

## **Minutes: Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council**

**August 22, 2014**

**Cornhusker Hotel**

**Lincoln, Nebraska**

**Council Members Present:** Amy Bornemeier, Tammy Stevenson, Salene Ulrich, Laura Arp, Amy Bunnell, J.P. Holys, Melody Hobson, Cole Johnson, Dr. Sian Jones-Jobst, Mike Adams, Melinda Graham, Joan Luebbers, Susan Strahm, Pam Dobrovolny, Barb Esch, Carol Benson, Dawn Murphy, Jennie Cole-Mossman

**Council Members Absent:** Sue Adams, Lois Butler, Emily Kluver, Amy LaPointe, Julie Mizner, Dawn Mollenkopf, Cathy Mohnike, Christy Pelton, Julie Rother, Nicole, Vint, Cristen Witte, Kathleen Zadina

**Also in attendance:** *ECICC Staff:* Holly Johnson, secretary; *Technical Assistants:* NDE-Pat Frost; DHHS-Diane Lewis, Tiffany Mullison, Pat Urzedowski; ICFI-Mary Finney-Afrank; First Five Nebraska-Becky Veak; NCFE-Lynne Brehm, Amy Bornemeier, Betty Medinger, facilitator; Munroe-Meyer Institute-Mark Smith; Charlie Lewis

### **i. Committee Meetings**

The Family Leadership Team met in a working session beginning at 8:30 AM. All other committees met in working sessions from 9:30 AM.-10:45 AM before opening the Council meeting. The Full Council meeting convened at 11:00 AM

#### **Welcome**

Pam Dobrovolny, chairperson of the ECICC, convened the meeting at 11:00 AM. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was available at the front table. Pam welcomed everyone and had all Council members, technical assistants, and Council staff introduce themselves.

#### **A. Approval of Minutes of May 9, 2014 Meeting**

The minutes of the May 9, 2014 meeting had been provided to Council members prior to the meeting. Pam asked for a motion from the Council to accept the minutes of the May 9, 2014 meeting as presented. Susan Strahm made the motion to accept the minutes. Dr. Sian Jones-Jobst provided the second to the motion.

There was no discussion. The motion passed by roll call vote: 12-voted yes, 0-voted no, 5-abstained.

*Voting Yes:* Laura Arp, Mike Adams, Amy Bunnell, Pam Dobrovolny, Melinda Graham, Melody Hobson, J.P. Holys, Cole Johnson, Dr. Sian Jones-Jobst, Joan Luebbers, Tammy Stevenson, Susan Strahm

*Abstain:* Carol Benson, Jennie Cole-Mossman, Barb Esch, Dawn Murphy, Salene Ulrich

Pam then announced that the May 2015 meeting would be held in McCook, Nebraska.

## **ii Committee Report Outs**

### **Family Leadership Team**

Melinda Graham reported that the Family Leadership Team discussed the need for a minimum definition of what a parent representative is for the PRT's. They have set priorities of:

1. Family Summit
2. Best Practice with diagnosis
3. 1<sup>st</sup> 100 days for EDN families

They plan to get the co-leads together or even the council to discuss this so the group can move forward with these priorities.

### **Regulations and Standards Committee**

Melody Hobson reported for the Regulations and Standards committee. They updated the council that Rule 52 was approved by the Governor but not yet in effect. Many of the changes were to be in compliance with Federal regulations. RDA is focusing on child and family outcomes, placing the emphasis on how children are improving. They reported that Part B, 3 – 5 will focus on the Pyramid Model. The committee also discussed the Governor's report. They noted they really liked the report and it was very easy to read.

### **Early Childhood Services and Systems**

Dr. Sian Jones-Jobst reported for the Early Childhood Services and Systems committee. The committee met with Charlie Lewis to discuss the Answers for Families website. The funding for advertising the website has been cut and most is now done from footwork and word of mouth. The committee is very interested in supporting Answers for Families. The committee will draft a letter for the next meeting to ask for council's collaboration and support in this effort.

### **Professional Development and Workforce Committee**

Dawn Murphy reported for the Professional Development and Workforce committee. They invited the ELC's to the meeting and discussed how they work throughout the state. They discussed how the ELC's worked with Higher Ed and the noted the gaps that still exist. The committee also discussed the gaps that still remain with the Early Learning Connections and EDN.

### **Family Actions Matter Everyday (FAME)**

Salene Ulrich reported for the Family Actions Matter Everyday committee. The committee looked through their previous goals and realized they had accomplished many. They discussed the next meeting and are interested in having a panel about respite care. They would like to hear more about the survey that was sent out to WIC offices regarding respite care.

## **Working Lunch**

### **Draft of Governor's Report Discussion**

#### Suggested Edits

Go to page 14, recommendation 4b, and rephrase it to assure it is about supporting the websites in existence, furthering the integration and user friendliness, and supports Answers4Families. Liked the pictures, and the format, readability, liked the demonstration of suggestions with evidence of results. Mike reports they want to keep the report as non-academic as possible and contain infographics to demonstrate ideas. Want someone to be able to flip through the document and get the key ideas quickly. Mike will work on adding more detail on the Pyramid Model in the appendix or somewhere in the report. They tried to keep it clean and wanted it to reflect the collective voice of the ECICC. Melody noticed some typos. \$92.6M for the subsidy. On page 4 many don't know what the 185% of poverty means, just a blurb on what that means for a family of 4 that means \$X/month. Page 20 second bullet add developmental to social emotional. On page 4 the 62,000 use the percentage as well as 41% of children qualify for free and reduced lunch related to household income stats. A raw number doesn't have the impact that percentage has and together it means even more to the reader. Send corrections on typos to Mike ASAP. Mike Medwick has to have it done by Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> public hearing date on the plan.

