPSC)

Marie Poulsen, Ph.D., Chair, reported on a Special Presentation by Ann Kuschner on the Sonoma State University project to align the needs of children with special needs with the Desired Results for Children and Families project conducted by the Child Development Division of the California Department of Education (CDD/CDE). The "Desired Results: Access for Children with Disabilities (DR-access)" project was funded by CDE to develop a system of child outcomes and assessment methodologies that can be used to assess the progress of children with disabilities, birth to 5 years of age participating in programs funded under the CDD. Ms. Kuschner responded to questions posed by those assembled. She welcomes feedback and will maintain on-going contact with the committee.

Ken Freedlander responded to questions and concerns expressed by members of the committee regarding the completed *2001 Early Start Program: Family Satisfaction Survey*. Most comments concerned the lack of program-specific satisfaction data in the report and some important informational areas that seem to have been omitted, such as the designation of Early Interventionist or Early Educator, from the categories of professionals providing EI services to children. Ken thanked the group for their comments and reiterated the importance of viewing the document in its entirety. DDS intends to collect longitudinal data utilizing a refined version of this tool.

Dr. Poulsen distributed information about the development of the mental health screening tool for children 0-5 years (MHST 0-5), including copies of the tool, for the committee to review for discussion at the next meeting of the QAPPSC meeting in July. Copies are attached to the QAPPSC minutes.

HEALTH SYSTEMS COMMITTEE (HSC)

Arlene Downing, M.D., Chair, acknowledged the dedicated work of the committee to produce the *HSC Recommendations for Vision Screenings for Children in the Early Start Program*. HSC plans to commence work in July on recommendations for hearing assessment, beginning with a speaker from CDE. Rick Ingraham indicated that DDS would send a representative from the Health and Wellness Section to attend the next meeting.

HSC reviewed and made recommendations on the document *titled Preferred Practice Patterns for Speech-Language Pathologists in Service Delivery to Infants and Toddlers and Their Families* prepared by the California Speech-Language-Hearing Association Ad Hoc Committee on Early Intervention. This draft document is included with the HSC minutes. Additional information can also be accessed at <http://www.csha.org/>

HSC acknowledged the PAC for addressing outreach to clinicians as there are always new professionals entering the early intervention service system and therefore a need for on-going outreach and training. HSC will continue collaborative work with the PAC at the July meeting regarding outreach materials for physicians and other primary health care providers.

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE (FSSC)

George Chance reported that the FSSC was very well attended and reviewed the committee's activities. The t-grid was reviewed and updated it to reflect recently completed work.

The FSSC focused on issues they want to share with the symposium planning committee and addressing questions and concerns raised at the COTW regarding fiscal impact, work plans, timelines, staffing, logistics and generating sponsorships and revenue. One symposium, in a single location to be determined, would be feasible. County teams comprised of staff from child care local planning councils (LPC), local California Children and Families Commissions (CCFC), Early Head Start, child care resource and referral networks (R&R), regional centers, local education agencies, parents and other partners were identified as the target audience. The outcome is for participants to develop an action plan to advance local efforts in inclusive child care. A vision statement for the symposium was drafted and will be shared with the symposium planning team. Mr. Chance indicated that a meeting to continue symposium planning was scheduled for June 14, 2002 at the WestEd Center for Prevention and Early Intervention in Sacramento.

ACTION ITEM

George Chance presented the FSSC's recommendations for a "*Transfer of Knowledge Symposium on Child Care*." After a brief discussion the ICC approved a recommendation to request DDS collaborate, support and participate with CDPAC and other key stakeholders to plan, develop and implement a child care symposium in the fall of 2002. A request for the ICC to support the participation of six designees as ICC representatives on the symposium planning committee was also approved. ICC representatives will be attending the June 14 symposium planning committee meeting.

ACTION ITEM

Dr. Downing presented the HSC's "*Recommendations for Vision Evaluation for Children in the Early Start Program.*" After a brief discussion the ICC approved a recommendation that DDS coordinate and collaborate with the California Departments of Education and Health Services, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, to review and act upon the information and recommendations contained in the paper entitled "*Recommendations for Vision Evaluation for Children in the Early Start Program*" developed by the ICC Health Systems Committee.

