Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services

The mission of the Kansas Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services is to ensure that a comprehensive service delivery system of integrated services is available in Kansas to all children with or at risk for developmental delays from birth through age 5 and their families.

INTRODUCTION
The Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council is based in both federal law and state statute. We serve as an advisory body with most of our members appointed by the Governor. Our area of focus concerns children with disabilities (or developmental delays) aged birth through five years and their families.

CCECDS STRATEGIC PLAN - 2007

Goal #1 - Maximize all funding for the Birth through Age Five System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Committee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examine any changes in Medicaid from settlement</td>
<td>October 1, 2007</td>
<td>Funding Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explore impact of Health Care Reforms</td>
<td>December 1, 2007</td>
<td>Funding Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Detail unmet infrastructure needs of State ICC and various state agencies</td>
<td>January 1, 2008</td>
<td>Funding Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anticipate possible changes in funding system</td>
<td>April 1, 2008</td>
<td>Funding Committee</td>
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Goal #2 - Enhance ICC Role in Advocacy for Young Children and Families

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Committee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clarify Role of ICC staff</td>
<td>On-going</td>
<td>Advocacy Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delineate ICC position on Sound Start proposal</td>
<td>August 1, 2007</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Establish relationship with Coalition for School Readiness</td>
<td>October 15, 2007</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhance relationships with all advocacy efforts on behalf of Kansas children and families</td>
<td>April 1, 2008</td>
<td>Partnerships Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhance relationship between State ICC and LICCs in local communities</td>
<td>March 1, 2008</td>
<td>Partnerships Committee</td>
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Goal #3 - Improve Services to Young Children and Families

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Committee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monitor Autism Waiver Proposal &amp; Implementation</td>
<td>April 1, 2008</td>
<td>Advocacy Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advise State Agencies on State Improvement Plans</td>
<td>November 15, 2007</td>
<td>Advocacy Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review data on shortages of qualified personnel</td>
<td>March 1, 2008</td>
<td>Advocacy Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support Early Childhood Mental Health system</td>
<td>May 1, 2008</td>
<td>Advocacy Committee</td>
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Goal #4 – Monitor Legislative/State Agency Policies

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Committee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monitor any Change in Part C Lead Agency Status</td>
<td>February 15, 2008</td>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monitor proposed State Office of Early Childhood &amp; any subsequent changes</td>
<td>December 1, 2007</td>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advise/Assist in Implementing State Regulations for IDEA</td>
<td>March 1, 2008</td>
<td>Partnerships Committee</td>
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**ACTIVITIES**

Our activities include, for the most part (but are not limited to): providing information regarding budgets and the creation of policy by testifying in the state legislature, clarifying uncertainties by requesting information from agencies, responding to and providing assistance to local communities when requested, and advising/assisting the Governor and state agencies as they implement public policy. We also provide information to enhance ongoing collaboration among state agencies and our local partners. We monitor activity in the Statehouse and share that information with stakeholders across the state. Participation with other formal and informal groups helps to assure that all children, including those with delays and disabilities, are a part of all ongoing service program development activities and advocacy efforts.

The Kansas ICC, as a whole, conducts its business in monthly meetings. The Executive Committee meets monthly to assure all matters are taken care of in a timely manner, as well as to prepare for each meeting of the full Council. Additional work is accomplished by standing committees. During this year the Kansas ICC had three standing committees: Funding, Advocacy, and Partnerships.

During this past year, 7,009 children aged birth to three years and their families received services by tiny-k (Part C) networks and 9,608 children aged three through five were served by Part B of IDEA school districts, cooperatives, and interlocals.
HIGHLIGHTS
A list of specific accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2008 would include:

• A letter was sent to the entire Kansas Congressional delegation expressing concern around proposed changes in the administration of the Medicaid program. The proposed changes would have adversely affected school districts and other providers of services under the Medicaid program. Subsequent to that written communication and other advocacy efforts, these changes were rescinded by the Obama administration.

• As a result of the efforts of the Kansas ICC and many other partners, the 2008 Kansas Legislature increased the state appropriation/funding for Part C by one million dollars for FY 2009.

• Another highly successful parent advocacy training was conducted in conjunction with several collaborative partners on October 19-20, 2007, with 130 parents benefiting from the basic tutorial in policy-making, and how best to influence it.

• The Kansas ICC worked to advise and assist KDHE with its State Performance Plan for Part C of IDEA. Particular attention was given to the data surrounding outcomes.

• The Kansas ICC worked collaboratively with SRS and other stakeholders in monitoring the implementation of the new Medicaid waiver for young children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

• Another highly successful tiny-k Day “Under the Dome” advocacy event was conducted on 3/12/2008. Over two-thirds of the Kansas legislators received a personal visit from one of over three dozen constituents who informed him/her of the importance of Part C services and the need for more state funding.

• A Kansas ICC informative brochure was created.

