

COORDINATING COUNCIL ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
 June 6th, 2003
 Meeting Minutes

<u>Members Attending:</u>	<u>Others Attending:</u>
Sharon Hixson, Chair, Russell Child Development Center Deb Voth, Rainbows United, Wichita Carolyn Nelson (representing Secretary Bremby) Carolyn Weinhold (representing Secretary Schalansky) Susan Kunard, Johnson County Infant Toddler Services Robert Tomlinson (representing Commissioner Sandy Praeger) Marnie Campbell (representing Commissioner Tompkins) Doctor Dave Lindeman, University of Kansas Center on Developmental Disabilities Senator Karin Brownlee Representative Ethel Peterson Doctor Chet Johnson, University of Kansas Child Development Unit Maria Martinez, Parent Member Karla Kenton, Parent Member	Peggy Miksch, Kanass Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Children Youth and Families Dawn O'Brien, Leavenworth Ed Henry, Marshall County Vera Stroup-Rentier, Parsons Doug Bowman, Coordinator Patty Miller, Staff

The meeting was called to order by Sharon Hixson. Introductions were made. Senator Karin Brownlee and Representative Ethel Peterson joined the meeting via speaker phone. There were no additional changes or additions made to the April and May Interagency Coordinating Council meeting minutes. Doctor Chet Johnson moved to approve the draft Interagency Coordinating Council meeting minutes from April 4th and May 2nd, 2003. Seconded by Marnie Campbell; passed unanimously.

Doctor Dave Lindeman spoke about issues raised from the May 2nd, 2003, Interagency Coordinating Council meeting regarding children with disabilities in childcare. It would be helpful if the Interagency Coordinating Council would generate information to the local networks and three to five program to dispel myths and barriers of community child care centers. Marnie stated we could utilize programs such as Kansas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, Social and Rehabilitation Services and the Child Care Licensing Bureau in Health and Environment.

PUBLIC FORUM

Susan Kunard raised a concern surrounding an article on Head Start and public policy. Federal law bans the use of government money or staff time to lobby for or against legislation. Doctor

Chet Johnson remarked that not all funding is federal dollars. Also, it is not lobbying if you inform people of the issues, but do not attempt to influence public policy. Carolyn Weinhold stated Head Start can have leadership and advocacy training. Parents should influence policy-makers on their own time with their own resources. Some programs have fund raising for advocacy activities. Head Start staff is cautioned not to lobby during their work time and with Head Start resources. Senator Karin Brownlee mentioned the information should be objective and correct. Sharon Hixson stated this topic will be assigned to the advocacy committee. Dawn O'Brien raised a concern from Leavenworth County regarding communication between the local Interagency Coordinating Council, and the State Interagency Coordinating Council. Sharon Hixson mentioned this could be an issue for the Strategic Planning meeting scheduled September 5th, 2003.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - Marnie Campbell

Marnie's report is attached. (See attachment A). Marnie reminded us of the State Leadership Conference. There will be discussion of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act reauthorization at the federal level, No Child Left Behind, new Quality Performance Accreditation.

regulations and Categorical Aid Reimbursement. This conference is scheduled for July 24th and 25th, 2003 located at the Airport Hilton in Wichita. You can register at www.kansped.org.

The Kansas Department of Education is working on guidance to help school districts interested in offering a regular preschool for three and four year old children. Due to children not being enrolled in school, there is no requirement to fall under the new teacher licensure regulations. Schools would be exempt from being required to hire early childhood certified teachers under the new regulations.

Marnie stated there is a report available on the website regarding "A Stitch in Time: Calculating the Costs of School Unreadiness" located at www.financeprojectinfo.org/publications/stitchintime.pdf. This is current information to advocate for early intervention.

Vera Stroup-Rentier discussed an initiative regarding physician training on early intervention. The goal is to make strong relationships between physicians and early intervention systems. We shall convene a group of stakeholders, plan regional training for physicians and a self-study manual with follow-up training of persons from child development and resources. Carolyn Weinhold asked if we might include oral health as an early intervention initiative. Maria Martinez asked about feedback from programs. Vera answered there have been positive outcomes, such as an increase in number of referrals, and families that have positive interaction with their pediatrician. Vera mentioned they need to broaden the group, and if interested, please contact Vera Stroup-Rentier or Doug Bowman. There is support from the State Coordinating Council to pursue this project.

