

**ICC Meeting
June 12, 2014**

In Attendance: Ron Benham, Marie Pierent, Barbara Prindle-Eaton, Karin Lifter, Crystal Carden, Jennifer Chabott, Jessica Nuhibian Boisvert, Laurie Tobey Freeman, Tammy Wunschel, Crystal Carden, Liz Cox, Cindy Warren, Paul Melville, Heidi Freidman, Chris Pond, Sara Miranda, Faith Benhum, Melissa McCarthy, Samuel Carabello

Non-Voting Committee Chairs in Attendance: Peter Woodbury, Andy Baumgarten, Jack Harris, Zulmira Allcock, April Maloney

Paul welcomed all members and attendees.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes was made and seconded; all in favor, no opposed/changes.

Director's Report – Ron Benham:

- OSEP call on transitions out of EI; data point wrong. DESE not ready to receive data.
- Acknowledgement of Holly Newman's retirement and contributions to EITC and CSPD.
- EI Rates: Action by June 6; extension of regulation 60 days. 6.09% remains in place. No action, rate would revert.
- Current FY looks good with the exception of case load increase; units of service trending upwards. Autism increase to 1:68 (according to CDC report). Medicare eligibility fiscally helpful; private insurances that are not self-funded are reimbursing.
- Neonatal absence – opiate epidemic (heroin).
- Integrated Systems Grant - \$1 million for Special Health Care Needs; no state money resulting in gaps and challenges.
- Chris Pond championing birth to 3/5 year old population is primary agenda; Tom Webber, Commissioner's effort to build a sustainable structure.

Assistant Director of Early Childhood Programs – Patti Fougere:

- EI RFR due 6/18/14; updated forms and Q&A posted on COMMBUYS; Timeline: Reviews July – August, Award letters – beginning of September, and Contracts, October 1st; Currently certified EIPs will receive EI Program Certification Certificates through the end of June for 3 months – through the end of September.
- June 24th Webinar: MA General Supervision System; year-end review and share best practices.
- SASID (State Assigned Student ID) Pilot: DPH held conference call yesterday in pilot programs. To date, 199 Consent Forms submitted to DPH. Data match to birth record and EIS; DESE to start assigning numbers. Language in Senate budget to continue, project waiting for final budget. Working towards identifying training needs of staff. Final instructions released for SPP/APR due 2/2/15: submit combined SSP/APR and set target Indicators 1 – 10, baseline Indicator II.
- SSIP Update: Final instructions released to state – Indicator II. Extension – Indicator II due 4/1/15
 - a. Data analysis
 - b. Analysis of State infrastructure to support improvement and build capacity

- c. State identified measurable result (SIMR) for children with disabilities and their families
- d. Selection of coherent improvement strategies , and
- e. Theory of action

State leadership team working in DaSy – Data Analysis Plan, includes Root Cause Analysis > further drilldown, goal to present to ECO stakeholders in July. Hypothesis is data select SIMR related to child outcomes S/E skills.

ECPC to identify concrete action steps to improve the states' CSPD – help us gear up as we move to Phase 2 of SSIP. Identifiable implementation of evidence based practice to improve results for children.

- June 25: Program Director session at Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel. Please register 2 per program. Plan to share MA EI/Part C Mission Statement, Key Principles that reflect EI Core Values drive connection to work and current initiatives.
- Acknowledgement of the work, commitment and contribution of Holly Newman to the EI system, retiring June 30. She was instrumental in the Revision of the CEIS Process and the initiation of the CEID, providing oversight of the CSPD with her flawless organizational skills, and the integration of the EITC within the DPH. She will be missed and please wish her well in this new chapter of her life.

Member Updates

Crystal Carden

- End of term; acknowledgement of her contributions and her farewell.

Karen Lifter – Higher Education

- Acknowledgement of Holly Newman's collaboration with Higher Education.
- Will be attending the World Association for Infant Mental Health Conference in Scotland. Poster on play research and participating in personnel competency groups looking at infant & toddler competencies.
- Project Play ongoing, gathering data on children as young as 8 months. Looking to generate measures.
- Partnering with BU on some type of intervention to meet the needs of infants and toddlers in Boston communities.

Barbara Prindle-Eaton – MEIC

- Advocacy around rates
- Successful MEIC conference; publically thanked conference committee; annual meeting coming up on June 30 for members of consortium to discuss vision for MEIC 2015

Darla Gundler – MEIC

- Largest parent dinner ever; additional financial support was provided and the following were acknowledged: Peter Woodbury, Dr. Littleton and the Department of Public Health, Regional Consultation Programs and the Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council for ongoing support.

Committee Updates

Standards – Cindy Warren for Zulmira Allcock

- Joint meeting with DCF to look at risk factors. (Barbara Prindle-Eaton) Standards recommending EI programs reach out to local DCF offices about having representation.
- (Robin Weber) Trauma Informed Leadership Team (TILT) helps to develop awareness and sensitivity for DCF workers; suggestions to help children transition.

Personnel Prep – Marie Pierient

- Orientation practices being collected, compiled and reviewed
- Creation of Federal Loan Forgiveness flyer; to be shared with Higher Ed
- Jessica Nuhibian-Boisvert working on CSPD through work with the ECPC.
- Personnel Prep welcomes new members; current members are Marie Pierient, Jessica Nuhibian-Boisvert, Jim Young, Jean Nigro, Dorinne Sneed, Noah Feldman, Kris Martone-Levine

Program Planning – Chris Pond

- Working on strategic plan and looking at other initiatives to connect information with our plan for “at risk” criteria
- July meeting - 5 licensors attending to create webinar about EI and childcare roles and what the expectations are.

Specialty Services – Tracy Osbhar

- New national certification program (Intervenors?) that work with children with hearing and vision loss. Cadre of paras who have access to curriculum of early childhood programs; Reviewing training programs and funding streams to determine viability for MA.
- Tracy Evans Louselli who brought this potential new certification to DPH discussed referral wrinkles. Looking at it closely.
- 8 new Specialty Services; 17 approved Specialty providers for EI children. Hope to provide choice to families’ ability to handle capacity. Last year 1:85
- Welcoming new members; next meeting 7/16

Fiscal – Peter Woodbury

- FY14 11% increase; resulting in increase of expenditure of Department.
- 3.8 – 4% services greater than last year
- Leaving FY14 state budget written that EI will not carry funds – surplus to go back to programs. Based on number of children and rate increase there will be no surplus. Department covered increase that was not given 1/1/14; Additional rate increase will not be paid by insurers right away; Department may pick up the increase; Rollover of rate increase was not expected; May seek legal to ensure Chapter 257 compliance; what happens at the end of 60 days (September 15).

IFSP Task Force – Anne Dolan

- Reviewing IFSP and each stage – draft. Moving into Transition section soon and Development Profile it’s part of the IFSP
- Next couple of meeting longer; Next meeting 7/8

Helena Liedtke: Presentation shared at the Rare Disease Week & Lobby Day in Washington, DC – February 25 – 28

Pediatric Palliative Care Program Digital Stories and presentation Jennifer Bates, Director of Pediatric Palliative Care and Blyth Lord, Executive Director of The Courageous Parents Network

New Business

Patti Fougere offered set of Special Quest materials

ICC Retreat: October 1 & 2

ICC Meetings: November 14

ICC Steering at 2pm today

Meeting adjourned 12:45pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Kris Martone-Levine