

**ICC Meeting
June 8, 2017**

In Attendance: Tracy McMillan, Melissa Adams, Lauren Viviani, Lori Book, Chrissy Loftus, Pam Wildnauer, Lauren Meatty, Danielle McKnight, Barbara Barrows, Julie Hanes, Robin Weber, Marie Peirent, Laurie Tobey Freedman, Ellen Cullen, Helena Liedtka

Non-Voting Committee Chairs in Attendance: Ron Benham, Chris Pond, Patti Fougere, Bob Gagnon, Zulmira Allcock, Darla Gundler
Members and attendees were welcomed to the final ICC meeting of the year.

Minutes: Lauren Viviani motioned to approve March minutes; Marie Peirent, seconded; all in favor, no opposed/ changes.

Director's Report – Ron Benham

- Part C award starting July 1; not impacted by president's budget, president proposes, congress takes it up – talk in DC in reduction of budget. Most funds for TA and research; EI is being level funded by Pres Trump.
- MA Budget is in conference. House and Senate did not agree. \$1Billion shortfall in fiscal budget; too high for revenues.
- Congressional visits to programs shared with MEIC members.
- Katherine Clark is on appropriations committee for the house which is a good thing for EI.
- Bureau new Deputy Bureau Director - Allison Mehlman. Legal counsel for DPH historically. Welcome Allison!
- Attended Verrill Anderson's retirement party, from PCCD. The new executive director of PCCD – Chris Hunt started in May.
- Barbara Barrows – Certificate of Appreciation from the ICC. Personal EI experience motivated and impressed her journey. Danielle McKnight is her successor and brings personal and professional knowledge and passion to her new role at MassHealth.

Assistant Director of Early Childhood Programs – Patti Fougere

- EI rate setting process: Rate review process underway. Representatives of the MA Early Intervention Consortium and DPH staff have met several times with Executive Office of Health & Human Services to ensure a smooth process and that ensures that all agencies get the rate timely. Survey sent out to EI Vendor Agencies Stakeholders, include DPH has sent out survey to vendor agencies for justification of review process – please encourage completion. Uniform Financial Report (UFR) feedback; translation costs captured. If additional information is needed, another survey may be sent out. Please be sure to provide as much information as possible. Please contact Steve McCourt or Patti with any questions.
- IFSP Rollout: Several programs piloted the IFSP, feedback has been brought back to address changes. DPH is looking at policy decisions that need to be addressed. Should be out early fall for programs to review with staff. IFSP process is not changing; just the form is changing. January 1, 2018 rollout with soft rollout through the fall 2017. Pilot was very successful; provided good feedback. Electronic PDF form is being created as an electronic option for completion.
- Pilot for early engagement for families with NAS families: 17 pilots over 2 years; expanding innovative strategies for engagement with parents or families with NAS. Challenging for EI programs to make inroads with hospitals in getting permission for EI providers to come into hospital setting to begin building relationships with families identified as being eligible for EI services. Pilot continuing allowing only the 17 pilot programs to apply to be part of the FY18 pilot. Looking for any innovative strategies for engagement of parents/families by looking at other agencies. June deadline with July 1st start. Looking to gather data that supports hypothesis that early identification, successful enrollment in EI and family engagement result in better outcomes for children and families.
- ICC recommendation by Standards committee for Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) in their Clinical Fellowship (CF) to be reviewed by the DPH to determine if CF could become their own discipline, instead of DS. Stay tuned, DPH will be back in touch with their decision. DPH recommending that ICC reviews all disciplines because it's been a long time. Decision as to whether this would fall under Standards or Personnel Prep committees will be forthcoming. May be time to review Operational Standards.
- Additional NAS resources: Emily Webb, EITC, supported the NAS task group by setting up a Dropbox. Resource articles on NAS will be posted there to share. Link to Dropbox will be sent out shortly.

Housekeeping

- Chris Pond introductions of new members. Requested that committee members share their Program or Agency, role on ICC committee in informing, supporting, and advising DPH, and how this work is connected to the larger community. All members shared.
- Reminder that there are handouts with 2017-2018 meetings and ICC Retreat information available.

Community Updates

Robin Weber – MEIC Update:

Annual Meeting for members on June 16. Updates, elections and training/support. Works collaboratively with DPH, rate setting process, salary disparity seems to be growing; difficulty hiring social workers – can't compete; working with DPH on clarifying and maximizing roles. A lot of passion at the MEIC board. Analyzing significant cost for programs for technology to support web-based system. MEIC is looking for new conference vendor – PERCs can no longer handle MEIC Conference.

Ellen Cullen – Institute for Health & Recovery (IHR):

IHR always available to provide support and training on substance abuse, NAS and trauma informed care. Please continue to use us.

Lauren Viviani – DESE:

Early literacy continues to be a focus – support community engagement. Launch early childhood care coordinators leadership program. Early childhood coordinators that may be right for this initiative, please share with Lauren. Content is related to Part B 619. Enhancing curriculum for early childhood. Connect EI with this process. Lauren will share registration link. Content may not always fit with role of program director, but good to know for understanding curriculum for transition.

Melissa Adams – Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing:

MCDD, DESE and DPH forming task force to look at early childhood in the deaf and hard of hearing community. Leveraging supports for kids with links to the SSIP.

Presentation: Let's Participate Pilot Findings – Jacky Hess & Amy Detgen, Disabilities Studies in Early Care & Education

Presentation materials can be found at <https://eiplp.org/icc/next-icc-meeting-materials/>.

Committee Updates

Fiscal – Bob Gagnon

- Assistive Technology is an example of sustainability issues; all roads lead back to the rate issues
- Looking for new members
- Next meeting: Thursday, June 22

Standards – Zulmira Allcock/Deb Lavoie

- Standards met yesterday looking at EI/DCF collaboration on a one-pager as a tool for staff that clarifies who does what, when
- Next meeting: August 2

Program Planning – Laurie Tobey Freedman

- Discussions and guidance on supporting ongoing supervision of PIWI approach
- Next meeting: August 10

Personnel Prep – Jessica Nuhubian Boisvert

- Working on Grab 'n Go Trainings
- Next meetings: June 15 at 10am and August 17 at 10am

Specialty Services – Nancy Lunden/Brenda Allair

- Working on brochure (one pager) for Deaf & Hard of Hearing, will starting the brochure for medically challenged kids and children with Autism; voted on having a 3rd person co-chair
- Next Meeting: July 20

IFSP Sub-Committee – Anne Dolan/Jennifer Chabott

- Next meeting: June 14

Dates for Next Year:

ICC Retreat – Thursday, September 14, at Best Western Royal Plaza in Marlborough, MA

November 9, 2017

January 11, 2018

March 8, 2018

June 14, 2018

Adjourned: 12:30 or 1:00p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kris Martone-Levine