PUBLIC INPUT

Linda Brault provided information about a conference sponsored by the Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children. The conference is called "Recommended Practices for Changing Times" and will be held December 5-8, 2002 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina. A copy of the registration information is attached.

Diana Lee provided information from the Sickle Cell Community Health Network of Northern California regarding a current federal initiative from the HRSA's Maternal, Child and Health Bureau – Genetic Services to fund up to fifteen local, community based sickle cell disease projects for one year beginning September 1, 2002. The Sickle Cell Community Health Network of Northern California is partnering with newborn screening sickle cell counseling centers, specialty treatment centers, and primary care providers to pilot a model of early intervention for infants and toddlers birth to three years of age. Ms. Lee requested the involvement of the ICC and DDS in the development of a model of care. Additional information provided by Ms. Lee is attached.

Kathleen Finn provided information about a conference sponsored by CDE, Special Education Division. The Special Education Early Childhood Administrators Project (SEECAP) Symposia is conducted every February to examine controversial and current critical and re-occurring issues in the field. SEECAP addresses issues of quality, collaboration, inclusion, and compliance from an administrative viewpoint and seeks to build skills in active leadership. The Symposia, "Lessons in Leadership" will be held in northern California on February 4-6, 2003, and in southern California February 18-20, 2003. Additional information provided by Ms. Finn is attached.

Jean Brunelli provided a copy of a letter submitted to DDS on May, 28 2002, regarding the Infant Development Association's (IDA) response to the proposed statewide Purchase of Service Standards. A copy of this correspondence is attached.

Jim Cleveland provided an update on his participation at a May 28, 2002 meeting of the Partnership Committee on Special Education. Dr. Cleveland represents the ICC and the interest of the birth through age three population in a multi-million dollar state improvement grant to improve special education services. Dr. Cleveland noted that more parents have been attending the meeting. He will provide an additional progress update at the July meeting.

AGENCY REPORTS

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (CDE)

Jim Bellotti reported that in addition to his appointment to the ICC as the designee for ICC member Delaine Eastin, four additional CDE personnel have been designated as liaisons to the ICC committees. Mr. Bellotti will be representing CDE at COTW and ICC meetings. Other CDE staff and the committees they will be liaisons to are:

Melody James, Special Education Division, Liaison to QAPPSC

Nancy Sager, State Special Schools and Services Division, Liaison to HSC

Janet Canning, Special Education Division, Liaison to PAC

Mary Smithburger, Child Development Division, Liaison to FSSC

Mr. Bellotti emphasized CDE's commitment to participation on the ICC. He stated CDE is pleased to provide staff to work on a collaborative venture supporting young children and their families. Mr. Bellotti reported that the SED has been reorganized in order to place all Part C activities in the Administrative Services Unit. Melody James is the lead staff on all Part C activities, including monitoring. Ben Traverso has assisted in upgrading data reporting to DDS and made the CDE verification process and DDS monitoring process more streamlined and comprehensive. CDE continues to work on Part B compliance issues with OSEP representatives. Additional information can be accessed at www.cde.ca.gov/spbranch/sed

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES (DHS)

Dr. Hallie Morrow discussed the May Revision of the Governor's Budget for 2002-03 and its impact on Child Health Disability Prevention (CHDP). The CHDP program provides preventative health services for children and youth of low-income families in California. The Governor's Budget released in January proposed a \$120 million reduction in the CHDP, however this funding was reinstated through April 2003 in the May Revision. The May Revision also included a decrease in medical provider reimbursement rates.

Dr. Morrow discussed the Gateway Project that allows providers to electronically determine, via a fiscal intermediary, if a child currently has Medi-Cal or Healthy Families coverage or is eligible for coverage under either program.