BUDGET EFFICIENCY SAVINGS TEAM ED REPORT

Doug Bowman reported Governor Sebelius is working on reviewing governmental activity. Meetings have been open to the public. Doug has been attending the education version of Budget Efficiency Savings Team. Some proposals for consideration will make significant changes in the

way the state approaches public policy in education. The current draft report will be refined with public input given by late summer.

Representative Ethel Peterson had concern of the make-up of the Children's Cabinet and their focus. She asked about the role of the State Interagency Coordinating Council. Each individual was given the opportunity to speak. The Council responses to the Budget Efficiency Savings Team proposal included:

- Concern of children with special needs must be a distinct separation. Health should be represented more.
- Concern of special populations being represented. Our voice needs to be heard because we represent many in the State of Kansas.
- The Interagency Coordinating Council covers a lot of bases regarding early childhood. The parent piece is essential and may have better access to legislators to give input on early childhood, especially children with disabilities.
- Having a Deputy Secretary for preschool education gives the possibility of emphasizing health and early education in the State. The Interagency Coordinating Council would need to be advisory to the Commissioner of Education to assist children prepare for school. Depends on funding and you need to have a strong Deputy Secretary to advance children issues.
- Concern of component of specific early childhood special needs children needs to be standardized within the structure and a separate entity.
- Concern of Children's Cabinet coordinating birth to five systems is their emphasis on childcare. Reorganization within the Children's Cabinet may need to occur with better representation of varied issues.
- Concern of concept sending money to the local community and the locals decide where the money would go.
- Discuss the pros and cons of having a cabinet level position. Need to discuss the possibility of being advisory to an Assistant Deputy, how will this broaden our responsibility and how this would affect what is in the statute of our mission.
- Adequate representation.
- Would like opportunity to go to hearings to raise questions.

Doug Bowman asked to have e-mail sent to him from a legislator saying to inquire of Legislative Research asking Secretary of Education versus Commissioner of Education, and what are the advantages and disadvantages of other states.

Doug reported the Budget Efficiency Savings Team is also looking at Human Services. This group has focused on four topics:

Foster Care
Juvenile Justice
Substance Abuse
Health Care Purchasing

Doug will provide information as it becomes available.

FUND RAISING

Ed Henry reported he had a meeting to discuss fund raising as a statewide cooperative for Infant-Toddler Services. Contacts have been made and will have a fund raiser with Country Stampede, and are proceeding with this activity. A grant is available in the amount of \$10,000. Policy decisions would be assisted by a consultant and/or lawyer. Meetings are scheduled with the local networks.

INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL NOMINATION PROCESS

Doug Bowman explained there are four seats to the Council that will soon be empty. Currently the seats are:

Parent Membership
Provider Position
General Public Position
Governor Representative

Doug listed names that have been nominated for the above mentioned categories. The names will be submitted to the Governor's office next week. It was suggested the consideration for the Governor's representative be a parent of a child with special needs.

COORDINATORS REPORT - Doug Bowman

Doug Bowman reported there will be a Parent Engagement Training in Wichita scheduled on June 10, 2003, sponsored by the Children's Cabinet.

The Children's Cabinet will also hold a two-day strategic planning session at the end of June, 2003.

There will be a two-day meeting of the Least Restrictive Environment/Early Education Expert Group next week.

Kansas Inservice Training Services is sponsoring the Annual Summer Institute June 16th through June 20th.

Kansas Public Radio has an ongoing series called Kansas Kids: Prescription for Change, which is scheduled each Monday morning. We are attempting to get a segment on *tiny-k*. It was agreed that this would be a positive development.

