

**KANSAS INTERAGACY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

**September 7, 2007
HAYS, KS**

Welcome

MEMBERS PRESENT

Maria Martinez, Parent Member
Sharon Hixson, Public Member
Jennifer Rojas, Parent Member
Nancy Kruse, Provider Member
Dr. Linda Mitchell, Public Member
Gayle Stuber, KSDE Rep.

MEMBERS ON PHONE

Susan Carriger, Provider Member
Carolyn Nelson, KDHE Rep.
Tom Laing, Public Member
Deb Voth, Provider Member
Dr. Dave Lindeman, Regents Rep.
Scott Bruner, Ks Health Policy Authority
Julie Broski, Parent Member
John Meetz, Ks Insurance Dept
Dr. Letitia Taylor, Provider Member

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Richard Martinez - Chair, Parent Member
Thomas Kohmetscher, Provider Member
Tiffanie Krentz, Parent Member
Alice Womack, SRS Representative
Senator Julia Lynn, Senate Appointee
Rep. Melody McCray-Miller, House Member
Governor's Representative
Dr. Eva Horn, Public Member (she tried to join us, but technology prevented it)

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT

Doug Bowman, CCECDS Coordinator	Laura Kolb, Kid-Link
Mary Wise, Kid-Link	Ann Forell, DSNWK
Anne Aytes, Nurturing Families (on phone)	Michelle StorzDSNWK
Donna Hudson-Hamilton, USD 489, Hays	Rhiannon Maier, KU – NW Ks Area Health
KaAnn Graham, Early Ed Ctr. Hutchinson	Deanna Berry, Russell Child Dev Center
Doug Greer, Hays Area Ch Ctr	Rebecca Pokorny, Hays Area Ch Ctr
Debbie Breeden, Hays Area Ch Ctr	Michelle Dannels, USD #489
Kris Schulte, Hays Head Start	Debbie Mai, Sedgewick & Butler LICC
Katherine Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer, NW Ks Ed Svc Ctr.	

Maria Martinez, Vice-Chair started the meeting by welcoming everyone and called the meeting to order. She gave the Chairman's regrets, as he was unable to attend.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sharon Hixson made the motion to accept the minutes of 08/3/07 as drafted. This motion was then seconded by Nancy Kruse. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

Maria Martinez reported on an early childhood meeting held in Salina last month. She also handed out copies of the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Plan.

POLICY STATEMENT ON COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Tom Laing chaired this task force and led the discussion over the telephone, as he was awaiting an airplane. The draft had been earlier forwarded out to the full Council as part of an e-mail. Doug read the statement for those who did not have it before them. It reads as follows:

The Kansas Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services is created by K.S.A. 74-7801, et.al. It is also required by the federal IDEA law: 20 U.S.C. 1400 and amendments thereto. Because of this statutory mission to advise and assist, our work is intertwined with other organizations in both the public and private sector. A critical part of our charge is to enhance the quality of services for all children, so that all may realize their potential; therefore, it is important that we coordinate our efforts with other organizations.

That notwithstanding, each individual council member is an appointee of a public official, and formed together as a council, we fulfill an Advisory role for the Governor, the Legislature, and all State government. This advisory role requires an independence on the part of the Council that precludes the Council from becoming members of, or affiliated with, whether officially or unofficially, any organization or coalition.

We will coordinate and collaborate with all such organizations or coalitions, and will be open to hearing from such entities for proposals arising from their work, if such opportunities are consistent with the plans of the Council in the furtherance of its mission and strategic plan, and in accordance with Council by-laws.

However, the Council will not enter into any agreement wherein it becomes a part of any such coalitions or organizations. Nor will the council assign members or staff to sit as members of any steering committee for such organization.

Nothing in this policy would prevent the Council, or its members or Staff, as assigned by the Chair or the full Council, from meeting with any such organization or coalition, if it is deemed that such meetings further the Council's mission and strategic plans.

Implementation protocols will be developed by the Executive Committee.

The motion was made by Tom Laing, and seconded by Linda Mitchell. Brief discussion followed about the method of dissemination. Consensus was that the statement would be sent out on an "as-needed" basis and also posted on our Kansas ICC web site. The motion passed unanimously.

Statement used as part of response to requests for the ICC to join advocacy entities & posted on the ICC web site	Staff	Whenever requested
---	-------	--------------------

LOCAL STORIES

Ann Forrell of Kid Link reported on their services to the six counties directly east and north of Hays. They currently serve 22 children, but have been as high as 30. There seem to be a preponderance of foster children in their area. This requires additional staff time and coordination. They work closely with the Healthy Start Home Visitor program to contact all the newborn babies in their counties. Recent developments include the creation of a Family Resource Center. Ann reports some success with their fund-raising, especially Pampered Chef.

