

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

MINUTES

STATE ICC MEETING
NOVEMBER 7, 2008, 1:00-5:00 PM
NEWTON CITY LIBRARY
NEWTON, KS

MEMBERS PRESENT IN NEWTON

Dr. Linda Mitchell, Chair, Public Member
Sharon Hixson, Public Member
Nancy Krase, Provider Member
Deb Voth, Provider Member
Dr. Dave Lindeman, Rep. Board/Regents
Tom Laing, Public Member
Janet Newton, KSDE Representative.

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Richard Martinez, Parent Member
Jennifer Rojas, Parent Member
Senator Julie Lynn, Senate Appointee
Julie Broski, Parent Member
Representative Melody McCray-Miller

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT ON
PHONE

Deanna Berry, Russell Child Dev.
Center, Garden City

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Doug Bowman, ICC Staff Coordinator
Jean Wilson, ICC Sr. Admin. Assistant
Connie Zinkewicz, Exec. Dir., Families
Together
Shannon Schaller, Families Together
KaAnn Graham, Early Education Center,
Hutchinson
Chelie Nelson, Asst. Director, Harvey Co
tiny-K & Special Education
Marcia Friesen, Harvey Co.

MEMBERS PRESENT ON PHONE

John Meetz, KS Insurance Commissioner
Maria Martinez, Parent Member
Thomas Kohmetscher, Provider Member
Eva Horn, Public Member
Susan Carriger, Provider Member
Tiffany Krentz, Parent Member
Carolyn Nelson, KDHE
Cayla Wright, KHPA-Medicaid Rep
Dr. Leticia Holub Taylor, Provider Mbr
Kate Wolff, Governor's Representative
Bobbi Mariani, SRS

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Dr. Linda Mitchell, Chair, called the meeting to order with a welcome to all.

ADOPTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The following edits were made to the drafted October 2008 minutes: Sharon Hixson suggested some rewording to pages 6 and 7 concerning the tiny-K Foundation philosophy. Tom Laing moved and Sharon Hixson seconded that the minutes be approved as changed. The vote was unanimously passed.

PUBLIC FORUM

Linda Mitchell remarked about suggestions circulating concerning child care licensing regulations. Possible changes include increasing the adult to children ratio.

Janet Newton of KSDE stated that childcare licensing is undergoing some major revisions. It has been 20 plus years since they have been updated. These suggested changes came out of a best practices team that toured the State of Kansas last fall.

Advocates can contact Chris Ross-Baze, Kansas Department of Health & Environment, by phone: 785-296-1970 (or email her). Please check their website for further assistance at <http://www.kdheks.gov/>.

Connie Zinkewicz, Executive Director, Families Together, and Shannon Schaller spoke. Shannon passed out brochures, literature, and postcards to all. She also announced the state-wide conference coming up in Wichita, December 13, 2008, with a special Autism speaker: Steven Hinkle, who will tell his story of inclusive practice. There will also be discussions and handouts on bullying. Their website: www.familiestogether.org

Maria Martinez stated that Temple Grandin is going to the National Agri-ability Conference at Wichita, November 10-12, 2008 at 6:00 pm at the Hyatt Regency. This would be a good way to see how technology is used for rural customers including Kansas farms and their families, with disabled children.

Local Report – Harvey County Families Together

Chelie Nelson spoke about their services for Infants & Toddlers in Harvey County.

Across the street from our meeting place (Newton City Library), they have centralized the Harvey County programs: Early Childhood Program, Parents as Teachers, Infant-Toddler and At Risk Special Education, Age 3-5 Special Education Musical Programs, Head Start. We have a dedicated staff. They have worked very hard over the last 2 years to implement the primary provider model. They have been working to make sure we are not losing families.

Sharon Hixson asked how many births are on record for Harvey County each year. Doug Bowman answered that there are about 1266 per year according to the data he had.

Linda Mitchell suggested that if anyone is interested in the Primary Coaching Model, to let the State ICC know, and we could get more information. She also stated that there will be more learning about this model in the future and it is good to promote multiple models.

Eva Horn commented that there is not just one model. Primary Coaching is grounded in recommended practices. It is important to recognize it is just one example of many models, and it is important to get a broader education of what are our recommended best practices.

Connie Zinkewicz suggested that we could have something about the Primary Coaching Model at the KDEC Conference. Carolyn Nelson stated that KDEC is requesting proposals and anyone interested should contact Peggy Miksch for this conference in early March of next year.

Deb Voth stated that what is great about this type of model is it is a good way to see a family really start to take control and then they tell you how their child has developed. This is very exciting.

Sharon Hixson asked if there could also be some plan in the future to showcase the 3-5 strategies partners also.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Funding Committee Report

Dave Lindeman stated that the Funding Committee has not yet met. We continue to seek from the agency partners, the money that goes into the infant toddler program and also to 3- 5 programs for children with disabilities. He would hope that by the December State ICC meeting we will have this information on hand.

Cayla Wright stated she has requested these numbers be run and she would get her information to Dave Lindeman next week.

Dave Lindeman stated that we have had recent issues concerning special education funding. Recent audits have resulted in audit findings, especially for those who utilize individual student contracts. We'll pursue a future training with KSDE for local partners to clarify these issues.

Advocacy Committee Report

This committee held a conference call completed since the last State ICC Meeting and have developed a survey for local networks to evaluate the State ICC. They are also working on a draft letter to send congratulations to every Legislator. Sharon Hixson mentioned that there will be more out soon on Advocacy training, and the tiny-K Day in 2009. The Advocacy Committee conference calls are every fourth Monday of the month at 1:30.

Doug Bowman stated that November 17th is the Part C Coordinators' meeting. The survey will be pointed out and a discussion on the 2009 tiny-K Day will take place. Should we join the larger Early Learning efforts at advocacy?

Linda Mitchell stated that there are arguments to do both, but do we have the resources? We want to be talking and maintain a message from the State ICC.

Linda Mitchell made a motion to (a) join Early Childhood Advocacy Day on March 4th and (b) communicate with Part C whether we set up on a separate day. Doug Bowman will bring this matter up at the Part C coordinators meeting next week and find out if it would tax their resources to do both. Sharon Hixson seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Policy Committee Report

Tom Laing stated that there are items needing updated in the State ICC bylaws: Article I Mission Statement and Article II Values of Council. Please email our committee next week with your suggestions.

Tom Laing had questions about "governance activities". Doug Bowman stated that Jim Redmon has scheduled a meeting of the Early Learning Coordinating Council for November 24. Recommendations will be forthcoming. Dr. Lindeman will be present.

Deb Voth requested that Doug Bowman send out reminders of upcoming meetings.

Improving Services Committee Report

This committee always meets Second Thursday of the Month for Conference Call from 9-10 am). Eva Horn, Leticia Holub Taylor and Susan Carriger formulated a response letter for the Autism issue. By the December 5, 2008 State ICC Meeting, they will be ready to present.

SRS Department Report

Bobbi Mariani remarked they are working on budget issues currently, but will email SRS's report to attach to the minutes for this month, as soon as we can.

KSDE Department Report

Janet Newton, KSDE, mentioned the Infant Mental Health Conference will be held in Salina, Kansas on April 9-10, 2009. Victor Bernstein is the keynote speaker.

KDHE Department Report

Carolyn Nelson mentioned that federal regulations for Part C of IDEA should be forthcoming soon. KITS recently conducted another training session on the Primary Coaching Model for Part C staff.

Insurance Department Report

None

Chair and Staff Reports

The State ICC has been told there was no change to the appeal made recently on categorical aid issues by Sunflower Early Education Center at Great Bend, Ks. We are planning some Interactive TV training that will hopefully clarify the following: what the policy is, funding, and how to document.

Sharon Hixson and Deb Voth stated that Sunflower had a significant loss of funding for paraprofessionals. This comes out of services for other children.

Sharon reported that the tiny-K Foundation had a meeting to take questions on categorical aid funding so they could get back to KSDE as soon as possible on these issues.

Doug Bowman related that the Special Education Task Force has one more meeting. The next meeting is not set yet. Doug also announced that two State ICC representatives will attend the Washington, D.C. NECTAC Conference December 6-10, 2008; He and Tiffany Krentz. Also attending will be: Tiffanie Smith-Birk, Carolyn Nelson from KDHE, and Carol Ayers of KSDE.

