

*COORDINATING COUNCIL ON EARLY CHILDHOOD  
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES  
ANNUAL PLANNING RETREAT  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2003  
TOPEKA, Kansas*

<u>Members present:</u>	<u>Others present:</u>
<p>Sharon Hixson, Chair, Russell Child Development Center            Doctor Dave Lindeman, University Center for Development Disabilities, Parsons            Doctor Chet Johnson, University of Kansas Child Development Unit            Deb Voth, Rainbows United            Carolyn Nelson, (representing Secretary Bremby)            Carolyn Weinholt, (representing Secretary Schalansky)            Marnie Campbell, (representing Commissioner Tompkins)            Susan Kunard, Johnson County Interagency Coordinating Council            Mark Tremaine, Parent Member, Oskaloosa            Karla Kenton, Parent Member, Hays            Ellen Mellard, Northeast Kansas Education Service Center            Representative Ethel Peterson            Maria Martinez, Parent Member, Hays            Doug Bowman, Coordinator            Patty Miller, Staff</p>	<p>Kathy Johnson, Shawnee County Interagency Coordinating Council            Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer, Northwest Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council            Debbie Mai, Rainbows United            Linda Kenney, Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Bureau of Children Families and Youth            Peggy Miksch, Kansas Department of Health and Environment Infant Toddler Services            Paco Price, Rainbows United            Dana Romary, Ottawa-Wellsville Interagency Coordinating Council            Dena Bracciano, Douglas County Interagency Coordinating Council            Deanna Berry, Russell Child Development Center            Kelly Frantz, Early Childhood Special Education            Lona Foust, Riley County Interagency Coordinating Council            Liz Gould, Russell Child Development Center (Leoti)            Jane Stueve, Kansas Department of Health and Environment-Bureau of Children Families and Youth            Shelly Harris, High Plain Educational Coop.            Dawn O'Brien, Leavenworth County Interagency Coordinating Council            Rae Anderson, Facilitator, Manhattan            Jane Rhys, Developmental Disabilities Council            Mary Basket, Kansas Head Start Association</p>

Doug Bowman mentioned extra packets of information available along with handouts. The meeting was called to order by Sharon Hixson, Chair. Representative Ethel Peterson moved to approve the June 6<sup>th</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup> draft Interagency Coordinating Council meeting minutes. Seconded by Doctor Chet Johnson; passed unanimously.

**KANSAS BUDGET STATUS** – Mister Duane Goossen, State Budget Director

Duane Goossen, State Budget Director, reported the fiscal year 2004 proposed budget may be stabilizing. He gave us an overview dating back to 1996. Revenues are mostly raised from income and sales tax. In the end of the 1998 legislative session, major tax cuts were enacted. Finances were good, spending was allowed to go up. In fiscal years 1999 and 2000 more money was spent than was made, therefore balances were diminished. During fiscal year 2001 limits were made in the budget to realign the revenue picture with spending patterns. During fiscal year 2002, the state revenue collections fell about 7% from the previous year. In response, the legislature raised sales and cigarette tax. Even with the tax increases, the revenues continued to fall. Governor Sebelius proposed a revised fiscal year 2003 budget and a new budget for fiscal year 2004 which balanced the budget. The state fiscal year 2003 ended with a balance of 120 million dollars. It is expected we can implement the fiscal year 2004 budget passed by the legislature. There are no expectations of emergency budget cuts or cut back from what has been approved. Two factors that help is that we received fiscal relief from the federal government. This will also help with Medicaid rates. The other factor is the property tax accelerator. The second half of property taxes will be paid a month earlier. Schools receive payment July 1 instead of June 15. This fiscal year it helped shift \$200 million dollars of expenses from one fiscal year to the next. Property taxes will be paid in May instead of due in June of each year. Income will go to the current fiscal year and allow budgets to be readjusted to spend less on schools from the State General Fund. Duane Goossen explained we do not have resources to increase budgets, but the outlook for Kansas is stable. Mister Goossen explained in order to grow, it will take a tax increase or some kind of budget cut.

The state averages 60 million dollars a year from tobacco companies through the national settlement. This will be a point of discussion. The state plans for new expenses each year, such as Medical, Health Insurance for state employees and Kansas Public Employee Retirement System. Next year there needs to be an increase of at least \$20 million additional amount to put into the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System. There will need to be a 2% growth in revenues to cover costs. Duane Goossen explained it will take a few years to emerge from the current situation.

Income from capital gains and interest earnings have lowered dramatically. The Budget Efficiency Savings Teams have identified a number of items so the budget will be able to run more efficiently and balance out. There are additional teams created to assist state government run more efficiently.