Who will represent ECICC at the Governor's meeting?

Dawn motions Melody Hobson will represent ECICC at the Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> public hearing. Seconded by Joan Luebbers—roll call vote is passed.

Melody discussed the potential grant application for state preschool programs, the deadline for the grant is Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, in the event NE chooses to apply will the ECICC authorize the chair person to sign a letter for support. NE hasn't been successful in the past 3 applications for the Race to the Top grant, we have to decide whether to apply or not. The 216 page application is out, webinars and calls will be held. The state must partner with two or more areas of the state to write for this competitive grant. The grant amount would be \$12M, 95% would need to go to local partners. This is targeted to children in families with incomes of 200% poverty level less.

Melody made the motion for the chairperson of ECICC to write and sign a letter of support if NE chooses to apply for the federal preschool grant. Seconded by JP Holys, roll call vote passed.

## **Public Comment**

No public comment. Becky Veak with First Five Nebraska (FFN) shared a newly developed brochure from FFN.

## **Dental Care Presentation**

Dr. Charles Kraft from DHHS is now Dental Director, Jessica Ball is the Dental Coordinator. They are meeting with FQHC's and the University about access to dental care for all Nebraskans. About 70% of the population is being treated. Gaps include elderly, Native Americans, refugees, and people in poverty without insurance. Additionally, care for children 0-5 care is critical. Dental disease is the most prevalent of all disease. Cavities and gum disease, and young children are not getting adequate care. There is preventative care available. The Dental Director is promoting programs in schools.

DHHS long term goals:

1. A state dental plan
2. Implementing a surveillance system to be able to track disease
3. Hiring an intern to assist with epidemiology

Short-term goals:

1. Additional education to the general public
2. Update the website
3. Create a list serve of public health services related to dental health
4. Dental health education for children
5. Tie into the ad council for more exposure to dental ads

Jessica Ball started with DHHS about 6 months ago. She shared that upon graduation from school, registered dental hygienists get their license and are able to start seeing children. This is helpful to get prevention education into schools and other public locations. There are 8 hygienists in the state that specialize in service to children.

The Preventative Health Block Grant will provide \$80,000 in grants (\$20,000 to 4 communities) to increase access to oral health services to emphasize primary prevention for children birth-age 5. Focus areas include supporting local programs for prevention and provision of fluoride varnish, primary prevention, increasing education in other settings, and increasing awareness. Fifteen communities are eligible to apply. Kids connect and Medicaid insurance helps to cover costs but a \$15 donation is accepted. Services are free if a family cannot pay.

## **Medicaid Updates**

Heather Leschinsky from Medicaid gave updates regarding Medical or Dental Homes. In 2012, Nebraska moved the pilot for managed care into an expanded set of counties other than the

Lincoln and Omaha areas. Coventry supports the patient centered medical home concept in all their areas, which include Lincoln and Omaha. Medical home is inclusive of coaches for patient care. Coventry Cares is transitioning to ETNA Better Health, the people from Coventry Cares remain, but the name is changing.

Nebraska did not adopt a specific certification, we defined standards or recognition. Once level two was met, one could get additional funds.

Q/ How many practices met standards?

A/SERPA and a number of others are working for NCQA accreditation. Such as family physician, general, pediatrician, internists, and OB/GYN

Dental care is not part of managed care, Nebraska is looking at dental care becoming part of managed care in 2015, so staff are looking at standards or requirements of what a dental home would need to be. DHHS would like to see improved access to dental care and prevention of dental disease. Another focus for Medicaid is to move toward working with public health, to promote public health initiatives such as mediation of toxic stress. This has been part of the TFKF's mental and dental health work groups in some of the strategies.

LB276 required Medicaid to expand school based services for children being served with an IFSP. This will expand services that can be paid for through Medicaid. LB690—applied for a balancing incentive program for kids on the waiver. If approved would improve no wrong door for long term care and services for children and adults. It would help early childhood through a streamlined assessment for qualification for long term services and supports. –Won't know until mid-Dec. what is approved. Aged and Disabled Waiver limits on respite could be improved upon with these changes.

### **Transportation Update: Jim Work and Jamie Chambers**

Regarding Medicaid Transportation Benefit, when a Medicaid client needed transportation, the caseworker used to do it. Then Nebraska brokered it out. Prior caseworkers would give a client a voucher with instructions to use it only for medical transportation. Clients were using the vouchers for other purposes, so expenses were high. The state expenses went from \$17M to \$10M after the move to brokerage due to reduction in fraud.

The broker is now Intelleride and electronic records are being used. The first few weeks were rough as Intelleride brought in technology. Services are still not where management wants them to be but the company is striving for a better service. They operate under a “fee for service”; they don't get paid if the client doesn't receive the service. For Intelleride to be paid it is critical that the client reach the correct destination. These transportation services are for children ages 0-8.

The company uses GPS tracking to see if drivers are where they are supposed to be. Transportation providers must follow the laws (must have a car seat for children) if there is no car seat when the provider shows up—then no transporting. Intelleride can transport one adult escort along with the child. Another challenge the company is having is getting the right phone number out to clients to get their transportation. Their number is 402-401-6999. For someone under age 19, the dispatcher asks what adult will be coming with the child. The company and others are trying to figure out how to take the child's sibling or second parent along on the visit.

CFS is reaching out to Intelleride to assist with transportation. Low income persons would like a more coordinated transportation service. Medicaid brokerage is the largest need for transportation in the country. Intelleride is very interested in improving transportation services in NE.

### **Agenda Items for November 2014 Meeting**

Panel for respite care—Sharon Johnson and Amy Bornemeier

Approve report to Governor

Update on Circle of Security (Lynne Brehm)

Parent Café/Community Café Update (Betty Medinger)

The meeting of the ECICC adjourned at 2:40 PM.