

***State Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)
on Early Intervention***



“Promoting Excellence In Early Start”

1000 G Street, Suite 500 – Capitol Room

Sacramento, CA 95814

October 17–18, 2019

**Interagency Coordinating Council
October 17–18, 2019
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Additional materials can be found at:

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/EarlyStart/ICCOverview.cfm>

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The Interagency Coordinating Council is an open public meeting that may be recorded, provided it does not cause a disruption to the proceedings.

Interagency Coordinating Council On Early Intervention (ICC)

ICC Mission Statement

The mission of the ICC is to promote and enhance a coordinated family service system for infants and toddlers, ages birth to three years, who have, or are at risk for having, a disability, and their families, utilizing and encouraging a family-centered approach, family-professional partnerships, and interagency collaboration.

The History of the ICC

California has a long history of providing early intervention services to infants and toddlers, ages birth to three years, and their families. In the 1960s and 1970s, special education services for infants and toddlers were provided in public schools and funded through various local, state and federal sources. With the advent of the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act (Lanterman Act) in 1969, California demonstrated its support of young children with prevention and early intervention services for infants with developmental disabilities through the regional center system. This was a huge effort and viewed as a major investment in California's children.

In 1988, the first ICC convened to provide advice and assistance to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) regarding implementation of a coordinated early intervention system in California. In 1993, after five years of state and local planning activities in preparation for full implementation of Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Governor signed the California Early Intervention Services Act (CEISA: Title 14, Government Code section 95000 et seq.) CEISA established state authority to enhance California's early intervention service system to meet the new federal requirements under Part C. CEISA assigned DDS as lead agency in collaboration with California Department of Education (CDE). Other collaborative partners involved in the ICC include Department of Social Services (DSS), Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC), and First 5 California.

Although the early intervention landscape has changed over the years in California, the ICC has continued to follow, advise, and assist DDS on the state of the early intervention community. The changes have included amendments to CEISA that brought the addition of provision of family support services by Early Start Family Resource Centers (FRC). FRCs provide services such as parent-to-parent support, information dissemination and referral, public awareness, family-professional collaboration activities, and transition for families. CEISA also clarified state coordination and collaboration with families and communities, service coordinator competencies and caseload size, evaluation and assessment, parent rights, referral to local FRCs and monitoring efforts. Lastly, CEISA was amended to clarify that the Part C program is based on existing systems and how regional centers must comply with the Lanterman Act. This includes regulations related to vendorization and rate setting as long as the application of state law does not conflict with early intervention statutes.

Interagency Coordinating Council Appointed Members

Name	Composition	Email Address	Phone
Norayma Cabot	Provider/Plaza de la Raza Child Development Svcs Inc.	ncabot@pdlr.org	(562) 483-9944
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Michelle Dove	Agency Rep/Head Start	mdove@kcao.org	(559) 362-5629
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Susan Ducore	Indian Health Service	susan.ducore@ihs.gov	(916) 930-3981
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Interagency Coordinating Council Community Representatives

Name	Representation	Email Address	Phone
Brigitte Ammons	Disability Rights/Advocacy	brigitte.ammons@disabilityrightsca.org	(213) 427-8747
Teresa Anderson	The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration	teresa@thearcca.org	(916) 552-6619
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2019 Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting Dates

The following is information regarding the 2018 Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Intervention (ICC) Meetings. Unless otherwise noted, meetings will be held at WestEd in Sacramento.* Directions, parking, and airport shuttle information to WestEd (**1000 G Street, Suite 500, Sacramento, CA 95814**) are included in this notice. Remote connection information available upon request.

Individuals who require accommodations in order to attend the meeting (i.e., assistive listening devices, interpreting services, materials in alternative format) should notify Jessica Dailey-Keithline at (916) 654-2767 or jessica.dailey@dds.ca.gov ten days in advance of the meeting. The meeting location is accessible to individuals with disabilities. Visit our website to view [previous ICC meeting minutes](#) and for additional information about [California Early Start](#).

2019 Quarterly Meeting Dates

<p><u>January</u> Thursday-17th Friday-18th</p>	<p><u>April</u> Thursday-11th Friday-12th</p>
<p><u>July</u> Thursday-18th Friday-19th *Los Angeles</p>	<p><u>October</u> Thursday-17th Friday-18th</p>

PROPOSED AGENDA (EXAMPLE)

DATE: Thursdays
TIME: 10:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.