Doug Greer of the Hays Area Children’s Center spoke to the Council. He reported that HACC had been serving children with special needs since 1966, and the local Council had been working on collaborations since 1978. Kris Schulte, Chair of the LICC, described how they operated and detailed the six sub-committees that do the bulk of their work.

BY-LAWS REVISION

Dave Lindeman chaired this task force and reviewed the changes being proposed. Sharon Hixson made a motion to approve the by-law revisions as submitted in writing. Jenny Rojas seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

It was requested that the task force take up the by-laws again with an eye toward the Chairman’s duties and committee structure and function. Dave agreed to do so. The Executive Committee may also consider whether these actions require changes in by-laws or can be done in policy.

INTERIM COMMITTEES

Doug reported on the recent meeting of the 2010 Commission. He presented written testimony (See attached). In response to a question about the Council’s position on lead agency for Part C, Mr. Bowman gave a summary of the process undergone since December 2006. In answer to another question, he spoke about how much had changed in the last six months.

Because of the possibility that this response could lead to a misunderstanding of the Council’s position, Chairman Martinez wrote a follow-up letter to the 2010 Commission clarifying the Council’s Part C recommendation. This letter emphasized that nothing had changed since the ICC voted on its recommendation in April. (See attached). Deb Voth expressed appreciation to Mr. Martinez for his prompt action. Sharon Hixson also thanked Mr. Bowman for his efforts in testifying before the 2010 Commission. Its next meeting will be September 13th.

Mr. Bowman also reported on the Autism Task Force meetings that have occurred and the Joint Committee on Children’s Issues meeting of September 18th on child care regulation.

CCECDS BUSINESS, COMMITTEES, AND STRATEGIC PLAN

Doug Bowman reported on the action by the Governor. She appointed Dr. Letitia Taylor to fill the vacant provider member spot and also decided to re-appoint Tom Laing, Tom Kohmetscher, and Richard Martinez for new terms. She further appointed Dr. Linda Mitchell to serve as Chairperson. Linda thanked everyone for their support and announced that she wished to have Maria continue to serve as Co-Chair.

Mr. Bowman also discussed his efforts to contact each ICC member to affirm their membership on an ICC committee. We discussed each committee and who had agreed to serve on each. Staff will continue to contact those who remain uncommitted to a committee.

Contact each ICC member to clarify committee membership	Staff	September 21, 2007
---	-------	--------------------

Later in the meeting, Nancy Kruse announced that she agreed to serve as Co-Chair of Advocacy and that this committee would meet at 10:30 on October 5th, prior to the ICC meeting.

There was discussion around the draft strategic plan. Some edits were suggested, mostly pertaining to deadlines and assignments. Sharon Hixson made a motion to adopt the strategic plan as edited. (See attached) Nancy Kruse seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Some discussion around meeting times led to the decision to leave ICC meeting dates and times alone for now. That means the schedule previously announced is still firm. The Council may choose to re-visit this at its next annual meeting in June.

AGENCY REPORTS

Gayle Stuber reported for Education on an upcoming training opportunity in Omaha on November 8-9. The sponsor is the Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center and the topic is special education law. More information at www.rfcnetwork.org/mprrc

Jennifer Spencer recently took part in a collaborative meeting on inclusive services for young children in North Carolina. Only three states were selected to participate.

Alice Womack sent a written report. See attached

Carolyn Nelson reported from KDHE that work continues on the next cycle of annual performance reports for the US Department of Education. Emphasis is underway to enhance the collection of data from our local partners. In response to a question, she had no solid idea on when to expect final federal regulations for Part C. When Maria asked, Carolyn agreed to supply more information on the way KDHE utilized the additional \$250,000 of State funding this year.

Concerning the KDHE budget process, Mr. Bowman reported on the very positive meeting that Chairman Martinez and he had with Secretary Bremby. The topic discussed was Part C.

Scott Bruner reported that the Ks Health Care Policy Authority had recently completed a series of listening tours across the state. In response to a question from Deb Voth, Scott confirmed that the federal Medicaid agency (CMS) will take actions that result in at least a \$4 Million reduction in payments to schools previously available for administrative expenses. Additionally, Medicaid will carefully review travel reimbursement to assure that transportation expenses are ONLY paid for travel to/from a medical appointment and not for appointments that have an educational basis.

Our next meeting will be Friday, October 5, 2007 in Topeka at the SRS Learning Center. It will NOT be an Interactive TV session.

MEETING ADJOURNED