

Minutes

(Digitally recorded)

EC3 Meeting / November 5th & 6th, 2015

Best Western Vista Inn at the Airport, 2645 Airport Way, Boise, Idaho 83705

Attendees:

Members: Sherry Iverson, Ami Owen, Bill Foxcroft, Christy Cronheim, Fred S. Martin, David Allen, Holly Whitworth, Kent Hobbs, Julie Fodor, Greg Culet, Mechelle Wilson, Kathy McGill, Cindy Brock, Cathie Johnson, Rebekah Forster-Casey, Beth Oppenheimer, Roger Sherman, Omair Shamim, Mick Hodges, Paula Mason, Shannon Dunstan, Kris Spain, Paula Mason, Julie Fodor

Excused: Justin Coleman, Ellen Neff, Reed DeMordaunt,

Guests: Kristina Blaiser, Alan Wilding, Brian Darcy, Aubrie McArthur, Rod Gramer

Staff: Katie Stoneberg

Meeting Called to Order at 11:02am

Co-Chair Sherry Iverson opened the meeting and provided an overview of the day's agenda. Council members were introduced with identifying titles and agencies.

Review of the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Framework 2014-2019: Health Goal

(Handout was provided and is available on the <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/ec3> – please refer there for further information on the details of the presentation.)

The Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Framework is compiled of goals, outcomes, and action strategies. The Council chooses a goal at each quarterly meeting to review and discuss progress made.

The Council went over the 1st goal of the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Framework which is Health. The goal:

- Families and caregivers of young children have resources and access to appropriate healthcare to help them raise healthy, strong children.

The Outcomes:

1. A "Crying Plan" will be accessible for families and caregivers of infants and toddlers to reduce the risk of Shaken Baby/Abusive Head Trauma.
2. Childhood nutrition will improve based on the Nourishing Idaho's Children Coalition plan.
3. Child health outcomes will improve.
4. Child oral health outcomes will improve.
5. Early childhood environments will improve based on national health and safety standards.

The Strategies for Action:

1. The Crying Plan

- Cathie Johnson: The Regional Early Childhood Committees (RECCs) are distributing the Crying Plan to medical offices and parents that attend their hosted events.
- Shannon Dunstan: Idaho STARs has been working on distributing the Crying Plan through Childhood Health Consultants. A potential strategy would be to imbed the Crying Plan into the Steps for Quality.
- Kris Spain: Home Visiting Programs in Region 4 have been trained on and are distributing the Crying Plan throughout the state of Idaho. Ami Owen will check on the status with the other 6 regions in Idaho. There is a possibility that the WIC program can also start distributing the Crying Plan. Kris will follow-up on this.
- Bill Foxcroft: In 2015 the Crying Plan was presented and disseminated to the Head Start Programs. Omair will follow-up and see how many Head Start programs are using and distributing the Crying Plan. Omair will then report back to EC3 at the next meeting.
- Mick Hodges will gather information on the Alternative High School Conference that will be held in Twin Falls in October 2016. The Crying Plan may be able to be presented there.
- Emily Petersen: The Crying Plan was distributed in each trick-or-treat bag that was handed out at the 1st Annual Spina Bifida Carnival. Emily will gather information on getting the Crying Plan distributed to newly diagnosed families from Maternal Fetal Medicine.
- Rebekah Forster-Casey will gather information on getting the Crying Plan distributed to Foster Families in the state of Idaho and report back at the next EC3 meeting.

2. Nutrition

- Omair Shamim sits on the Nourishing Idaho's Children Coalition. Omair will gather more information on the Coalition and report back to EC3 at the February meeting.
- Bill Foxcroft: The Department of Health and Welfare will be staggering the distribution of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) as of July 1, 2016. They have organized a committee that will develop a plan so that families are aware of when they will receive their benefits and can plan appropriately. Bill will gather more information on this and report back to EC3 at the February meeting.
- Mick Hodges: Cassia County has a Backpack program that provides a backpack full of food to children for the weekend. The backpack is full of food for one child however; the food is being used to feed the entire family. The Idaho Food Bank website idahofoodbank.org has a list of counties that provide the Backpack Program.
- Kris Spain will gather more information on the Library's Eat, Play, and Grow curriculum and report back to EC3 at the February meeting.
- Omair Shamim: The Head Start programs have an agreement with the WIC program that allows an exchange of information. The Head Start programs periodically go to the WIC offices and provide information on the Head Start programs.

3. Health

- Sherry will get an update on Idaho Sound Beginnings. All newborns are screened at the time of birth and if they do not pass that first screening, they are referred to Idaho Sound Beginnings for a second screening.

- Idaho STARS, Head Start, and Parents as Teachers programs are disseminating information about newborn hearing screenings to families. Sherry will arrange for presentations on newborn hearing screenings.
 - Head Start, Parents as Teachers, WIC, Public Health Departments, Child Care, Medicaid, and Schools are working disseminating information on the important of immunizations.
 - Sherry Iverson: Dr. Paul Offit from Children’s Hospital in Philadelphia will be presenting at the Shot Smarts Conference in April. He would like to visit with legislators while he is in Idaho on the immunization exemption rates. Sherry will gather more information on this and report back to the Council.
 - Cindy Brock with Medicaid is a part of investigating and supporting options for children’s health insurance coverage (Idaho Health Plan).
 - Idaho STARS, Head Start, the Department of Education are collaborating with programs to encourage physical activity. Shannon will gather information and coordinate a presentation for Fuel Up to Play 60 at the February EC3 meeting. Go Noodle will also be worked into the February meeting agenda to provide a “brain break”.
 - Public Health Districts, Head Start, and Parents as Teachers are monitoring the number of children with Medical and Dental Homes.
4. Oral Health
- Head Start, RECCs, and Parents as Teachers are promoting dentist visits and good oral health. For the May EC3 meeting there will be a presentation on Pediatric Oral Health.
5. Healthy and Safe Environments
- Idaho STARS is monitoring their Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) annually to determine enrollment and improvement.

Lunch and Networking

Dr. Kristina Blaiser; Idaho State University *Tele-Intervention in Idaho:*

(Presented by PowerPoint and available on the <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/ec3> – please refer there for further information on the details of the presentation.)

Dr. Kristina Blaiser provided information on Tele-Health Intervention. This service provides in-home or in-center intervention services for families with children that have hearing or vision impairment.

- This project does not involve work with mental health treatment. It is specifically geared towards children from birth to 3 years of age. However, there is a possibility that in the future mental health services may be provided via Tele-Health.
- If this passes through Occupational Licensure schools will be able to bill Medicaid for services. The Tele-Health agency must be licensed in the state of Idaho and have an office in Idaho that is staffed.
- Idaho State University is going to start providing Tele-Health services to children with hearing and vision impairment. They are able to do this because of grant funding.

- IESDB attended a training in the spring at Utah State University. They will be working to pilot Tele-Health services with teachers.
- Tele-Health is structured to involve the parent with the parent and child interacting and the teacher observing and providing instruction/coaching in the background.

Alan Wilding' Idaho State University – Language Equity and Equality for Children with Deafness

(Presented by PowerPoint and Handout and available on the <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/ec3> – please refer there for further information on the details of the presentation.)

Alan provided information on LEAD-K (Language Equality and Acquisition for Children with Deafness). The focus of LEAD-K is to promote language equality and equity, a basic human right for all babies by advocating for deaf children to have access to both American Sign Language and English.

- This approach is more responsive as there are already standardized assessments in place for children that are not deaf or hard of hearing. The standard assessments currently being used do not always count the concepts that children have in both languages (English and American Sign Language). This process gives equal validity to both languages as well as speech.
- LEAD-K has met with the Department of Education Superintendent and is still in the process of developing the bill.
- This presentation is informational only at this time. LEAD-K is currently looking for partners and collaborators to give input and become involved with developing an approach that works for children in Idaho who have hearing loss or deafness.
- Legislation may or may not be needed depending on what information is gathered.
- Anyone wanting to get involved or receive more information can contact Alan at wildingbiz@gmail.com or Paula Mason at paula.mason@iesdb.org.

Break

Emily Petersen – Update on Spina Bifida Fall Carnival

The Idaho Spina Bifida Support Group hosted their 1st annual Spina Bifida Carnival on Saturday, October 17, 2015. There was a great turn out and since the Carnival, 20 families have joined the support group and the numbers are increasing. The Idaho Spina Bifida Support Group has since formed an executive board, created a logo, and become a non-profit; additionally they just received word that they are officially incorporated. The Support Group is using a similar structure as Head Start and RECCs; they will have regional and community representatives throughout Idaho. The group will also be working with adults and teenagers affected by Spina Bifida by creating mentors for small children. Emily will be in contact with Shannon Dunstan in order to provide information to Idaho School Districts on the support group.

Emily and Co-Founder, Briana Elison were featured as KTVB Channel 7 News Seven's Heroes. The council watched the feature video from KTVB Channel 7 News. The video can be viewed at ktvb.com.

The Spina Bifida Support Group will draft an article for Sherry to disseminate throughout the AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics) newsletter, website, and in the Children's Newsletter.

Cathy Thornton – SSIP Update

(Presented by PowerPoint and available on the <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/ec3> – please refer there for further information on the details of the presentation.)

Cathy Thornton, Co-Director at the Center for Special Education Support & Technical Assistance (SESTA), provided an update on the State Systemic Improvement Plan for the State Department of Education. The improvement plan focuses on increasing the percentage of 4th grade students with disabilities in Idaho who will be proficient in literacy as measured on the state summative assessment (currently ISAT by Smarter Balance).

- This plan is required to be fully implemented in 5 years. However, growth must be seen by year 3.
- This plan will have a “parent piece” that will allow parents to aid in the growth of their children.
- Julie Fodor: In the long run, there needs to be a “push in” in-service training at the university level in order to connect all programs together. Cathy will meet with Julie Fodor to discuss how to make connections.
- Shannon Dunstan: Pre-Service special education teachers need to have a better understanding of what direct instruction looks like when they are coming out into the work force. Academic instruction may not be their strong-suit; in the move towards performance it will need to be a strong-suit.
- This plan is part of the Office of Special Education Program's federal requirements for reporting. An annual progress report must be submitted.

Sherry Iverson – Overview of EC3 Standing Committees: Their role and function.

(Handout was provided and is available on the <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/ec3> – please refer there for further information on the details of the presentation.)

Sherry provided an overview of the standing committee descriptions, Committee Chairs, the need for council members to join a standing committee, as well as member recruitment outside the Council. Council Members who join more than one committee will need to indicate which committee is their primary choice. Committees were instructed to read over their committee descriptions and suggest changes as well as making steps towards a measurable goal.

Meeting time for committees

Home Visiting & Parent Education and Education & Child Care Committee Reports

Home Visiting Committee:

(Presented by PowerPoint and is available on the <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/ec3> – please refer there for further information on the details of the presentation.)

The Home Visiting & Parent Education Committee held the 2nd Annual Home Visiting Summit on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. The Summit included 4 host sites located in Boise, Twin Falls, Idaho Falls, and Coeur d' Alene. The host sites were all connected via video conference at the Boise location and Monica Revoczi from Bracke & Associates facilitated. The goal of the Summit was to generate ideas about messaging strategies in Home Visiting. The ideas will be provided to Davies Moore, the marketing contractor for the Department of Health and Welfare. The ideas will be analyzed, tested, and branding created for state wide Home Visiting programs.

Things that were learned at the Home Visiting Summit:

- Idaho has a large community of individuals who are very passionate about Home Visiting.
- The main idea developed at the Summit was that Home Visiting programs are partners with parents and are there to help and support parents.
- Two possible names for home visiting were generated:
 - Idaho Child and Family Partnership
 - IHELP (Idaho Helps Empower Local Parents)

Deborah Drain presented information on the Home Visiting Communication Planning Toolkit. The Toolkit was given to the Regional Early Childhood Committees (RECCs) throughout Idaho. The following feedback was generated through this discussion: Home Visiting is not a singular strategy that addresses the needs of vulnerable families that are expecting or have very young children.

- Home Visiting serves to empower families in their capacity as parents.
- The goal of identifying the common data points in Home Visiting throughout Idaho is to assure that communication to families is consistent across the state. Holly and Deborah will gather information received from Davies Moore and report back to EC3 at the February Meeting.

Early Care & Education Committee:

The Education & Child Care Committee has not been able to meet a lot at this point. David stated that the name of the Committee is actually Early Care & Education Committee rather than Education & Child Care Committee.

- The Committee has created a website that is focused on finding jobs for Early Childhood Education Professionals.
- The Committee has created the Core Competencies. The next step is to get them promoted and implemented throughout Idaho. A possible next step could be to draft a letter that can be disseminated to each University program asking how they are meeting the standards. Also, to work with Head Start and Idaho STARs in a more formal way to discuss what has been done as a committee and what needs to happen next.
- The Committee feels that they need to help and encourage the 4 year institutions to do a crosswalk. This will increase the faculty's awareness of the competencies and help the students. The Committee feels it would be beneficial to work on a universal early care and education development system. It would make sense for EC3 to help direct this as well as for the Higher Ed Consortium to play a role in this as well. The Early Care & Education Committee has made this their measurable goal.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm

MINUTES

EC3 Early Childhood Coordinating Council - DAY 2 – November 6th, 2015 8:00am

Meeting Called to Order at 8:00am

Co-Chair Sherry Iverson called the meeting to order and provided an overview of today's agenda

Rod Gramer, Idaho Business for Education – Update on Idaho School Readiness Act

Rod Gramer provided updated information on the Idaho School Readiness Act. The Idaho School Readiness Act is designed to address the needs of children not entering kindergarten meeting benchmark on the IRI. Only 54% of children enter kindergarten ready to learn how to read.

