



STATE SYSTEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN
TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 08/04/2015

Meeting Location: Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

Approval: 09/22/2015

Recorded By: DDS Staff

1. ATTENDANCE

Name	Stakeholder Group Categories	Present/Absent
Meredith Cathcart, M.S., Administrator Policy and Program Services Special Education Division California Department of Education (CDE)	Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) Member Part B Coordinator	Represented by Sheila Self, CDE
Marie Kanne Poulsen, Ph.D., Associate Director of Behavioral Health University of Southern California University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Children's Hospital Los Angeles	ICC Chair of the Executive Committee Infant Mental Health	Yes
Virginia Reynolds, Program Director WestEd Center for Prevention & Early Intervention	WestEd	Yes
Tony Anderson, Executive Director ARC of California	Advocacy community ICC Community Representative	No
Fernando Antonio Gomez, President Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) Board of Directors, Westside Regional Center	ARCA ICC Member Parent Regional Center	No
Jackie Clark, Program Manager Placer County Office of Education	Lead Educational Agency (LEA) Regional Center Vendor	Yes
Robin Larson, Intake Supervisor Far Northern Regional Center	Regional Center	Yes
Nina Garrett, Associate Director Case Management Services San Diego Regional Center	Regional Center	Yes
Carmen Vasquez, Manager Early Start Program East Los Angeles Regional Center	ICC Community Representative Regional Center	Yes
Renee C. Wachtel, M.D. Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics and Neurodevelopmental Disabilities	Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics, Neurodevelopmental Disabilities	Yes

Name	Stakeholder Group Categories	Present/Absent
Robin Millar, Administrative Director Adult and Pediatric Therapies Child Development Center Simi Valley Hospital	ICC Community Representative Regional Center Vendor	Yes
Kelly Young, Executive Director WarmLine Family Resource Center Family Resource Center Network of California	Family Resource Center ICC Community Representative Parent	Yes
Tara Sisemore-Hester, Coordinator of Autism Services Valley Mountain Regional Center	Regional Center	Yes

Department of Developmental Services (DDS): Reyna Ambriz, JoEllen Fletcher, Jonathan Hill, Jim Knight, Karla Lannon, Elise Parnes, Jennifer Parsons, Erin Paulsen, Jennifer Teykaerts, Emily Woolford

Special Guest: Deborah Carnahan, Napa County Office of Education. Ms. Carnahan gave a presentation to the Task Force on *Project Connect*, a regional center project funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) that addressed social/emotional development by developing tools and creating a regional interagency collaborative to strengthen infant-family and early childhood mental health systems.

2. MEETING LOCATION

Building: 1600 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Conference Room: 360

Conference Line: 888-251-2909

3. AGENDA

- **Welcome and Introductions**
 - Two members were absent and one member sent a representative.
- **Review of Phase I; Overview of Implementation Science and Evidence-Based Practices**
 - This meeting is the first meeting for Phase II of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). DDS shared that the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) received and approved Phase I of the SSIP. Jim Knight (DDS) congratulated the Task Force on successful completion of Phase I.
 - The group reviewed OSEP's expectations for Phase II and the Broad Improvement Strategies that were developed as part of Phase I. Jennifer Teykaerts (DDS) presented on implementation science and the importance of adhering to the core components and phases of this to ensure each strategy is implemented with fidelity. Karla Lannon (DDS) presented on evidence-based practices, which for SSIP purposes means

using the best available research to make decisions and develop policies & procedures.

- **Presentation: Statewide Initiatives in Social-Emotional Development**
 - With support from Marie Kanne Poulsen and Virginia Reynolds, Elise Parnes (DDS) shared high-level information on eight (8) initiatives and programs currently taking place in California that address social-emotional development. These initiatives included Strengthening Families, California's Collaborative for Social Emotional Foundations in Early Learning (CA CSEFEL), Parents as Teachers, California's Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV), American Indian Infant Health Initiative (AIHI), Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health Initiative, Race-to-the-Top – Early Learning Challenge, and Help Me Grow.
- **Presentation: Project Connect**
 - Deborah Carnahan (Napa County Office of Education) presented information on Project Connect to the SSIP Task Force. Project Connect, a project of the North Bay Regional Center, was funded by the MHSA in fiscal years 2011-2014. The project focused on improving social-emotional health for infants and toddlers birth to five by creating a regional interagency collaborative to strengthen infant-family and early childhood mental health systems. Ms. Carnahan shared examples of the tools developed by the project with the Task Force.
 - Link to Project Connect information and tools:
<http://www.projectconnectnbrc.net/>
- **Presentation: Social Engagement Program for Infants/Toddlers**
 - Tara Sisemore-Hester (Valley Mountain Regional Center) presented information on Valley Mountain's Social Engagement Program for Infants/Toddlers, a program using evidence-based practices to address social/emotional development in infants and toddlers. The program is designed especially for infants and toddlers under 20 months old who are diagnosed with, or at risk for, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The program also targets infants and toddlers under 36 months old with significant global developmental delays.
 - Ms. Sisemore-Hester is also a member of the California Autism Professional Training and Information Network (CAPTAIN), a cross agency network developed to support the understanding and use of evidence-based practices for individuals affected by ASD across the state of California. Link to the CAPTAIN website:
<http://www.captain.ca.gov/about.html>
- **Task Force Discussion – Initiatives Inventory**
 - The Task Force reviewed information from the initiatives presented during the meeting and identified the most promising initiatives to pursue the development of improvement strategies in Phase II.
 - The Task Force also categorized the rest of the initiatives as potential collaboration opportunities to promote social/emotional wellbeing, and also as possible resources for providers and parents.
 - Three (3) other initiatives were identified by the Task Force as possibly useful for Phase II. These included county Mental Health Services,

Positive Parenting Program (PPP), and the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) Portal.

- **Next Meeting**
 - The next Task Force meeting was originally scheduled for Tuesday, September 29th, 2015 at DDS. However, this date conflicts with an invitation from NCSI to participate in a Social Emotional Learning Collaborative in-person meeting in Chicago, IL. The group proposed to move the meeting either to Tuesday, September 22nd or Tuesday, October 6th, 2015. DDS will confirm the date and notify Task Force members within the week.

4. POST-MEETING ACTION ITEMS

Action	Assigned To	Deadline
Collect and share further information on initiatives (top 5 as well as the 3 new initiatives) with Task Force	DDS	Next Task Force Meeting

5. DECISIONS MADE

- The Task Force will investigate the following initiatives as potential avenues for implementing Broad Improvement Strategies:
 - Strengthening Families
 - CA CSEFEL
 - Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health Initiatives
 - Race-to-the-Top – Early Learning Challenge
 - Project Connect

6. NEXT MEETINGS

October 6, 2015

November 3, 2015

December 1, 2015 (placeholder)

Location: 1600 9th Street, Room 360, Sacramento, CA 95814

Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm