

**KANSAS INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

**June 3rd, 2005
Annual Strategic Planning Retreat**

Welcome and Introductions

Members Present:

Ellen Mellard, Chair, NE KS Education Service Center
Carolyn Nelson, (representing Secretary Bremby)
Thomas Kohmetscher, Service Provider Member
Sharon Hixson, Russell Child Development Center
Gayle Stuber (representing Commissioner Tompkins)
Dr. Dave Lindeman, University of Kansas Center on
Developmental Disabilities
Richard Martinez, Parent Member
Mark Tremaine, Parent Member
Karla Kenton, Parent Member
Maria Martinez, Parent Member
Susan Adams, Service Provider Member

Non-Members Present:

Vera Stroup-Rentier, Facilitator, KITS
Linda Kenney, KDHE, BCYF
Carol Dermeyer, KSDE
Kathy Boyd, Osage County ITS
Deanna Peterson, KDHE, BCYF
Jamey Kendall, KDHE, BCYF
Nikki Wiedower, Lakemary ITS
Doug Bowman, Coordinator
Patty Miller, Staff

Members Not Present:

Senator David Haley
Representative Brenda Landwehr
Robert Tomlinson, Kansas Insurance Department
Jennifer Crow, Governor's Representative
Alice Womack, (representing Secretary Schalansky)

The meeting was called to order by Ellen Mellard, Chair.

Vera Stroup-Rentier, Facilitator, passed out name tags for each of us to draw a logo, and explain how the logo relates to us.

SURVEYING OUR CURRENT LANDSCAPE - DOUG BOWMAN

SUPREME COURT RULING

- If more resources are ordered – won't painful budget cuts follow OR will new revenues be created?
- Even if current proposal stands – FY 2007 will be extremely challenging

WHY?

- The need for more school funding will grow faster than anticipated revenues
- Reserve funds are spent

- Medical expenses keep climbing
- The KPERS shortfall must be addressed
- Promises to higher ed and highways
- The economy is inconsistent

The 2006 Legislative session will be very political

- Everything impacts the gubernatorial race
- All 125 House member seats are open

EARLY CHILDHOOD IS GAINING

- Recognition of impact on school readiness
- Smart Start, all-day kindergarten, and universal pre-K are popular
- Progress being made to address concerns around Least Restrictive Environment in the Pre-School area
- Ongoing work to develop a comprehensive plan for early learning

KANSAS

- We have the distinct possibility of being the best state in which to raise a child

What will we do today?

- That will further this vision
- That will improve the lives of young Kansans with disabilities
- That will inspire each of us to carry on

DISCUSSION – What do we know? What is our Inter-Agency agenda? Tom Kohmetscher made a motion to keep the discussion in one large group opposed to breaking up in small groups. Seconded by Mark Tremaine; passed unanimously. The group discussed developing recommendation on policies. Also, how to make ICC relevant to other systems and with others in the State, i.e., early childhood community.

MISSION

The mission of the Kansas Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services is to ensure that a comprehensive delivery system of integrated services is available to all children with or at risk of developmental delays from birth through age 5 and their families.

Rather than “word-smithing” the Mission Statement, it was decided to focus on issues.

CONDENSED DOWN TO BASIC ISSUES:

- Adequate Funding for all Birth through 5 (global issue) services – Fiscal note is standard.

Goals: Deliver focused message, Timelines, Active in Agency budget development,

- Categorical Aid issue for Part C

Goals: Develop data-based recommendation to KDHE and KSDE regarding the distribution of categorical aid funds.

ICC Position regarding: The Governor’s Priorities birth to 5

- Identifying more children at a younger age
- Research supports this (best practices), but where is the funding to implement
- Pre-schools, Parents as Teachers (PAT), Early Head Start, and all day kindergarten
- Support curriculum and professional development

Goal: The ICC will respond formally stating our position regarding the Governor’s priorities and the comprehensive state plan for early learning.

Personnel Issues

- Adequate number of qualified personnel
- Teacher licensing

Goals: 1. Review any proposed changes in provider licensure and make formal recommendations to appropriate governing bodies ensuring adequate personnel.
2. Complete an assessment of the quantity/adequacy of qualified personnel of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) services for children birth through five.

ICC WORK ON 2006 STRATEGIC PLAN

Vera Stroup- Rentier, Ellen Mellard and Doug Bowman will generate draft strategies of goals that are developed and will send out to ICC members over e-mail. Please make changes and send back to Doug Bowman, Ellen Mellard, and Vera Stroup-Rentier.

Doug Bowman has contacted the Governor’s office regarding new appointments to the Council.

Doug Bowman stated that some Committees and Task Forces have been meeting. This will be an agenda item at the next State ICC meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The next State ICC meeting is scheduled for July 8th, 2005. The ICC meeting will begin at 1:00 PM. The meeting will be located at the SRS Learning Center, 2nd and Macvicar, Building 2600, Room D, Topeka, Kansas. The August meeting will be via teleconference. There will NOT be an ICC meeting in September. The October ICC meeting is scheduled for October 7th, 2005.