The first aspect of the Idaho School Readiness Act is that it sets high standards. The legislation would allow local collaboratives across the state to create kindergarten readiness programs tailored to the needs of their community; the local collaborative would apply to the state or funding (50%). The collaborative will raise the other 50% of the funding and implement the program in the community. The act also includes a home technology component, as there is strong support in the Legislature for home technology. The inclusion of a home component improves the chances of the Idaho School Readiness Act being passed. The Legislature is also in favor of parental choice. Right now, low income parents in Idaho do not have a choice to provide early childhood education. This Act is designed to give all parents a choice to provide early education for their children. In the Act, 50% of the slots will be designated for children in low-income families.

If passed, the Idaho School Readiness Act would create an opportunity to build upon and shape a program for early learning in the state.

The Act is currently in the process of being drafted. Beth Oppenheimer will provide a copy of the draft that was submitted to Representative Christy Perry with the understanding that the final draft will more than likely have changes made to it.

Beth Oppenheimer: When the strategies group first formed and started to create the School Readiness Act, they reviewed Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Framework and addressed the "access to early learning opportunities" goal so that those opportunities would be available to all children and families.

Sherry Iverson - Communication and Marketing Committee collaboration with Idaho School Readiness Act

EC3 will need to decide how they will want to move forward with the Idaho School Readiness Act. There are several members of the Council that are not able to go into the Capital during the Legislative Session as they are state employees. EC3 members are not allowed to lobby however they are the experts when it comes to early childhood education. However, some organizations represented within EC3 can lobby for the Act.

Paula: It is very difficult for the rural areas throughout Idaho to access early learning opportunities due to lack of funding. If it is not built into the foundation of the Idaho School Readiness Act that families in rural communities will have access to the funds, then these families will continue to go without early childhood education. Beth: We can figure out a funding mechanism that will provide information on fundraising for rural communities. There is a chance that the rural communities will not have access right away to the funding if the Idaho School Readiness Act is passed, this will take time to change the way Idaho provides early childhood education.

Before the Council can make a decision on how to move forward with the Idaho School Readiness Act more information is needed. Beth Oppenheimer will provide a copy of the draft that was submitted to Representative Christy Perry with the understanding that the final draft will more than likely have changes made to it. Beth will also provide talking points that Council members can take back to their programs and organizations.

Greg Culet: Rod Gramer will be sending him a copy of the materials from Mississippi and as well as talking points; Greg will provide these to Council members.

When it comes time to testify as experts at the Legislative Session, Beth Oppenheimer would be the contact person for organizations/programs to go to.

The RECCs can invite their local Legislators to “meet and greet” sessions to discuss early learning.

Sherry: There is a possibility that the February EC3 meeting can be scheduled differently in order for Council members to go down to the State Capitol, if their current position allows them to do so.

Break

Committee Reports

Data & Resources Committee:

The Data and Resources Committee’s plan for the upcoming year is to decide what data needs to be reviewed. There are a lot of data sets that can be analyzed. The Committee needs to know what kind of data the Council wants information on.

Shannon: The data should provide the Council with a way to see how its efforts affect children and families. If the Data & Resource Committee were to take the Framework and look at the projects that are being done within and then look at the data from those projects it should show what is or is not being impacted.

Roger: What the Committee needs is to define what data is collected and to collect data that is most useful to EC3.

The Committee will look at the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Framework and target one area at a time to report on.

Sherry: If the Council shared with the Data & Resource Committee what their programs will be doing in the next quarter and if there was any key data components established, the Committee could then bring back base-line data that would help form an objective. The Committee agreed that this would be most beneficial and would provide a measurable goal for the Committee.

Paula and Roger will take this information back to the Committee and report back at the February EC3 meeting.

Sherry: Are there any key base-line data points that can be tracked throughout the year that the Committee can report on?

Yearly Basis Data Reports for the Committee to collect data on:

- PRATS
- Immunization Report
- Abusive Head Trauma

The Committee sent out the first round of the ACEs Survey a few months ago. The Head Start Conference and the Child Abuse Prevention Conferences are coming up and would be a great place for the ACEs Survey to be distributed.