Dr. Morrow provided a brief update on the Newborn Hearing Screening Program (NHSP). Families of infants delivered at California Children's Services (CCS) approved hospitals which have been certified by DHS to participate in the NHSP are offered the opportunity to have their baby's hearing screened. Infants who do not pass the screening in the hospital will be referred for additional testing after discharge. DHS is contracting with Hearing Coordination Centers to work with the hospitals in developing hearing screening programs, to perform quality assurance activities, and to follow infants who need additional services. At this time 70 hospitals have provided over 175,000 hearing screenings. More information about the program can be accessed at <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/pcfh/cms/HTML/NHSP.htm>

DHS has issued a policy letter on April 18, 2002, regarding implementation of Senate Bill 344 which requires the CCS client application form to be posted on the DHS internet website. CCS Letter, number 04-0402, is attached. The CCS client application can be accessed at

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www.dhs.ca.gov/publications/forms/pdf/dhs4480.pdf

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (DSS)

George Chance reported that DSS continues to prepare self-assessment phase of the Children and Family Service Federal Review. DSS anticipates completing the site monitoring phase of the review later this year. Los Angeles, Stanislaus and San Mateo counties will be visited pending an approval of these sites by the federal review team.

In May 2002, the Child Welfare Services (CWS) Stakeholders Summit was convened to address critical concerns facing California's child welfare services system, and to articulate specific strategies to achieve desired results. This Summit was the result of two years of comprehensive review of the CWS system and resulted in a document titled *CWS Redesign: A Conceptual Framework*. Additional information can be accessed at http://www.dss.cahw.net.gov/cdssweb/ChildWelfa_285.htm

Mr. Chance reported on the status of the CalWORKS/Child Welfare Services (CWS) Partnership Project. The Project is a four-year, two phase project, which is part of the California Center for Research on Women and Families, in partnership with DSS. In the first phase the Project worked with 59 state and county officials to develop policy and programmatic recommendations. There were five workgroups that developed recommendations in the following areas: Service Delivery Models, Coordinated Case Planning, Flexible Financing, Data Systems and confidentiality, and Organizational Change and Cross-Training. In November 2001, DSS held a Feedback Forum to receive input from stakeholders on the recommendations. The recommendations are presently in draft form will be released at the LINKAGES conference in May 30, 2002. Mr. Chance will provide a copy of the recommendations at the July meeting.

LEAD AGENCY DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES (DDS)

Rick Ingraham thanked the DDS Early Start staff, the WestEd Center for Prevention and Early Intervention staff, XenologiX, Inc. and the ICC for their dedication in producing products and resources that both promote and evaluate the effectiveness of California Early Start.

Mr. Ingraham reported on the current status of the 2002-03 State Budget for DDS. He stated that the Senate and the Assembly are not showing support for the statewide Purchase of Services (POS) Standards. The cost impact of not having the POS standards may eventually result in unallocated reductions in regional center budgets. He noted all state departments are preparing for budget reductions and implementing restrictions on travel as well as other cost savings measures.

Mr. Ingraham discussed the increase of the incidence of Autism in California. DDS data indicated an increase of 273%, from 1987 through 1998, which translates to 700 children with autism entering the state system each quarter. DDS continues involvement in several major projects related to the diagnosis and treatment of Autism including:

- Completion of the Best Practice Guidelines in Screening and Diagnosis of Autism, anticipated to be released by DDS in August 2002;
- Training for regional centers on best practices for the evaluation and assessment of Autism will begin in June 2002;

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- Collaboration with UC Davis Medical Center and MIND Institute research studies;
- Updating the 1999 Autism Report, anticipated to be released by DDS in August 2002.

Mr. Ingraham provided an update on the collaborative efforts of DDS and DSS to provide clarification regarding the Adoption Assistance Program for children who are served by both the regional center and foster care. Mr. Ingraham encouraged attendees with first hand knowledge of system problems to contact him at 916-654-2773.

Information was provided on all of the upcoming personnel development/training activities. The Service Coordination Institute: Advanced will be held July 8-9, at the Holiday Inn Bay Bridge in Emeryville. Early Start scholarship funds and training grants are available through DDS' Contract with WestEd, under the CEITAN project. Status of the Scholarship fund is attached.

OTHER

Larry Ringer of OSEP provided closing remarks and thanked the ICC and Early Start staff for sharing information about California's Part C program. He said he learned about the people involved in the Part C program, the challenges we face, initiative underway, and the functioning of the ICC. He thanked all who participated in the Interactive Discussion and their commitment in helping DDS make careful choices about where to focus funding, staff, and quality enhancement priorities.

Rhonda Ingel also thanked the ICC and DDS for demonstrating professionalism, trust and respect during her visit. She stated she has seen incredible growth in California's Part C monitoring since her visit here four years ago. She looks forward to a continuing professional relationship with the people involved in Early Start

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.