The House has finished the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The Senate will be working on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act soon. Concerns have raised from the advocacy community regarding the House version, such as moving to a three year Individual

Education Plan instead of an annual Individual Education Plan. Language in the bill may lessen impact of natural environment in Part C. Maintain language for the state Interagency Coordinating Council, but doing away with federal Interagency Coordinating Council. Children under the age of three which go into the foster care system would get an automatic referral for the Part C system for an evaluation.

There is a possibility of federal statutory language proposed that would cap Medicaid expenditures. The states would have latitude to influence eligibility and other issues.

The federal law concerning childcare is up for reauthorization. Concerns include requirements for quality services and work requirements for parents getting childcare subsidies.

Nutrition program is up for reauthorization. The nutrition program could affect adult and childcare food programs, school lunch programs, and Woman Infants and Children and nutrition services.

Each month the fiscal status regarding collections of revenues for the state is announced. The month of May was well below predictions. If this is the trend there may be more program cuts.

Doug Bowman reminded the Council our next meeting will be July 11th, 2003, by Interactive Television, due to the holiday on July 4th. August 1st Interagency Coordinating Council meeting will meet briefly by phone to plan for the Strategic Planning Session, which is scheduled all day September 5th, 2003.

COMMITTEES

Funding Committee -

Doug Bowman reported the funding committee met and discussed special education funding. There will be further meetings to discuss this issue. Also, discussed was specifics of categorical aid reimbursement guide which will be out next month. The long-term goal is to have a white paper that would provide information on the varied ways in which special education funding could be distributed including advantages and disadvantages.

Advocacy Committee -

The advocacy committee will be meeting regarding Public radio and Hatch Act issues.

Newborn Screening Committee -

A meeting has been set for July 22nd, 2003, at 1:00 pm to discuss the newborn screening legislation. Representative Ethel Peterson is sponsor of this bill. Doug Bowman will take this issue to Kansas Early Education Partners late June.

Local Partnerships -

Sharon Hixson reminded us of Dawn O'Brien's concern from Leavenworth County regarding communication between the local Interagency Coordinating Council and the State Interagency Coordinating Council. This could be an issue for the planning meeting in September 2003.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT - Carolyn Nelson

Carolyn Nelson handed out a copy of her report (see attachment B). The *tiny-k* regional meetings will be held July 8th in Garden City, July 9th in Newton, and on July 10th in Topeka.

There will be a meeting in Topeka in September to discuss Kansas Early Intervention Longitudinal Studies results.

The collaborative Parents As Teachers and Infant Mental Health (unified) Conference is scheduled September 24th through September 26th. Registration information will be available in June.

Peggy Miksch reported that all Kansas Part C Steering Committee members and all State Interagency Coordinating Council members had been sent a copy of the Annual Performance Report/Kansas Self Improvement Plan. Feedback received had been reviewed. The final draft will be sent out to the above mentioned members with final comments due before the June 30 submission date. The document requires the signature of the Chair of the Local Infant-Toddler Coordinating Council. Peggy specifically asked that Interagency Coordinating Council members take note of the Steering Committees recommendations concerning reintroduction of the Newborn Screening Bill, as well as the sections pertaining to parent members of the State Interagency Coordinating Council and their participation in parent initiatives targeted for training for parent members of the Local Interagency Coordinating Council's.

SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES REPORT - Carolyn Weinhold

Carolyn Weinhold handed out a copy of the Social and Rehabilitation Services report. (See attachment C). Carolyn reported July 1st, 2003, the childcare subsidy will be raised to 185% of poverty. The Kansas Early Head Start program lost \$300,000, but that will be restored July 1st, 2003.

Carolyn Weinhold suggested that when Doug Bowman attends the Head Start Parent Leadership Training, he include in his presentation the newborn screening legislation.

Doug Bowman handed out a position paper on Federal Head Start Reauthorization. This paper is done by the Kansas Head Start Association. (See attachment D)

INSURANCE COMMISSION REPORT - Robert Tomlinson

There will soon be a formal presentation on ASSURE. The Kansas Insurance Department is advocating state regulations opposed to federal regulations.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm. The next meeting will be by Interactive Television scheduled July 11th, 2003, from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm, located in Topeka at the Landon State Office Building, Room 855-South.