Christy Cronheim – SSIP Update

(Presented by PowerPoint and is available on the <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/ec3> – please refer there for further information on the details of the presentation.)

Christy provided an update on the State Systemic Improvement Plan for the Infant Toddler Program which is to increase the percentage of infants and toddlers with disabilities, receiving services in Regions 1, 2, and 3, who leave the Infant Toddler Program with progress made in social emotional development.

- Christy met with the newly appointed FACS administrator, Gary Moore, in order get him up to speed on the SSIP process. The biggest message given to Gary is that there needs to be a shift in the infrastructure. The Infant Toddler Program has been compliance driven and their systems have been built around being compliance driven; some of that emphasis needs to be shifted to being results driven. ITP needs to answer the question, is what we are doing actually making a difference? If yes, then they will be able to show progress and identify what they are doing well and what they are not doing well. As a result of this, compliance may decrease.

Head Start Committee Report:

The Head Start Collaboration Office is mandated to submit a 5 year strategic plan. One component of the strategic plan is to distribute a needs assessment survey to programs and then take the information received back from the programs put into the strategic plan. The needs assessment survey has been distributed with the due date being October 30, 2015. There are a few programs that have not yet

submitted their results. Omair will be working on the Strategic Plan which will include components of EC3's Framework and will report back at the February EC3 meeting.

The Head Start Collaboration Office is working to increase the "dosage" of Head Start Programs. Most of the Head Start Programs in Idaho serve full year programs at partial days (4 hours a day, two sessions a day). It has been recommended that Head Start increase the dosage of their programs to a full day (6 hours) for 180 days rather than the current 128 days.

If this recommendation is not fully funded, most Head Start Programs will have to reduce the amount of available slots for children. The President has put a billion dollar amount into his budget in order to fund this; however, if it is not passed by Congress Head Start Programs will have to reduce available slots. Although there is a local option that programs can request from their regional office their Community Assessment must show that there is not a need for a full day program. If that is documented the grantee will then have the option to remain a part day program and continue to serve more children.

The Head Start Committee discussed how this change will affect children with disabilities who are attending Head Start Programs. The Committee is will work to develop a strategic plan around the implementation of the revised Head Start Performance Standards to support the local programs and the school districts. One of the strategies could be to have conference calls with local Head Start programs and school districts and learn what questions they have around children with disabilities.

The Committee would like to bring Head Start outcome data to EC3. Head Start collects outcomes at 3 checkpoints; the beginning, middle, and the end of the school year. The Committee would like to bring data from the beginning and the end of the school year and show the difference Head Start is making. The measures that Head Start uses are Social-Emotional, Motor & Physical Development, Cognitive Development, and Literacy.

The Head Start Committee will also work on member recruitment focusing especially on getting early childhood special education staff from districts to join.

Omair will report more on this at the February EC3 meeting.

"Save the date" for the Early Years conference in 2016 will be sent out.

Infant Mental Health Committee Report:

The Infant Mental Health Committee is currently an ad hoc committee. One goal of the committee is to become a standing committee.

The committee's focus for the next year is to bring awareness of what Infant Mental Health is and the long-term benefit of it. There is confusion about what Infant Mental Health is. Ami Owen made calls to several mental health facilities and asked if anyone in their office provided Infant Mental Health services; there was a lot of confusion on what it is. Additional early childhood mental health education is needed. There are a few professionals in the community that do provide Infant Mental Health services

and they are successfully billing and being reimbursed for those services under Medicaid. There is not currently an overall requirement that professionals receive the Infant Mental Health Endorsement in order to be reimbursed. This would be another focus of the Committee. The Committee would like to provide a resource list of professionals throughout Idaho that have the Infant Mental Health Endorsement and provide Infant Mental Health Services.

The Infant Mental Health Committee would like to recruit members from Optum, other community organizations, and private providers. It was suggested that someone from the Infant Toddler Program, a Child Care Health Consultant, Idaho STARS, or the Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental would be good members as well...

Sherry will meet with Sue when she returns to discuss how an ad hoc committee can become a standing committee.

Lunch & Networking

Communication & Marketing Committee Report:

The Communication & Marketing Committee's current list of responsibilities as listed on the committee description will remain the same; however where it states that the Committee is responsible for ALL council activities related to outreach and the strategic communication plan, public awareness, and periodic reports as required by statute, the Committee's focus would be the development of a strategic communication plan as it is unsure if one has been developed already. The audience for the Committee would be parents, professionals, and providers. The potential partners for the Committee are those that are already engaged in early childhood education programs. The Committee would work with these partners to enhance their message.

