

KANSAS INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

MEETING MINUTES – Topeka, KS – TARC Offices

April 26, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mary Duncan, Chair & Governor's Rep.
Tiffany Smith, KS Dept. of Education
Sarah Walters, KDHE
Susan Threinen, Provider Member
Dr. Eva Horn, Public Member
Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer, Provider
Dr. David Lindeman, Regents Rep.
Tammy Scheopner, Parent Member
Sharon Hixson, Public Member
Pamela Beach, Dept. for Children & Families
Dr. Dale Walker, Public Member

MEMBERS ON TELEPHONE

Jill Bamber, Parent Member
Nancy Krase, Provider Member
Melissa Schelhamer, Parent Member

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Doug Bowman, Coordinator
Kim Kennedy, Head Start Collaboration
Bethanie Grass, Region VII Head Start
Julie Broski, Johnson County visitor
Kathy Johnson, TARC
Eileen Doran, TARC
Kelly Frantz-Langford, TARC
Richard Martinez, TARC

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Ks. Insurance Department Rep.
Darla Nelson-Metzger, Parent Member
Deb Voth, Provider Member
Representative Gail Finney
Senate Position
Janice Smith, Public Member
Dr. Tish Taylor, Provider Member

Mary Duncan, Chair of the Kansas ICC, called the meeting to order with a welcome and asked for introductions from those around the table and on the telephone.

ADOPTION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Dave Lindeman moved and Tammy Scheopner seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously. The minutes from January 25th were distributed. Kathy K-O moved approval. Dale Walker seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one chose to speak at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

The task chart from previous meetings was reviewed.

Local Update – Shawnee County – TARC

Our colleagues from TARC gave us several reports to consider. They told us of their Parents and Children Together program. A long-standing TARC service, it targets parents who themselves may have an intellectual or developmental challenges. Last year, 72 families benefitted from this support system, which focuses upon daily routines. Another example is the Assistive Technology supports provided to families. Last year, over 365 children were served.

Examples of “talking points” were shared. These were used to communicate with stakeholders, including legislators. Finally, the topic of funding was discussed. TARC continues to serve more children each and every year, with increasingly less funding available to do so.

Meeting of the Minds – Kansas ICC Newsletter

One of this year’s goals is to enhance communication with local partners. A newsletter is one method by which we may accomplish this. So, we broke into small groups (by committee) to discuss. **Reporting Back:**

Evidence Based Practices committee raised the question of frequency: quarterly or monthly? They also asked about our means of dissemination, a blast e-mail with a link sounded good. It was suggested that there should be regular, constant features.

Family Voices committee suggested highlighting ICC members to increase our visibility. They wanted a “Kansas Resources” feature. They liked the idea of a “Kids’ Corner”, and having parents share how they talked to policy-makers.

Systems committee urged us to explore commonalities between the LICCs and the State ICC. They liked the idea of a “Parents’ Corner” and featuring Kansas resources. They asked the fundamental question: “Who is our target audience?” They suggested we connect with other social media, as well. Finally, they wanted us to explain the benefits of an LICC to other partners (ie. child care providers).

Service Delivery committee also asked about the frequency of the publication. They encouraged us to explore funding and Legislative issues. Highlighting a Local ICC would lead by example. All that we do should be in keeping with Best Practices and our current preferred model of delivering services. When there are changes in local lead agencies, it should be announced. Our own ICC activities should be featured. We should not overlook 3-5 issues.

Overarching themes were that we should maintain the final editorial control of content. We should remember that the intent is to inform and encourage Local ICCs. Formats should be user-friendly (like Frequently Asked Questions). Chairman Duncan thanked everyone for their input.

2013 Legislative Review

Mr. Bowman provided a review of the 2013 Legislative session.

If nothing changes, legislative research staff anticipates a shortfall for future years' budgets. The state constitution does not allow a deficit budget. The Governor is urging a reconsideration of the .6 of a cent sales tax that is currently scheduled to lapse on July 1, 2013. He is also proposing the end of two deductions to the state income tax form. At this time, the Senate is in agreement, while the House is not certain of this extension of the sales tax increase. These revenue decisions will occur first; the budget decisions will follow.

Mr. Bowman reviewed a small number of bills. Among them: HB 2140 regarding the Read to Succeed proposal is still potentially in the process. The Senate has altered the Governor's initial proposal. The House has not acted on this topic in any way. If this bill becomes law, affected school districts (those with low performance scores) would need to implement early screening and intervention strategies.

Other issues that were discussed included: possible expansion of Medicaid (KanCare) eligibility, the school finance lawsuit to be heard by the Kansas Supreme Court later this year, and federal funding cuts resulting from the sequestration.

AGENCY REPORTS

Written reports were sent out in advance and are attached to these minutes. Highlights included: DCF initiatives in the area of fatherhood, and a power point from Sarah on the state level Early Childhood leadership team.

Tiffany reported that the Early Learning Standards are in process, and expected to be out next month. She also warned that the Interagency Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for the Kansas ICC may be delayed by KSDE legal review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

This group met to create the agenda for this 4/26 Council meeting. Other matters considered included: the MoA, the web site revisions, and plans for the June 14 strategic planning session. The Executive will meet again on **May __** at 1pm.

Family Voices

The Parent members shared their work on an educational piece around transition. This brochure is still in progress. They will be meeting again on May14 at 9:30 am.

Service Delivery Committee

Their focus continues to be upon personnel shortages. They also submitted a written report, with some tentative survey results. This committee will meet again on May 9th at 9am.

Evidence Based Practices committee

This group also provided written notes. The EBP committee will next meet again on May 6th at 10:30am.

Systems Committee

This group submitted a written report. The next meeting is being re-arranged to accommodate some scheduling challenges.

Chair/Staff Report

Staff reported on a request from KDHE and local partners to convene a task force to re-consider the funding formula for distributing funds to local tiny-k programs. The expected time frame will likely be late summer or early fall. Staff also reported on several trips to Atchison, where they are in the midst of changing local lead agency. Finally, Mr. Bowman will be undergoing knee surgery in mid-June and will be out for some time afterward.

Mrs. Duncan announced her new position with the Department for Children and Families. She also announced that DCF had graciously agreed to host our new ICC web site. Pamela Beach had been instrumental in making these preliminary arrangements. Susan Threinen has done a great amount of work in these early stages. Susan, Pamela, Mary, and Doug will form a task force to begin the transitioning. Staff training and support are both part of the generous DCF offer.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next meeting of the Kansas ICC will be at 9 am on Friday, June 14 in the DCF Learning Center at Second and MacVicar in Topeka.

Task	By Whom	Deadline
Produce DRAFT newsletter articles	Staff and task force	6/14/2013
Produce DRAFT ICC Annual Report	Staff	6/14/2013
Finalize Strategic Planning Session logistics	Staff, Chair, and Executive	5/31/13