KANSAS ICC ROSTER

PARENT MEMBERS:
Richard Martinez (Topeka), Jennifer Rojas (Great Bend), Maria Martinez (Hays), Tiffanie Krentz (Topeka), Julie Broski (Overland Park)

PROVIDER MEMBERS
Susan Carriger (Overland Park), Nancy Krase (Wichita), DebVoth (Wichita), Tom Kohmetscher (Wellington), Dr. Letitia Taylor (Overland Park)
PUBLIC MEMBERS

Sharon Hixson (Hutchison), Tom Laing (Topeka), Dr. Eva Horn (Lawrence), Dr. Linda Mitchell (Wichita)

LEGISLATORS

Senator Julia Lynn (Olathe), Representative Melody McCray-Miller (Wichita)

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. David Lindeman (Board of Regents), Linda Kenney (Kansas Department of Health and Environment), Colleen Riley (Kansas State Department of Education), Alice Womack (Social and Rehabilitation Services), Scott Bruner Kansas Health Policy Authority – Medicaid), Kate Wolff (Governor’s Office), John Meetz (Kansas Insurance Department)

KANSAS ICC MEETINGS, LOCATIONS, AND ACTIONS

July 13, 2007  Topeka
Heard presentation from the Coalition for School Readiness concerning its advocacy efforts. Heard a report on pending changes in Medicaid. Advised Kansas Department of Health and Environment to provide the Part C networks more training on Medicaid issues. Subsequently, key Kansas Health Policy Authority staff made presentations at regional Part C meetings. Kansas ICC staff reported on observing the State Department of Education audit staff training for categorical aid funding. Testimony regarding the SRS budgeting process was requested (see Appendix).

August 3, 2007  Topeka
Heard a presentation from the University of Kansas Beach Center on Disabilities regarding their project to gather feedback on proposed Part C federal regulations. Further discussed Coalition for School Readiness and how its activities relate to the Kansas ICC. Requested testimony for the 2010 Commission (See Appendix). Summarized our survey of local Part C providers regarding Sound Start. Provided testimony on same for the Legislative Educational Planning Committee. (See Appendix). Staff and Chair were asked to meet with Secretary Bremby to discuss budget concerns. This meeting was held on August 23, 2007.

September 7, 2007  Hays
Approved a policy on joining other organizations. (See Appendix) The Autism Task Force was discussed. Revised the Kansas ICC by-laws. The Annual Strategic Plan was adopted.

October 5, 2007  Topeka
A further edit of the Kansas ICC by-laws was approved. Article V was edited. A letter to the Kansas Congressional delegation advising them about our concerns surrounding proposed changes to Medicaid was requested. (See Appendix) A brochure for the Kansas ICC brochure was requested to be developed. Executive Committee elections were conducted. Dr. Eva Horn was selected to fill a two year term.

November 2, 2007  Parsons
A letter to the Coalition for School Readiness detailing our policy position on joining other organizations was developed and sent. Created an ad hoc task force to suggest revisions to child care regulations. A letter to the State Department of Education concerning auditing was developed and sent. (See Appendix).

December 7, 2007  Topeka, and Interactive TV sites in Parsons, Hays, & Clearwater
A local Part C provider spoke to the Kansas ICC relaying concerns around categorical aid funding. A report from those who traveled to Washington for the National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center Annual Conference was shared. Kansas Department of Health and Environment staff presented information on Part C data collection and how this produced determinations in their accountability system. The Kansas ICC encouraged agency staff to post this information on the web site.

January 11, 2008  Topeka
Kansas Department of Health and Environment staff presented information on the Part C State Performance Plan and Annual Report. A detailed discussion ensued around parents’ rights and other issues. The Kansas ICC agreed with this data and signed the form necessary for the federal grant application. The recommendations regarding child care regulations were presented by the ad hoc task force. They were then approved and forwarded on to agency staff. (See Appendix)

February 1, 2008  Topeka, with Interactive TV in Parsons, Hays, Clearwater, Lenexa, and Dodge City.
Social and Rehabilitation Services staff presented on Infant Mental Health Issues. An ad hoc committee was created to consider these issues. The Chair of the Autism Task Force, Dr. William Craig, shared information from their report to the Legislature and answered questions.

March 7, 2008  Wichita, in conjunction with KDEC Conference
The Disability Rights Center staff gave a presentation on their organization. There was some discussion around the proposed creation of a state advisory council on early childhood issues. The Kansas ICC supported the proposed creation of early childhood block grants. Key Kansas Health Policy Authority staff were requested to provide more information on possible changes to Medicaid reimbursement for case management.

April 4, 2008  Topeka
The previous year’s annual report was approved. The Kansas ICC voted to support Infant Mental Health funding in the Omnibus budget bill. (See Appendix). A letter to the
Governor regarding membership of the P-20 Council was requested. (See Appendix)
The Kansas ICC brochure content was approved. (See Appendix)

May 2, 2008  Topeka
The University of Kansas Beach Center for Disability on Disabilities presented information about their web site.

June 6, 2008  Topeka – Annual Strategic Planning Session
Work was begun on the next Annual Strategic Plan. Highlights would include the creation of a Policy Committee and moving meeting days to the fourth Friday of each month.

APPENDIX

Copies of letters to policymakers and testimony to the Legislature
  • Letter to Social and Rehabilitation Services regarding Budgeting
  • Testimony for 2010 Commission
  • Testimony for the Legislative Educational Planning Committee
  • Letter to the Kansas Congressional delegation regarding Medicaid funding
  • Letter to the Kansas State Department of Education regarding audits
  • Recommendations sent to the Kansas Department of Health and Education regarding Child Care Regulations
  • Letter to the Governor regarding the creation of a P-20 Council
  • Other letters and testimony with various policy recommendations

The Kansas ICC Brochure

Policy Statement on Kansas ICC Membership in other Organizations

Minutes from the monthly meetings of the Kansas ICC (Available at our web site)
Kansasicc.org