- The Committee would like to see recruitment from individuals who are engaged directly in marketing with knowledge and expertise in the area.
- The Committee will decide on a regular reoccurring monthly meeting.
- Representation from the other standing committees within EC3 would help the Communication & Marketing Committee focus what the needs of the committees are.
- Current members include: Justin Coleman, Greg Culet, Emily Petersen, Beth Oppenheimer, and JoLyn Sellin.

The Committee discussed the creation of a clearinghouse or directory with links to resources that EC3 is working on as well as links to programs.

- Katie stated that she and Sue are currently working on the revamping of the current Early Childhood Information Clearing House. The new site will be renamed the Early Childhood Coordinating Council. The site will be focused around what the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grant is, the Council, the RECCS. There will be links for the projects that have been taken on by the Council (i.e. The Crying Plan, Screen Time Brochure, Core Competencies, Babies

1st Tooth Brush, etc.). Katie and Sue will continue to work on this and report back to EC3 at a later meeting.

- Aubrie McArthur stated the Division of Welfare is in the process of developing the Live Better Idaho website. The site will not be a department website. The goal of the site is for families that have food insecurities but might not know all the language for finding resources to have a place to type in keywords and be given a list of different resources and programs in their area. There is a possibility that EC3 may be able to be linked on this site as well.

Round Table Reports

Omair Shamim: Executive Order Ad Hoc Committee's Recommendations.

The committee compared the Executive Orders from 2006-2011 and 2011-2015. Some of the discussion points follow:

Discussion Point #1 (second statement)

- Proposed change of language from: *"Whereas the advancement of early childhood development has had a positive impact"*
- Committee Recommendation: leave this language as it is; the changes discussed by the Council at the last meeting did not maintain the intent of the Order.

Discussion Point #2 Article

- 1.d
- "Provide a comprehensive statewide mapping of existing early childhood programs and resources, as well as existing gaps, every 3-5 years."
- Committee Recommendation: omitting "and resources".

Discussion Point #3

- Scope of the Council: birth to three or birth to eight?
- Recommend birth to eight: this reflects the nationally accepted span of early childhood and will promote best practices in K-3.

Discussion Point #4

- 2. d. ii *At least 20 percent providers of early intervention services*
- Recommendation: change to "at least 2 percent providers of early intervention services".

Discussion Point #5

- Section 2. d.
- Recommendation: *include a representative of an Indian Head Start program as required by P.L. 110-134 the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007.*

Discussion Point #6

- 2. d. Recommend Addition to Council Membership:
- “A representative of the Governor’s office”.

Cathie Johnson moved that EC3 make the recommendations for the changes to the Executive Order. The motion was seconded by Kent Hobbs with no further discussion. Motion carried.

Shannon Dunstan:

- The Department of Education has been charged with providing information throughout the state on School-Based Medicaid rules.
- In November, Shannon will send a survey out to all Special Education Directors to see how practices have changed in preschools.
- Shannon is compiling an updated list of preschool teachers across the state for the Early Childhood Workforce Study.
- Shannon has been working on Social-Emotional Competencies for Young Children.

Aubrie McArthur

The Idaho Child Care state plan is due March 2016. The department has been working on setting all of the goals for the next 3 years for the Idaho Child Care Program. The objective is to set ambitious but achievable goals and at the same time working towards compliance. Aubrie and Ericka have been touring the state meeting with providers and introducing them to changes that are coming, answering questions, and helping them become compliant.

Mechelle Wilson

The Jeff D. Settlement was passed in July 2015. The Division of Children’s Mental Health is currently working on a 9 month planning period; Pat Martelle is the project manager for this. The title of Jeff D. Settlement is going to be retired and a new name for the settlement will be used. The new name will be more positive- that is more about resiliency.

One of the pieces of the settlement is that Medicaid will be the “backbone” of the process. Children with private insurance will have access to mental health systems. The common assessment will be replaced with the CANS (Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment). The process is still in the development stage and Mechelle will gather more information for EC3’s February meeting.

Kris Spain

WIC has hired a planning contractor to begin the process of moving from paper vouchers to eWIC, which is mandated by 2020. eWIC will allow for benefits to be fully redeemed on a purchase card.

Maternal Child Health (MCH) has completed a 5 year needs assessment. They identified national performance measures and state priorities. MCH is continuing the pilot with Access to Care which is

specifically focused on children and youth with special health care needs. MCH has partnered with Public Health Districts 6 & 7 over the past several years to have a shared medical home coordinator who would work with 2-3 rural clinics without a care coordinator. This was viewed successfully; however they were not able to get measurable data or outcomes. Public Health District 6 will drop the partnership and 7 will continue on. The shared medical home coordinator will be funded for 2 more years. Kris will gather more information and report back at the February meeting.

Rebekah Forster-Casey

The Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities is in the process of completing their 5 year plan. They have set their Legislative slate and are involved in providing feedback around Optum and dual diagnosis for individuals with developmental disabilities and mental health issues. The Council on Developmental Disabilities has been working on the new rules for HCBS (Home and Community Based Services). There will be changes happening in adult services and eventually in children's services as well.

Bill Foxcroft

The Idaho Head Start Association will be holding their annual conference in February 2016. The first day of the conference will be a training day and the second day will be a legislative day. Council members are encouraged to contact Bill with any suggestions or input they may have.

The Idaho Head Start Association has developed a new logo as well as a new website. <http://www.idahohsa.org>.

A couple of Head Start programs have started to implement the full day/full year program. Some programs are finding that fewer children are income eligible for Head Start. The programs are recruiting kids that are over the income limit. By focusing on a full day program they are able to give a better learning opportunity to children that are within the income guidelines.

The Head Start Association has a program called Children of Incarcerated Parents. The program goes to the women's correctional facility in Boise every quarter and provides a Head Start presentation. The program connects interested mothers with the Head Start program that is in their area. 10-13% of the women attending enroll their children in Head Start as a result.

Paula Mason

IESDB (Idaho Education Services for the Deaf and Blind) has several work readiness and transition events coming up in spring and summer of 2016. IESDB is currently looking at orientation mobility for small children, giving children better access to their surroundings. The degree of mobility children have and the opportunity they have to explore "their world" has an impact on their language and literacy. IESDB has a preschool program in Pocatello and is involved in a study with the National Technical Institute for the Deaf on dialogic language and literature. This program is focused on gathering evidence-based practice strategies. The preschool teachers are going to New York to the Deaf Educators Conference to present their findings. Paula will report back on this at the February meeting.

Cathie Johnson

RECC Update

The RECCs are currently working on their bylaws. The regional RECCs are continuing to work on spreading the word on The Crying Plan, kindergarten readiness, BLOCKFest, and baby-focused events. RECCs are also working on new member recruitment.

Cathy was able to attend the Lemonade for Life event put on by The Idaho Children's Trust Fund. The event was focused on providing training on using ACES to provide hope and resiliency. This training was very informative and provided a lot of great information.

Kathy McGill

Open enrollment for health insurance in 2016 started Sunday, November 1, 2015 and goes through Sunday, January 31, 2016. Anyone who wants to switch insurance plans will need to do so within that time frame.

Julie Fodor

The CDHD (Center on Disabilities and Human Development) provides technical assistance on autism and assistive technology to school based teams. The CDHD also has the professional development clearinghouse project that provides credit through various universities across the state. CDHD has begun the process of working with 2 year institutions to develop articulation agreements for early childhood programs with the QRIS essential trainings. CDHD has launched and has started to receive feedback on the Early Childhood Workforce Study. Over the last year CHDH instituted an evaluation system for Idaho STARS trainings. CDHD participates in the Utah Regional Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities program. This is a doctoral program in autism and neurodevelopmental disabilities.

Sherry Iverson

The AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics) has worked closely with the makers of Sesame Street to develop a new character that has autism. This new character, Julia, encourages families to connect and learn about children with autism.

AAP has trained 13 Car Seat Technicians throughout the state. Technicians have been trained on proper car seat installation especially for children with disabilities. Sherry will provide a list of trained technicians to the RECCs.

A group of Boise State University students are conducting a survey on Parents and Child Care Providers about the importance of reading to newborns. The questions cover number of books in the home, reading practices with newborns and literacy information from health providers. This information will be presented to pediatricians across the state. The next step of this study is to determine how to promote the importance of literacy in doctor's offices.

St. Luke's has recently been asked to provide parenting information at the women's prison in Boise. Currently there are about 10 babies born each month to mothers that are incarcerated. These mothers sign over temporary custody of the baby to a designated person who will care for the child until the mother is released. The mothers are able to designate anyone to care for the children; this causes concern when the designated individual has no knowledge of caring for a newborn. Sherry suggested an ad hoc committee be formed in order to provide and distribute more information to prisons. Greg Culet, Bill Foxcroft, Sherry Iverson, Omair Shamim, Roger Sherman, and Roger Sherman suggested Janet Garrand be contacted to join.