Day One Meeting

- The meeting will include:
- Review of previous Meeting Minutes
 - Review of Agenda
 - Review of previous meetings' tasks
 - Announcements
 - State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) updates
 - Improving State Systems and Communication & Outreach Committees

DATE: Fridays
TIME: 9:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.

Day Two Meeting

- The meeting will include:
- Review of Agenda
 - Committee reports
 - Action items (as applicable)
 - Reports from the State Department Representatives
 - Public and parent input
15 minutes reserved from 10-10:15 a.m.
 - Early Intervention presentation

**2019 ICC Meeting
October 17—18, 2019
Travel Information**

Please see the complete travel packet for further instructions.

Meeting Location:

**WestEd
1000 G Street, Suite 500
Sacramento, CA 95814**

Lodging Information:

ICC participants who are eligible for reimbursement can make hotel reservations through the CalTravelStore, at <http://www.caltravelstore.com> or (877) 454-8785. Agents are available between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday.

Many hotel options are available in the area. The following are a list of a few hotels located within close vicinity of WestEd.

Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza
300 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone: (916) 446-0100
Toll free: (888) 465-4329

Quality Inn
818 15th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 444-3980

Regency Inn Downtown at Capitol Park
1121 15th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 443-0500

Directions:

Directions to WestEd located at:
1000 G Street, Suite 500
Sacramento, CA 95814

I-5 North:

Take I-5 North. Take the J Street exit and veer to the right to continue on J Street. Take a left onto 11th Street and a left on G Street. WestEd is located on the left side.

I-5 South:

Take I-5 South. Take the J Street exit and continue on J Street. Take a left onto 11th Street and a left on G Street. WestEd is located on the left side.

From Hwy 99 North:

Take Hwy 50/Interstate 80 toward San Francisco. Take I-5 North toward Redding. Take the J Street exit and veer to the right to continue on J Street. Take a left onto 11th Street and a left on G Street. WestEd is located on the left side.

From Hwy 50:

Take Hwy 50/Interstate 80 toward San Francisco. Take I-5 North toward Redding. Take the J Street exit and veer to the right to continue on J Street. Take a left onto 11th Street and a left on G Street. WestEd is located on the left side.

Parking

There are daily parking lots available near 10th and G Streets, if eligible, which should provide you with a receipt for use in obtaining reimbursement. The following link provides resources to find parking locations:

<https://www.bestparking.com/sacramento>

Super Shuttle:

Participants can make Super Shuttle reservations by calling 1-800-BLUE-VAN. Super Shuttle is located directly outside the baggage claim area at each terminal. Reservations are not required for large parties or private charters.

Taxicabs:

Reservation options for taxicabs in the area include (but are not limited to) the following:

As of January 2016, these three companies accept direct billing. Please note that the travel will be reimbursed at the most cost effective rate; direct billing for taxicabs may not be the most cost effective travel method available.

- Yellow Cab Company of Sacramento (916) 444-2222
- Eddie's Taxicab Service (916) 761-0298
- Tim's Cab Services (916) 847-7922

Uber and/or Lyft:

Participants can make Uber and/or Lyft reservations by going online to <https://www.uber.com> and/or <https://www.lyft.com>.

For further information, please see the complete travel packet.

Thursday Meeting:

Instructions for joining remotely for the ICC Meeting

For those who cannot participate in person, the ICC Meetings will be offered in a webinar format. You are invited to attend a WebEx meeting. Participants need to call into the teleconference line **AND** login with a computer to view any online materials.

To Connect with Audio:

Dial Toll-Free Number (in USA). Dial in #: 1 (877) 369-0926
Meeting ID: **will be provided via email within the Outlook meeting request.**

To Connect with Web:

