

COORDINATING COUNCIL ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL
SERVICES

January 9th, 2004

Meeting Minutes

Members Attending:	Others Attending:
Sharon Hixson, Chair, Russell Child Development Center	Linda Kenney, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Children, Youth and Families
Susan Adams, Johnson County, Infant and Toddler Services	Peggy Miksch, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Children, Youth and Families
Carolyn Nelson (representing Secretary Bremby)	Deb Voth, Rainbows United-Wichita
Alice Womack (representing Secretary Schalansky)	Debbie Mai, Rainbows United – Wichita
Ellen Mellard, Northeast Kansas Education Service Center	Chris Swartz, Social Rehabilitation Services
Marnie Campbell (representing Commissioner Tompkins)	Carol Pemborn, Electronic Data Systems (Medicaid Vendor for Social Rehabilitation Services)
Richard Martinez, Parent Member	Tammy Beymer-Sheldon High School – Topeka
Maria Martinez, Parent Member	Doug Bowman, Coordinator
Karla Kenton, Parent Member	
Doctor Dave Lindeman, University of Kansas Center on Developmental Disabilities	
Mark Tremaine, Parent Member	
Senator David Haley	
Thomas Kohmetscher	

The meeting was called to order by Sharon Hixson, Chair. Introductions were made. A warm welcome was extended to the new Interagency Coordinating Council members: Richard Martinez, Thomas Kohmetscher, and Senator David Haley. A motion to approve as submitted the December 5, 2003, Interagency Coordinating Council meeting minutes was made by Ellen Mellard. Seconded by Dave Lindeman; the motion passed unanimously.

Comments were made by several that the meeting of the various committees in the morning worked out well

PUBLIC FORUM

Doctor Lindeman raised the issue that arose out of Southeast Kansas pertaining to Local Interagency Coordinating Council membership. One county in his area has incorporated their Local Interagency Coordinating Council. They are asking each member of the Local Interagency Coordinating Council to pay a membership fee. This fee would then be tied to a vote at the Local Interagency Coordinating Council table. Scholarships will be available for parents. Discussion ensued around the appropriateness of this policy. It was thought best to have a letter sent to the Local Interagency Coordinating Council jointly

signed by Peggy and Doug telling them of the State Interagency Coordinating Council's concerns. A motion was made by Ellen Mellard and seconded by Susan Adams. Passed unanimously.

SOCIAL REHABILITATION SERVICES MEDICAID MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (MMIS) and FOSTER CARE

Chris Swartz of Social Rehabilitation Services and Carol Pemborn of Electronic Data Systems (Medicaid Vendor for Social Rehabilitation Services) spoke about the drastic changes in the system that processes Medicaid payments. The vendor has changed and many of the codes used have had to change because of Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act requirements. Consequently, there has been much work done to try to streamline the payment of Medicaid payments. Schools have been impacted the most severely. A large lump-sum payment will work its way through the system about the middle of January. If anyone is still experiencing cash flow problems after that, they should speak up.

Mister Bowman reported that the foster care and adoption contracts are due to be put out for new bids again this spring. Now is a good time to provide feedback to Social Rehabilitation Services about what is working well, and what systemic problems remain.

COORDINATORS REPORT - Doug Bowman

Mister Bowman recently assisted the Children's Cabinet in reviewing the seven existing Smart Start grants. He has also recently traveled to Sedgwick and Jefferson Counties to meet with their Local Interagency Coordinating Council.

Mister Bowman wished to remind everyone that once the legislature began, he will spend much time over at the State Capital. He will follow the budgets for Education, Health, and Social Rehabilitation Services. He will track any and all relevant legislation. Finally, he will work as a liaison between various agencies, advocacy groups, and organizations.

COMMITTEES

Funding Committee - Deb Voth reported that they met and discussed several topics. Medicaid audits are still in process. We anticipate some troubling news when their report is final.

After much discussion, it was recommended that we use the same target as in the past for determining the level of state appropriation for tiny-k. That would be our child count multiplied by one-half of the Base State Aid Per Pupil amount. The recommendation was accepted.

Advocacy Committee - Debbie Mai reported that the date for our second advocacy training has been moved to February 10. The place will be the Social Rehabilitation Services Learning Center. A dual track training will be offered for beginners and more advanced. Much work will be centered on preparing for this event.

Partnerships Committee - Maria Martinez reported they met and got organized. Ideas about how to engage others from kindred organizations were discussed. A motion to utilize time on a designated topic, to discuss in depth, and have a person available who is knowledgeable to speak on the issue was made by Maria Martinez. Seconded by Carolyn Nelson; the motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion of the 20th anniversary of Interagency Coordinating Council and how the Council can utilize the opportunity to have various events and possible celebration.

Categorical Aid Task Force - Doctor Lindeman reported that they reviewed the work done to date. We will watch closely what message comes out of the Governor's State of the State next week. Plans are to work toward a consensus on which approach to funding special education will enhance services to young children.

Newborn Screening Task Force - Susan Adams reported that the bill is still in House Health and Human Services Committee. Questions have been asked about the fiscal impact of our bill. We will seek answers from Kansas Department of Health and Environment staff - then proceed to move the bill along in the process.

Parent Leadership Training Task Force - Peggy Miksch reported that we are still exploring participating in the training in Florida this May. The federal grant will meet half of all expenses. Carolyn Weinhold, Social Rehabilitation Services (Early Head Start Collaboration) has generously agreed to sponsor two parents. Kansas Department of Health and Environment will sponsor two more persons. We are exploring additional resources, but moving forward.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT - Carolyn Nelson
Carolyn Nelson handed out a copy of her report, (Attachment A). Highlights included: the return of Tracy Wohl to Kansas as staff for an early childhood grant. There was some further discussion around the policy implications of provisions in the federal law pertaining to child abuse/neglect. Additional referrals may have an impact on tiny-k networks, their budgets, and staff. Meetings are taking place with staff from both Social Rehabilitation Services and Kansas Department of Health and Environment to implement this policy change.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - Marnie Campbell
Marnie Campbell handed out a copy of her report, (Attachment B). Highlights included: codes that must be used for Medicaid reimbursement, changes in the Head Start Technical Assistance system, and tentative federal appropriations.

SOCIAL REHABILITATION SERVICES REPORT - Alice Womack
Alice Womack handed out a copy of the Social Rehabilitation Services report, (Attachment C). Highlights included: Attempts to engage the medical community in promoting the importance of early education, the second fatherhood summit, and Healthy Smiles III conference.

INSURANCE COMMISSION REPORT - Robert Tomlinson

No report was given.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting will be February 6th, 2004, located in Topeka, Kansas at the Shawnee County Topeka Public Library, 1515 Southwest 10th, Maxine Jeanes Anton Room 202. The Committees will meet at 10:00 am located at the Topeka Public Library.