Holly Whitworth

MEICHV has been actively working on recruiting families and is close to being full. There are 300+ families in Idaho that are getting support through Home Visiting. MEICHV is working on building community partnerships, referrals with the Infant Toddler Program and Head Start, and other community collaborations. MEICHV and Parents as Teachers educators will be receiving Quality Assurance training in Boise in December through the University of Michigan.

Region 7 recently trained 8 more people on Stewards of Children in Eastern Idaho. This resulted in over 160 people being trained in Eastern Idaho. This is part of a collaboration between Eastern Idaho Public Health District, United Way, and Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership.

Region 7 recently held The Happiest Baby on the Block class. They will be providing this on a monthly basis with training around using The Crying Plan in all of the classes.

Christy Cronheim

The ITP (Infant Toddler Program) is continuing to work on preparation of the cohort 2 of the Early Intervention Evidence Based Practices of teaming, coaching, primary coaching, and natural learning opportunities. ITP is also in the process of piloting the phase 1 cohort of the same practices. ITP has just finished compiling the data of their Regional Annual Performance Report and will be starting the FFY (Federal Fiscal Year) 2014 Annual Performance Report that is due in February 2016.

Emily Petersen

Emily attended the Lemonade for Life event put on by The Idaho Children's Trust Fund and hopes that there can be a way to take the training received and provide that to programs throughout Idaho. The Snake River Association for the Education of Young Children annual conference was held October 03, 2015. There were around 90 people in attendance. The region 5 RECCS will be hosting a Legislative day on November 10, 2015. Emily will report on this at the February meeting.

Amada Flores

Migrant Seasonal Head Start is ending their summer season on November 12, 2015. They have identified through their needs assessment that they are in need of year-round services. There will be 6 winter programs this year. Amada will report on the progress of this at the February meeting.

Migrant Seasonal Head Start received funding through the Cambria Foundation for their Childhood Diabetes and Obesity Prevention Program. This program educates families on eating healthier and being active. The first year of this program has just finished. They provided training, intervention in the home through Home Visiting, partnered with AmeriCorps and had two health advocates provided.

Migrant Seasonal Head Start, in partnership with The Diabetes Coalition, Southwest District Health, and St. Alphonsus, conducted a community needs assessment. It was determined that more needs to be done to educating families around diabetes prevention.

Roger Sherman

The Children's Trust Fund is funding 6 new groups: CATCH (Charitable Assistance to Community's Homeless), Community Council of Idaho, Families Together, Family Advocates, Juvenile Facility in St. Anthony, and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The Idaho Children's Trust Fund held the Lemonade for Life training. The next step for this training is to make it more accessible for more people across the state.

The Idaho Children's Trust Fund's Training Institute will be held on March 15th & 16th, 2015. There will be speakers from Stewards of Children as well as training on Social norms, ACES, and various programs.

Mick Hodges

Rod Gramer is putting together some workgroups involving 3Bs (Badge, Bible, and Business). Mick suggested having Rod and Beth come and provide information to some of the committees he sits on.

Kent Hobbs

The Pocatello School District is doing a much better job at connecting Homeless Families with Head Start. In 7 years, they have gone from identifying 2200 homeless children in the state to about 6300 in 2015.

Beth Oppenheimer

There are issues around child care licensing in Boise. All child care providers in Boise that are licensed need to ensure that they are incorporating healthy initiatives (i.e., serving health and nutritious meals, physical activity, reducing screen time, and designating an area for nursing mothers to breastfeed. Beginning last year through October 1, 2015, there was supposed to be an opportunity for all child care programs to take the Let's Move Child Care training to understand how to do this. Then on October 1, 2016 Boise city would have a website that would rate its providers meeting the standards. Unfortunately, there was a miscommunication and 80% of child care providers were listed with a poor rating as they were not meeting those standards. Beth has been working with the Mayor and City Council members and getting them to change the website and work to correct this. All of the providers have been listed as "not yet rated".

There have been issues with background checks for providers. Boise city was not checking the Child Abuse Registry list so last year it was made a requirement. The Child Abuse Registry List is only accessed through the central registry where 2 people have access to it. As a result, providers have to wait around 4.5 weeks to get a license. This is currently in the process of being corrected.

Meeting adjourned at 2:12pm