

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

**March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005  
SRS Learning Center, Topeka, Kansas**

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Members Present:**

Ellen Mellard, Chair, NE KS Education Service Center  
Sharon Hixson, Russell Child Development Center  
Linda Kenney, (representing Secretary Bremby)  
Alice Womack, (representing Secretary Daniels)  
Thomas Kohmetscher, Service Provider Member  
Dr. Dave Lindeman, University of Kansas  
Institute of Higher Education (IHE) Representative  
Susan Adams, Service Provider Member  
Michael Steiner, (representing Commissioner Sandy Praeger)  
Maria Martinez, Parent Member  
Karla Kenton, Parent Member  
Mark Tremaine, Parent Member

**Non-Members Present:**

Carolyn Weinhold, Head Start  
Collaboration Coordinator, SRS  
Joe Porting, KDHE, CDS  
Ryan Weir, KDHE, CDS  
Kathy Boyd, Osage Co. ICC  
Kathy Johnson, Shawnee Co. ICC  
Sherrie Gross, SRS  
Doug Bowman, Coordinator

Patty Miller, Staff

**Members Not Present:**

Senator David Haley  
Representative Brenda Landwehr  
Jennifer Crow, Governor's Representative  
Gayle Stuber, KSDE (Commissioner Tompkins Representative)  
Richard Martinez, Parent Member

**Approval of February 2005 Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Ellen Mellard, Chair. Dr. Dave Lindeman made a motion to approve the February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005, meeting minutes. Seconded by Tom Kohmetscher; passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
The February ICC Minutes will be posted on the Kansas ICC website as amended.	Patty Miller	March 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2005

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Karla Kenton, Parent Member from Hays, reported on the Smart Start Grant. The grant will expand the Parents as Teachers Program and should do away with waiting lists. It will also expand Early

Head Start Program, as well as Infant Toddler Early Intervention Services at the Children's Center. It will expand the Teacher Education and Compensation helps (TEACH) program into more counties.

Carolyn Weinhold, SRS, discussed The Third Statewide Kansas Fatherhood Summit. The summit will be held April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2005, in Wichita, Kansas. The cost is \$25 for parents, \$50 for practitioners, and \$75 for late registrants.

### **NECTAC MEETING REPORT**

Ellen Mellard and Richard Martinez attended the 2005 OSEP National Early Childhood Conference (NECTAC) on behalf of the State ICC. They attended several different break out groups, i.e., how to connect with the medical community, mental health, and focus conversation method on interpretative questioning. With many other state ICC's, the Committee structure is very active. Some states do not have Local ICC's. If you are interested in materials, please contact Ellen Mellard.

Ellen Mellard attended another session where there was discussion regarding child find and the homeless population. Dr. Dave Lindeman mentioned there were groups that solicited feedback regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Doug Bowman reported that the *tiny-k* lottery, House Bill number 2427, was assigned to the House state and federal affairs committee.

Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) budget has cleared the House and is now in the Senate. There is a shortage in child care funds. Money added for the waiver program. The Children's Cabinet and Smart Start are also in this budget.

Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) budget has completed the House Appropriations Subcommittee and hearings. A House select committee will work on the school finance formula.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) budget was completed in the Senate. There is an additional \$677,000 all funds and \$450,000 state money still in place for child care licensing to help locals with inspections.

The Senate Subcommittee recommended that a proviso be added to the appropriations bill to direct Smart Start to allocate \$200,000 in discretionary grants to *tiny-k*. This is the same \$200,000 allocated in '05 for infant toddler; it is not an additional \$200,000 over and above last year's budget. The House encourages *tiny-k* programs to approach the Children's Cabinet, under its Smart Start discretionary grant funding, and mentions possible shifting of tobacco funds in Omnibus.

### **COMMITTEES and TASK FORCES**

**Funding/Finance Committee** – Dr. Dave Lindeman, Co-Chair

Discussion: Focused on issues regarding Categorical Aid. Need clarification regarding funding for *tiny-k*. Ryan Weir and Joe Porting will run scenario formulas.

**Advocacy Committee** – Doug Bowman reported for Debbie Mai, Co-Chair

Discussion: Half of the Local Networks showed up for the *tiny-k* Advocacy Day held on February

17<sup>th</sup>, 2005. More than half of the legislators were contacted. There was a good turnout from family members.

**Newborn Screening Task Force** – Dr. Chet Johnson, Chair

Discussion: No report.

**Partnerships Committee** – Maria Martinez, Co-Chair

Discussion: No report.

**Parent Leadership Task Force** - Maria Martinez, Chair

Discussion: Maria Martinez and Richard Martinez, from the Parent Leadership Task Force, attended the KDEEC Conference in February and participated in a training. Richard, Maria and Peggy did a presentation called building leadership opportunity and partnership with families. They received positive feedback.

**Interagency Agreement Task Force** - Sharon Hixson, Chair

Discussion: Met on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005, from 1:00 to 3:00. Making progress on Part C Agreement.

**Ad Hoc Committee** - Maria Martinez, Chair

Discussion: Identify 2006 as the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Putting together ideas, and may include past members from the Council. Would like to do a recognition piece regarding the history and success story of Marnie Campbell. Maria stated it is important to show families what leadership can do.

**Governmental Affairs Committee** - Tom Kohmetscher, Chair

Discussion: No report.

**Categorical Aid Task Force** - Dr. Dave Lindeman, Chair

Discussion: See Funding Committee report.

**Public Forum Task Force** - Sharon Hixson, Chair

Discussion: No report.

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Committees and Task Forces will meet prior to the April State ICC meeting and provide updated information to the Council.	Chair of Committees and Task Forces Doug Bowman	April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2005

**COORDINATORS REPORT** - Doug Bowman

Discussion: Doug mentioned he prepared a letter to the Governor regarding the submission of names to fulfill the general public position. No response from Governor Kathleen Sebelius yet.

Doug prepared a press release recommending more money for *tiny-k*. The Harris news services interviewed KaAnn Graham. The article appeared in several papers.

The Governor’s plan of Early Childhood is scheduled in Lawrence for April 7<sup>th</sup> and April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005. The official notice letters have not been mailed out yet.

A meeting with the Head Start Association is scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2005. The meeting will be concerning providing services to children with special needs.

Ellen Mellard has not been able to meet with Senator David Haley and Representative Brenda Landwehr regarding representation to the Council.

The April ICC meeting is still in doubt. The all day Strategic Planning meeting is scheduled for June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2005, located at the SRS Learning Center in rooms A & B.

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Convene a panel of persons representing Part C, Part B 3-5, technical assistance, and agency staff to review basics prior to the Head Start Association meeting. Follow-up with regional meetings in late summer or early fall.	Doug Bowman	May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2005
Ellen Mellard will write letters to the legislators on the Council and inform them what by-laws are.	Ellen Mellard	
Review and make revisions to the Council by-laws.	Ellen Mellard, Doug Bowman, Tom Kohmetscher, and Maria Martinez	
Recognition on behalf of Marnie Campbell	Ellen Mellard Doug Bowman	

**INSURANCE COMMISSION REPORT** – Michael Steiner for Robert Tomlinson

Discussion: Michael Steiner discussed the military freeze Senate Bill 103, which is currently in the Senate. The bill protects individuals that are in the armed forces who are residents of Kansas, and are deployed outside the borders of the United States from being affected by insurance company rates. Ellen Mellard asked how funding sources can match best practice in terms of how services are being done. Michael Steiner will follow-up. Joe Porting will forward issues to Brenda Kuder, SRS, about how Medicaid changes on policy for best practices.

**SRS REPORT** - Alice Womack

A copy of the SRS report was handed out, (Attachment A).

Discussion: The new child care provider payment system, Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) will begin in Wyandotte and twenty-one counties in the Hays area in June, 2005.

Kansas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (KACCRRRA) received a contract award from SRS to purchase a license from Colorado that will allow implementation of the Qualistar Rating System in two areas of Kansas initially – Wichita and Salina, with plans to expand statewide as funding allows. The Kansas system will be known as the Kansas Quality Rating System (KQRS) and will allow child care programs (centers and family child care homes) to volunteer for participation.

State plan hearings for the July, 2005 biannual state plan will begin in April, 2005 at the Child Care Advisory Committee meeting in Topeka on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

The third annual Fatherhood Summit will be held on April 20, 21, 2005, at the Holiday Inn Select in Wichita.

Alice Womack introduced Sherrie Gross, SRS. Sherrie Gross discussed training provided to SRS staff in foster care contractors around the Federal law which requires Part C referrals for children under the age of 3 that have been found to be victims of abuse and neglect.

The policy was implemented July 1, 2004. The policy manual is on the internet under [www.srskansas.org](http://www.srskansas.org). The policy manual is located under Section 2000.

Discussion of issue related to locating and obtaining permission from the parent, and signature on the referral form. There is still confusion on the part of some foster parents, SRS staff, and contractors. Sherrie Gross will follow-up questions with her supervisor.

#### **KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT** – Ryan Weir

Discussion: Ryan Weir had passed out the Part C Annual Performance Report (APR) at the February State ICC meeting and asked for feedback. He received a few comments. Ryan has made some corrections on the updated APR. The Steering Committee meeting will be held March 14, 2005. Sharon Hixson made a motion that the Chair of the State ICC will sign a form to accompany the Annual Performance Report. Seconded by Susan Adams.

The Part C Coordinator position remains vacant. Interviews have been done, and are in process of checking references at this time.

#### **KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION** – Gail Stuber

Gail Stuber was unable to attend. A copy of the KSDE report was handed out. (Attachment B).

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next ICC meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 1st, 2005, (possibly via teleconference) or may be located in Topeka, Kansas at the SRS Learning Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> & Macvicar, South West East Circle Drive South, Building 2600, Room B. The meeting will begin at 1:00 PM. Tom Kohmetscher