The next State ICC meeting will be December 5, from 1:00 until 5:00 pm on 7th at the Topeka Public Library, in Marvin Auditorium Room 101A. It will be an ELMR Library LifeSize Videoconference Meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Kansas State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC)

November 7, 2008

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Update

Kansas Family Services Coordination Training Project Update

On November 5, 2008, Dr. Mary Beth Bruder, Professor of Pediatrics University of Connecticut, conducted the Kansas Family Services Coordination Training Project (KFDC) follow up training.

The Kansas Family Services Coordination Training Project is a collaborative effort of the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and the Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS). Funding for the project from initiation through the follow up training was provided by the General Supervision Improvement Grant (GSIG) for Special Education Grant.

The purpose of this project is to assist Kansas in fulfilling the state and federal requirement to provide service coordination training for all active Family Service Coordinators. The first activity of the project was a statewide training for all active Family Service Coordinators on January 3, 2008. KDHE encouraged participation by any person providing FSC for Part C of IDEA as training of Family Service Coordinators is a state and federal requirement.

In addition to this one day training for all, a train the trainer session was held on January 4, 2008. Each network was encouraged to send at least one network representative to this train the trainer session. The goal is to have a minimum of one trainer in each network to provide ongoing service coordination training within the network. These representatives were invited to a follow up session with Dr. Bruder in November. The long term goal is for this group to meet on a yearly basis to refresh service coordination training information. Yearly meetings will include updates to IDEA; resource updates; hot topics in early intervention and more. Yearly meetings will be conducted by KDHE and KITS facilitators. The first annual FSC training/Early Intervention 101 is scheduled to occur June 3, 2009. In addition to on site training, networks will have access to online support for the family services coordination toolkit presented to the networks by Dr. Bruder for use in ongoing training. This online support will be enhanced by technical assistance as needed through the Kansas Inservice Training System.

Networks were asked to assist in collection of data on FSC activities pre and post the training. In addition, networks were asked to use the materials disseminated as a result of the project in their ongoing FSC training. At the training each of the networks reported that they had used the service coordination toolkits and other materials in training within their networks. Networks reported that the information had universally lent itself to an increased or renewed focus on family centered practices. Networks reported particular work in enhancement of intake and in partnerships with the medical home.

Other Conferences/Trainings attended by KDHE Part C Staff

1. Assistive Technology Expo 2008, Wichita
2. Investing in Family Support Conference, North Carolina working on a state plan with Part C and Sound Beginnings to assist children with hearing loss.
3. Implementing Evidence-Based Practices in Early Intervention in Kansas, Garden City with M'Lisa Sheldon & Dathan Rush

United Methodist Health Ministry Fund is discussing mental health issues facing Kansas children. They are considering four new programming areas, including children's mental health for the work in the 2010-2012 planning period. The meeting will discuss topics such as 1) what are the needs for improved mental health prevention and treatment services for Kansas children 2) what is being done now that is working 3) who are key players in this work at the local, state and national levels, 4) what philanthropic strategies could be implemented to address the opportunities in this field by the Health Ministry Fund. They have invited the Part C Coordinator to attend this meeting on November 11th.

The Annual Performance Report will be presented at the December meeting for the State ICC review. Ryan Weir will also come to the January meeting for follow-up.

Coordinators Meeting November 17 in Newton, Kansas

Agenda Items will include: Newborn Screening, Targeted Case Management/Medicaid, State Deaf-Blind Project, TA Waiver- KIDS Screen Case Management/Nursing and OSEP updates including Fiscal Accountability

Infant Mental Health Endorsement- Nine professionals in Kansas have prepared portfolios, taken an exam and are the first Kansas Endorsed Infant Mental Health Specialists- Level 3 or Infant Mental Health Mentors- Level 4.