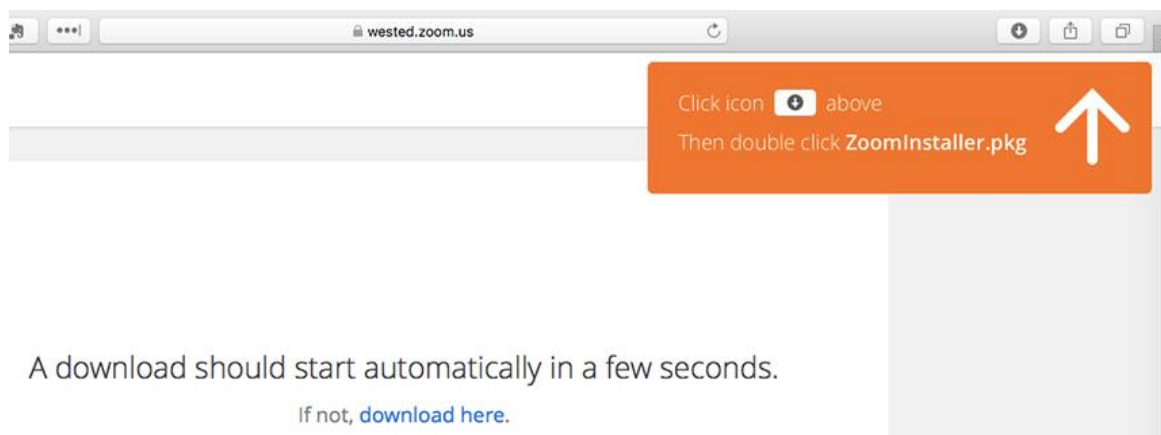
Day One info: **will be provided via email within the Outlook meeting request.**

Join Zoom from a link (from email or calendar)

The best way to join a scheduled meeting is by clicking the link you were provided when you either scheduled it or were invited to it (from email, calendar invitation, etc.)

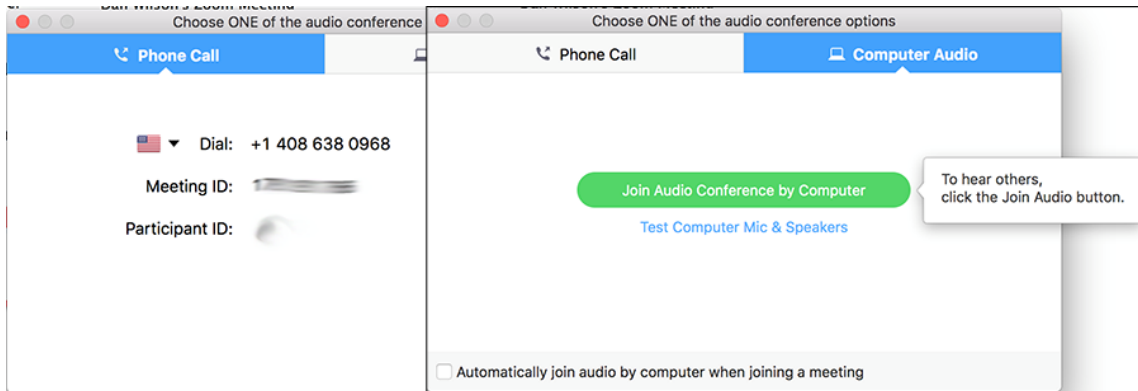
The link will launch Zoom and place you in the conference. This is true for all staff, as well as non-staff.

If you do not have the app, your browser will download the installer and prompt you to run it. Once the installer has run, it will ask for your name and then take you into the meeting.



Connect audio

Choose the **Join Audio Conference by Phone Call tab** and dial in using the provided information.



Friday Meeting:

Instructions for joining remotely for the ICC Meeting

For those who cannot participate in person, the ICC Meetings will be offered in a webinar format. You are invited to attend a WebEx meeting. Participants need to call into the teleconference line **AND** login with a computer to view any online materials.

To Connect with Audio:

Dial Toll-Free Number (in USA). Dial in #: 1 (877) 369-0926

Meeting ID: **will be provided via email within the Outlook meeting request.**

To Connect with Web:

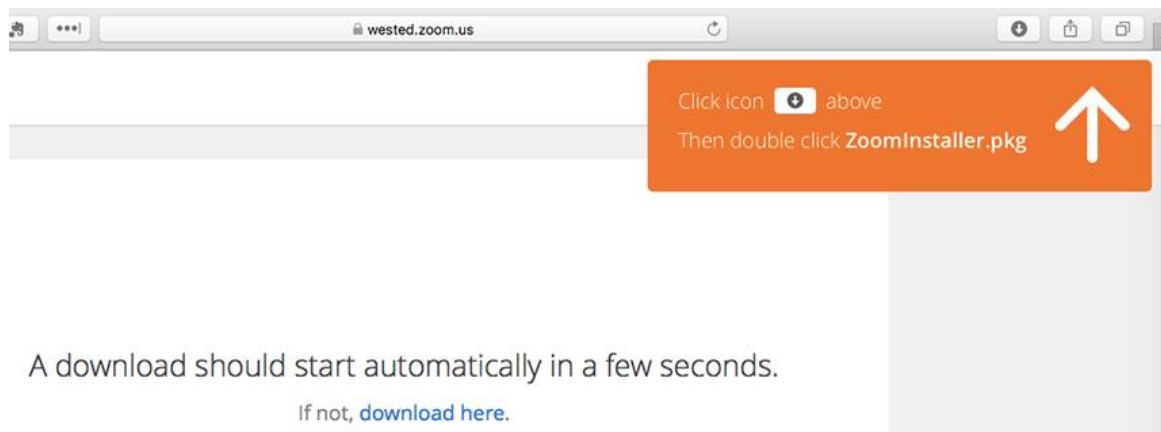
Day Two info: **will be provided via email within the Outlook meeting request.**

Join Zoom from a link (from email or calendar)

The best way to join a scheduled meeting is by clicking the link you were provided when you either scheduled it or were invited to it (from email, calendar invitation, etc.)

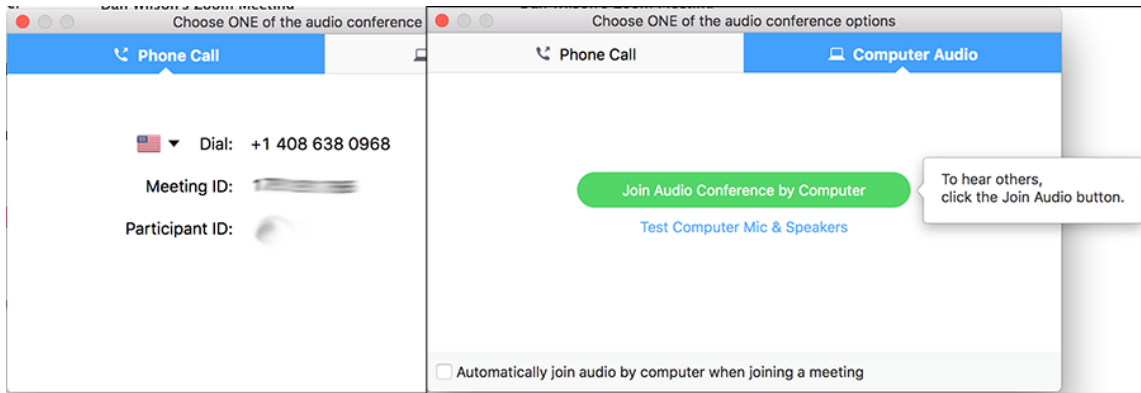
The link will launch Zoom and place you in the conference. This is true for all staff, as well as non-staff.

If you do not have the app, your browser will download the installer and prompt you to run it. Once the installer has run, it will ask for your name and then take you into the meeting.



Connect audio

Choose the **Join Audio Conference by Phone Call tab** and dial in using the provided information.



Easy Tips for Successful Web Conferencing and Conference Calls*

Participant Courtesies

1. Use a landline if possible for the least static interference.
2. Avoid cellular and cordless phones. The potential static and poor or broken connections reduce the sound quality for all conference call participants. If you must use a cell phone, find a quiet location with excellent reception and limit moving around during the call.
3. Know your phone features and how to use them. Do not wait until the call to figure them out.
4. Turn off call waiting. It is very disruptive to the call. Most call waiting features can be deactivated by pressing 70# or *70 before dialing the conference number. (Check with your carrier.)
5. Use the speaker feature on your phone only if the room is quiet and others in the room are participating on the call with you. Speakerphones can add to the overall noise of the teleconference and create a hollow sound on the call.
6. Choose a quiet location. Avoid background noises such as a radio, TV, pets, or side conversations with others.
7. Stay focused and participate on the call. Avoid using this time to answer email, eat, clear off your desk, file papers, or talk to others.
8. Be on time.
9. Introduce yourself when you join the call. If you join the call late, wait for a break in the conversation to announce that you have joined or until the moderator asks who joined.
10. Introduce yourself each time you speak. Not everyone will be familiar with your voice.
11. Mute your phone (*6) if you are not participating at the time, need to talk to someone else, or need to leave the call for any reason. Unmute your phone (#6) when you are able to return to the call.
12. Never put the call on hold. Either mute your phone (*6) and unmute your phone (#6) to rejoin, or hang up and call in again if you must leave the call.

Facilitator/Chairperson Courtesies

1. Be familiar with the audio controls.
2. Start—and end—at the scheduled time.
3. Have an agenda—preferably one that has been distributed prior to the conference.
4. Identify yourself when you first connect to the conference call.
5. Identify yourself each time you speak. Others may not know your voice. Speak clearly and at a moderate speed.
6. Take roll call at the conference start so that everyone knows who is involved and listening.
7. Review the rules of etiquette and ask that each participant identify him or herself before speaking.
8. Allow only one individual to speak at any given time during the conference.
9. As much as possible, when appropriate, address questions to individuals by name.
10. Mute the microphone or speakerphone (*6) if you must speak to others in the room with you during the conference. Unmute by pressing #6.
11. Address agenda items in their specified order.

*Thank you to the Family Resource Center Network of California, the source for many of these tips, for sharing its teleconference etiquette.

October 17–18, 2019

AGENDAS

ICC Meeting Agenda (Day One)

Date: Thursday, Oct 17, 2019
Time: 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Room: Capitol Room

AGENDA ITEMS		RESPONSIBILITY
10:00-10:15	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Introductions/Roll Call • Review Agenda • Announcements 	Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair
10:15-11:00	Master Plan for Early Learning and Care and the Early Childhood Policy Council	Kris Perry, Deputy Secretary of the CA HHS for Early Childhood Development and Senior Advisor to the Governor on Implementation of Early Childhood Development Initiatives
11:00-11:15	DDS Update	Sharon DeRego
11:15-12:15	Strategic Planning	Ardith Ferguson, WestEd
1:15-5:00	Strategic Planning	Ardith Ferguson

ICC Meeting Agenda (Day Two)		Date: Friday Oct 18, 2019 Time: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Room: Capitol Room
AGENDA ITEMS		RESPONSIBILITY
9:00—9:30	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Introductions/Roll Call • Review Agenda • Approve July 18-19 Meeting Minutes • Action Item 2020 Proposed Meeting Dates • Part C Literacy – 3 Principals to Improve Outcomes for Children and Families 	Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair
9:30—10:30	Strategic Plan Discussion	Ardith Ferguson
10:30—11:00	Public Input	Marie Kanne Poulsen
11:00—11:30	Voices from the Field <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero to Three • Statewide Screening Task Force • Infant Development Association of California • First 5 Association • The Arc • California Disability Senior Community Action Network 	Christina Nigrelli Karen Moran Finello Fran Chasen Heather Little Teresa Anderson Marty Omoto
11:30—11:40	Family Resource Center Network of California (FRCNA)—Report	Yvette Baptiste
11:40—12:25	Department and Council Member Reports Representatives will provide a summary and allow for discussion, questions and answers.	Jim Knight, Dept. of Developmental Services Sheila Self, California Dept. of Education (CDE), Special Education Leanne Wheeler, CDE, Homeless Education Mary Sheppard, Dept. of Social Services Kim Johnson, Dept. of Social Services Suzanne Sherinian, Dept. of Managed Health Care Richard Olney, Dept. of Public Health Julie A. Taylor Souliere, CHHS Child Mental Health Michelle Dove, Head Start Agency
12:25—1:00	Next Steps and Adjourn	Doug Erber/Ardith Ferguson

July 18–19, 2019

Past Meeting Minutes

**State Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Intervention
Day One Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 18, 2019
South Central Los Angeles Regional Center
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Opening

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Introductions and Roll Call were conducted, including those joining the Council virtually.

The April 2019 Meeting Minutes were approved.

The Council reviewed the Agenda, which was approved as amended to note that Fran Chasen will provide the background and context of the Rate Study at 10:30 a.m. and Jannelle Kubinec, of WestEd, will be joining at 2:30 p.m. to provide an overview of the Preschool Development Grant (PDG), a federally funded initiative to promote cross systems support for developing a mixed-delivery early learning and care system in states.

Announcements:

- [Societal Costs of Untreated Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders in the United States](#). Dr. Poulsen highlighted this publication as an 'Early Start literacy' article. It will be available to ICC members on the Early Start Neighborhood. Dr. Poulsen said that the publication supports the old adage that the best way to take care of a baby is to take care of the mother.
- Kris Perry, Deputy Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency for Early Childhood Development and Senior Advisor to the Governor on Implementation of Early Childhood Development Initiatives, is presenting at the [IDA Conference](#) in September on "The Journey: How to impact the lives of the youngest children in California" and talking about how to lead with a united voice.

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Update

Sharon DeRego, DDS, Part C Coordinator, provided the DDS update.

- Two regulation packages have recently been completed. The Early Intervention Services regulations have been finalized to align with federal Part C Early Intervention, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act requirements which changed in 2011. Also, speech language pathology regulations were amended in Title 17 to more accurately reflect the range of speech-language pathologists' responsibilities and supervisory duties related to speech-language pathology assistants. Information is available on the DDS website, under [Completed Regulations](#).