**ADVOCACY PANEL - KINDRED ORGANIZATIONS** - Jane Rhys, Mary Basket, Josie Torrez

1. Jane Rhys, Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities is filling in for Kim Strunk, the Coordinator for Partners in Policymaking Program. Partners in Policymaking is an

innovative leadership training program for adults with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities. Jane passed out handouts called Partners In Policymaking. See attachment A. The website is <http://nekesc.org/kcdd/kcdd99/partners.html> . The purpose of the program is to train parents and primary consumers to be advocates for themselves and/or family. This program lasts for eight months. Jane Rhys stated the Re-authorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act will be on hold until next year. The class will begin in March 2004. The Council is active working with the legislature. Bills can be tracked on their website. Kim Strunk is the contact and her phone number is (785) 296-2608. Her e-mail address is [Partnersinpolicy@alltel.net](mailto:Partnersinpolicy@alltel.net) .

2. Mary Basket, Kansas HeadStart Association. Mary explained Kansas Early Education Partners is a group of advocates working on behalf of young children and their families. This group put together a platform that addressed child care issues focusing on subsidies as well as dollars to providers for quality enhancements. The platform is intended to educate, as well as advocate. There are thirteen early head start programs that receive funding from Child Care Development Funds. Mary explained they are in the process of creating an agenda for the coming legislative session. The School Readiness Initiative has developed strong outcomes. There is currently a grant to work on creating an early childhood system that is seamless and supports children and families. The next meeting is in late September. If you are interested in attending please contact Doug Bowman. On Head Start Re-authorization, the House passed a bill by one vote that will allow eight states to take control of HeadStart demonstration programs. You can be added to the advocacy Listserv by e-mailing Mary Basket at [khsa@kc.rr.com](mailto:khsa@kc.rr.com). The website name is [www.ksheadstart.org](http://www.ksheadstart.org) .
3. Josie Torrez, Kansas Association Centers for Independent Living. Josie spoke about the Big Tent Coalition. See Attachment B. There are 85 organizations that belong to the Big Tent Coalition. The organizations represent 645,000 people. This is a diverse statewide group. The Salvation Army, Kansas Hospital Association, Kansas Medical Society, Pharmaceutical Association, Interhab, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations are among some of the members. Most organizations provide services to the poor, disabled or the elderly population. They hope to add more members to the organization for the next legislative session. The Governor added in \$3 million dollars in the initial January 2003 budget to reduce the waiting list for physically disabled, the developmentally disabled and the frail elderly. The legislature added in \$8.1 million in state money for the same purpose in the final bill. Kansas Association Centers for Independent Living is working closely with the Kansas Department on Aging and Social and Rehabilitation Services to assure legislatures, the public and members agree with the needs of persons represented. The goals are to obtain financial needs in a variety of program areas. There will be advocacy training across the state in October and November 2003. The next Big Tent Coalition is September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2003 located at the Topeka Public Library. You can retrieve the advocacy training information on the website at [www.bigtentcoalition.org](http://www.bigtentcoalition.org) .

**STRATEGIC PLAN** - Marnie Campbell and Doug Bowman

Marnie passed out a chart regarding Infant Toddler and Preschool Grant comparisons. Marnie illustrated from the charts that it is important to advocate for children ages 3 through 5. The preschool population has grown steadily. See attachment C. The next chart showed placements for preschool children, December 1, 2002. See attachment D. Kansas placements show half the percentage of the national average for children in typical early childhood settings (20%/40%). The state improvement plan identifies strategies to make improvement in the current percentage. Marnie urges members to do what is possible locally and for the state Interagency Coordinating Council to advocate for 3-5 funding. She also encouraged the Interagency Coordinating Council to collectively and locally, support serving children in typical early childhood settings. See attachment E. Marnie handed out a graph that shows December 1, 2002 Child Count for birth to three and three to five. See attachment F.

Doug Bowman discussed the outcomes and tasks of the previous Strategic Plan. See attachment G. The group split into four separate groups to generate issues on the strategic plan. As a result of the voting, the top issues for discussion were 1) Strengthen role of local networks interaction with State Agencies, 2) Parent Listserv, 3) Development of a comprehensive system for professional development for personnel Birth to five, 4) Increased participation in State Interagency Coordinating Council and advocacy committee - advocate three to five, 5) Preschool Grant for Individuals with Education Act; Education, 6) Parent Training, 7) Propose 85% of excess cost maintain bundled rate for Medicaid; Rules - State versus Local, 8) Develop strategic plan using model similar to United Way; Common message, 9) Funding for Individuals with Education Act, 10) Communication.

The Strategic Plan will be revised and adopted by the full Council at subsequent Interagency Coordinating Council meetings. The input of those in attendance today was appreciated.

The next Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services meeting is Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003 in Topeka by Interactive Television, located in the Landon State Office Building, Room 855-S.