

COORDINATING COUNCIL ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
 October 3, 2003
 Meeting Minutes

<u>Members Attending:</u>	<u>Others Attending</u>
<p><i>TOPEKA SITE:</i> Sharon Hixson, Chair, Russell Child Development Center Ellen Mellard, Northeast Kansas Education Service Center Alice Womack (representing Secretary Schalansky) Peggy Miksch (representing Secretary Bremby)</p> <p><i>HAYS SITE:</i> Karla Kenton, Parent Member Maria Martinez, Parent Member</p> <p><i>WICHITA SITE:</i> <i>OVERLAND PARK (REGENTS CENTER):</i> Marnie Campbell, (representing Commissioner Tompkins) Susan Kunard, Johnson County Infant Toddler Services Deb Voth, Rainbows United - Wichita</p> <p><i>GARDEN CITY SITE:</i></p> <p><i>PARSONS SITE:</i> Doctor Dave Lindeman, University of Kansas Center on Developmental Disabilities</p>	<p>Ruth Jones, Osage County Interagency Coordinating Council Doug Bowman, Coordinator Patty Miller, Staff Mark Tremaine, Parent Member</p> <p>Doug Greer, Hays Interagency Coordinating Council</p> <p>Paco Price, Rainbows United Cayla Wasson, Rainbows United Vanessa Lohf, Sedgwick County Infant Toddler Services Mary Schulte, Hutchinson</p> <p>Deanna Berry, Russell Child Developmental. Center</p> <p>Vera Stroup-Rentier</p>

The meeting was called to order by Sharon Hixson, Chair. Introductions were made.

Ellen Mellard moved to approve the draft September 5, 2003, meeting minutes. Seconded by Mark Tremaine; passed unanimously.

INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Doug Bowman gave status from the Governor's office regarding appointments to the State Interagency Coordinating Council. Doug explained there has not been any decision regarding new appointments. Doug will continue to remind them on this matter.

Doug reported the new legislative members have been appointed by the Legislative Coordinating Council. Senator Anthony Hensley (Democrat - Topeka) has replaced Senator Karin Brownlee.

Representative Brenda Landwehr (Republican - Wichita) has replaced Representative Ethel Peterson.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND 2004 MEETINGS

Doug has made edits to the strategic plan based on feedback received from the Strategic Planning session. Doug will later add specific tasks, timelines, etcetera, on essential points to the Strategic Plan. After discussion, it was decided to create a committee to discuss the strategic plan. They will report back to the Council at the November Interagency Coordinating Council meeting. The volunteers for the committee are Maria Martinez, Susan Kunard, Ellen Mellard and Doctor Dave Lindeman. Doug Bowman will send information (via e-mail) to the committee members from the September session, which includes an one page summary, priority ranking and information listed by sub-groups.

Council meetings should be functional and focused on recommendations from committees to the Council. There was concern with loss of focus, if the meetings are not regularly held. The meetings could be combined with committee meetings. Ellen moved to continue with the current Interagency Coordinating Council meeting schedule as is until we have reconvened in November 2003. It was suggested to meet monthly in the 2004 meeting schedule. Add dates to your schedules in pencil. Some may be cancelled later. Seconded by Mark Tremaine; passed unanimously. There was consensus to go out of town in November or December. Doug Bowman will check into location, then will inform where and when.

COORDINATOR REPORT

Doug reported the Children's Cabinet issued nine small planning grants to assess community needs. These new communities will be planning for potential Smart Start implementation. There will be a request for additional Smart Start monies in fiscal year 2005.

The Joint Committee of Children and families has been looking at foster care issues. The private foster care grants will be renewed in the next year.

Hearings were also held in Joint Committee of Children and Families on child care regulations for drop in school age programs. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will be looking at allowing certain programs to be opted out of regulations if they meet specific criteria.

We will discuss a health insurance mandate pertaining to Early Intervention Services scheduled October 20, 2003 in the Insurance Commission. Deb Voth asked about presenting both options of early intervention, birth to five insurance, as well as the birth to three. Doug has asked Mark Tremaine to testify. Johnson County may also testify.

Doug Bowman and Karla Kenton will be attending the National Early Childhood Conference in Washington, District of Columbia the first week of November. Marnie Campbell will be attending for Kansas Department of Education. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will also be sending staff.

COMMITTEES

Advocacy - The Advocacy Committee met and is in the process of their plan for the next year. There will be an all day advocacy training January 20, 2004. There will be an advocacy track for beginners and also an advanced track.

Funding Committee - The Funding Committee will schedule a teleconference soon with the advocacy committee.

Newborn Screening - Doug reported the newborn screening bill is still alive. The fiscal note will need to be revisited. Doug Bowman and Doctor Chet Johnson will continue to work on this bill.

Categorical Aid - There was a draft position paper that has been circulated. Doug Bowman will edit feedback and send out to the taskforce. The position paper will go to Council in November.

State and Local Partnership - No Activity

Interagency Coordinating Council Leadership/Operations and Parent Involvement - No Activity

Doug Bowman will draft a letter for Sharon Hixson's signature to Representative Ethel Peterson and Senator Karin Brownlee thanking them for their support and assistance to the Council.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - Marnie Campbell

Marnie Campbell's written report with handouts is attached (see attachment A).

BEST Education Policy Team: Marnie Attended public forum September 17 in Kansas City, Kansas. No higher education issues were discussed. Comments related to the value of early intervention, as proven by early brain research, and the need for additional services.

New Early Childhood License: Presented at a local in service in Gardner-Edgerton about the new early childhood license, as part of panel with Dave Lindeman, Barbara Thompson, and Mary Deluccie. It's important for people to know (1) about the new combined regular/special education program for children from Birth through Grade 3 (Kansas is one of seven states to offer such a credential), and (2) about the Early Childhood Higher-Education Options (ECHO) consortium.

Early Learning Standards: Federal initiatives asking states to develop standards for 0-5 that are consistent with K-12 curriculum standards. Standards will be based on the School Readiness work already well underway, and will be approached developmentally from birth onward (not watered down Kindergarten curriculum).

School Readiness Work: As planned by the original Task Force, a pilot study is underway to assess the feasibility of the assessment system for incoming kindergartners in Kansas.

Kansas Infant Toddler Services Individual Family Service Plan/Individual Education Plans Workshop: This training will focus on the development of meaningful Individual Education Plans goals/objectives and Individual Family Service Plans outcomes/activities. Both sessions will be

held in McPherson Oct. 24, and will be repeated in the spring. For further information, go to www.kskits.org.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT - Peggy Miksch for Carolyn Nelson

Carolyn Nelson's written report with handouts is attached (see attachment B). At the invitation of the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management, Carolyn is attending an Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Family Conference in Arkansas. She and a Kansas parent who has a child with a hearing impairment, along with eight representatives from seven other states, will observe, participate and gather information, then replicate the conference in their individual states next year.

The 2003 Kansas Infant-Toddler Conference was held September 25-26. The focus of the conference was on the mental health of infants, toddlers and their care givers.

A committee was formed to bring a physicians training to Kansas titled: "Caring for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities". A grant has been submitted to the Kansas Health Foundation.

On September 11, 2003, Sangeeta Mallik, from the Stanford Research Institute met with Infant-Toddler Coordinators and other stakeholders to present the findings from the Kansas Early Intervention Longitudinal Study.

On September 11, 2003, ZoAnn Torrey, Kansas State Department of Education met with Kansas Department of Health and Environment staff. ZoAnn Torrey shared information concerning changes to the Special Education Reimbursement Guide with *tiny-k* Coordinators.

Kansas Division of Exceptional Children is requesting proposals for presentations from the 0-5 early intervention field by October 20th.

A calendar of upcoming events for Families Together is attached.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Kansas Inservice Training System (Kansas Infant Toddler Services) announce a request for applications to recognize three programs from across the state that have incorporated innovative and exemplary practice into their early intervention. Deadline is December 19th.

The Infant-Toddler web page is updated regularly. This web page is a useful and convenient resource that can be found at the Kansas Infant-Toddler Services web page located at <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/bcyf/cds/its/index.html>.

Carolyn Nelson and Peggy Miksch will be going to the Office of Special Education Programs National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Conference located in Washington, District of Columbia.

SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES REPORT - Alice Womack

Alice Womack's written report is attached (see attachment C). Alice reported Kansas received a ten million dollar high performance bonus for the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families and Child Care Reauthorization: Congress has approved a six month extension of the current law until March 31, 2004. The extension does not allow Kansas to keep the existing waiver that has allowed Kansas to extend job readiness activities needed by families before entering the workforce and still meet federal participation rates.

Social and Rehabilitation Services is currently paying child care providers at the 44th percentile of the 2002 market rate survey. This has been cited as a concern by the federal regional office and Social and Rehabilitation Services is considering possible solutions.

The Head Start Collaboration office received a \$50,000 grant from Administration Children and Families for the home visitor training project.

The initiative with Development Corporation for Children from Minnesota to bring a low interest loan program for child care providers to Kansas is moving forward.

Social and Rehabilitation Services is projecting that Kansas will be able to provide enough state match for Child Care Development Fund monies for Fiscal Year 04.

Mid America Regional Council obtained funding to bring Colorado's Educare system to the Kansas City Metro Area. This is a tiered quality strategy system that enhances rates to child care providers by education and quality of environment. Pilots in rural Kansas are also being considered.

The first meeting for the Zero to Three Infant/Toddler Initiative team was held. Three initiatives were identified: financing strategies, collaboration, and parent education using health care professionals.

INSURANCE COMMISSION REPORT - Robert Tomlinson

No report.

ADJOURNMENT -

The next meeting will be November 7th, 2003, at 1:30 pm, in Topeka, located at the Shawnee County Topeka Public Library, 1515 SW 10th, Room 101B.