Peggy Miksch- KITS
 Tiffany Smith-Birk- KDHE Part C
 Suzanne Chapel-Miller- Private Practitioner
 Rick Gaskill-Sumner Mental Health Center
 Cathy Estes, Sunflower Early Education Center
 Alice Eberhart-Wright- Private Practitioner
 Shelley Mayse- The Family Conservancy
 Lana Messner- KACCRRRA
 Sophie Thayer- Emporia State University

**KSDE Report to the State Interagency Coordinating Council
 November 7, 2008**

Kansas Preschool Program: The first meeting of the Steering committee will be on November 11th in Lawrence. The purpose of this meeting is for a

representative group from the Pre-K Pilot and other early childhood programs, agencies, and organizations to help develop the Kansas Preschool Program: the vision, the mission, the criteria, and other specifics necessary to create a voluntary, universal preschool program for young children in Kansas.

There are two workgroups: the Practitioner group will meet on November 11th and the Policy group will meet on November 25th. Results from the discussion on both days will be shared with all members and with others who are interested. Gayle Stuber will present an overview to the SICC at their December meeting if the group is interested.

EC Auditing Guide: It is clear that there are questions from the early childhood world about the auditing process at KSDE. Pre-K Pilot sites, PAT sites, and early intervention sites have had questions over the past few years. The Early Learning Services Unit at KSDE will be working to develop guidance in this area. Information will also include the handout on braiding funding that was given out at a spring meeting (Head Start Collaboration).

SPP/APR information-----Updates to the State Performance Plan (SPP) Indicator 7 – Early Childhood Outcomes data is available and is being analyzed and compared to the improvement activities planned and their impact on the numbers. We will have a draft prepared for review in mid-November and I am hopeful that the process will be complete by mid-December and ready for the February submission.

Indicator 12 – Transition from C to B is also progressing in the process. We continue to filter through the information on individual districts for follow up. Letters are being sent to all districts informing them of their compliance or non-compliance. The draft report will also be reviewed in mid- November and we are hopeful that the process will be complete at the same time.

Parents As Teachers: A PAT workgroup met October 28 to work on a grant redesign that would align the PAT Continuation Grant with the PAT logic model. PAT long term outcomes are in aligned with the Early Learning Standards. Alignment work among all the KSDE Early Learning programs will help ensure greater continuity of services from Birth to Grade 3.

SRS Report for State ICC Meeting November 7, 2008

- **National Adoption Day is Saturday November 15th.** Across the country, the day is marked with celebrations, recruitment events and adoption decrees by Judges. Kansas child welfare providers and community partners are in the process of planning activities. Events are registered on line by the organizers and can be viewed by searching for Kansas at <http://www.nationaladoptionday.org/2008/index.asp>. There will be 5-10 events

across Kansas. On last year's National Adoption Day, over 50 adoptions were finalized in Kansas courts for children in the custody of the Secretary of SRS.

- **Adoption Incentive Award.** In late August, Kansas received an adoption incentive award from DHHS of over \$800,000 to support child welfare prevention and permanency programs. A portion of that funding will be used for recruitment of foster and adoptive families. A meeting was held with Children's Alliance of Kansas and representatives from Wichita media and (partnering TV stations) to explore options for a statewide television media campaign. There is a commitment from 7 stations across Kansas media markets to develop and air commercials during times that will maximize recruitment. In addition, the stations will support recruitment through website banners and links to adoptive resources and recruitment agencies.
- **Safety First: Kansas Toolkit.** Safety First-Kansas Supervisors Tool kit was developed using funds provided by SRS and the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas. The toolkit provides supervisors/team leaders with resources to enhance discussion and practical thinking about workplace safety with their staff, emphasizing awareness, prevention, communication and support. The first six units of the toolkit have been distributed to Community Mental Health Centers across the state. The final units are in progress and scheduled to be completed and posted to the internet later this year.
- **Drivers License Sanction for Nonpayment of Support:** In October 2008, letters were mailed to 2,151 debtors who owe more than \$500 in past due child support and have not made a payment in the last 60 days. The letters inform debtors of the new law that allows the Department of Revenue (KDOR) to restrict the driving privileges of any driver who owes more than \$500. Those debtors who fail to respond to the letters or begin payments will be targeted for an additional courtesy letter and the formal 30-day notice of the proposed sanction. Debtors who fail to respond to the notice of the proposed sanction and whose debt remains above the \$500 will be reported to KDOR for license restriction. It should be noted, the primary focus of this sanction is to promote voluntary payment of support, not to restrict driving privileges.