- The Part C grant award was received, totaling approximately \$55 million.
- The Annual Performance Report was submitted to the federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in April. California received a designation of “needs assistance,” the same as last year. Transition is an area that needs improvement, and DDS is working with WestEd on training that will target that area.
- The next State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) report will be due in April 2020. DDS continues to collect data. Conversations with regional centers are focusing on sustainability.
- The Agenda provides for a presentation and discussion on the Rate Study after lunch.

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, Chair, moved to the next item on the Council’s Agenda.

Presentation: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

Kathryn Page from Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders NorCal presented “Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: The unrecognized 5% of us with this complex disability.”

The council meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:15 p.m.

The ICC Chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and introduced the next presentation on the Agenda, the DDS Rate Study, and turned it over to the presenters.

DDS Rate Study

Brian Winfield, from DDS, and Steven C. Abele, from Burns and Associates, presented the findings of the DDS Rate Study (<https://www.dds.ca.gov/RateStudy/>) and reported the following:

The DDS Rate Study process included:

- Detailed review of service requirements;
- Review of service definitions;
- Review of California-specific labor laws pertaining to services provided;
- Analysis of benchmark data; and,
- Evaluation of service codes.

The Rate Study reflects two years of work since June of 2017. On March 15, the Rate Study was introduced. There are four parts to the DDS Rate Study:

1. Current methodology to establish rates
2. Overview
3. Major components of draft rate model
4. Summary of study results and draft models

To inform the Rate Study, there was community outreach and stakeholder input through the Developmental Services Task Force workgroup. There were six meetings with the

Task Force and a meeting with the Association of Regional Center Agencies. They also conducted surveys, site visits (one Part C program), and received public input.

The ICC Chair opened for questions to the Rate Study presenters and discussion with Council Members and Community Representatives.

The ICC expressed numerous concerns with the Rate Study and provided input to the presenters. The Rate Study was also discussed on Day Two by the Systems Committee.

Major concerns include:

There was not adequate representation of Early Start during the development of the Rate Study, nor was it sufficient to accurately inform subsequent recommendations. For example, there was only a visit to one Early Start program site. The ICC is a primary group of stakeholders in the early intervention community, and there had not been any contact with, nor response provided to the ICC, until this meeting. Furthermore, while Burns and Associates acknowledged limits of the Rate Study, its conclusions are final and that is of concern.

The Rate Study did not adequately address the Early Start model of services as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C. The accounting model does not fairly nor accurately address the statewide system of services delivered to families, as, per the IDEA, Early Start is a family-centered program. In addition, separating out services by type of service provider conflicts with the collaborative model of Early Start. Also, the federal mandate requires specialized instruction in a natural environment for children birth to 3, and rates should incentivize services in a natural environment, such as by considering the need for providers' travel.

There are serious implications for Early Start if the Rate Study recommendations are implemented as is, as early intervention providers will not be able to continue to keep their doors open to provide services as required by IDEA. There is already a lack of early intervention service providers available, and the pool of qualified personnel is getting smaller because Early Start provider rates have not been revised for over ten years and are based on old costs. OTs', PTs', and SLPs' rates are low even with the recommended enhancement. It has been estimated that if the Rate Study is implemented as is, Early Start infant development providers will face a 25-30% payment reduction for services provided.

Burns and Associates is reviewing comments received on the rate study. A summary of public comments, DDS' response to those comments, and any appropriate and necessary changes to the rate models contained in the rate study will be posted to the DDS website in October.

Fran Chasen, ICC Community Representative, provided history and background about the Rate Study, which was requested by the California Legislature to address the

different rate models available in developmental services delivery. She emphasized the need for providers and the public to go back to the Legislature and the Governor's office to ask how services are to continue if there are no additional funds for services. The ICC will need to decide how they can communicate the impact of the Rate Study on Early Start if programs and providers do not have increased funding. Fran asked the ICC to ask the legislature and respective agencies the following: What will you do if there are not services available? Funding for developmental screening was increased, but if there are more children identified, how do we meet the need for services? She pointed out that the Governor is in support of services for families and young children and that the legislators need to be reminded of this.

Dr. Poulsen thanked the Rate Study presenters and noted that they could come back to provide an update to the ICC and receive feedback from the Council.

Dr. Poulsen introduced the next presenter, Jannelle Kubinec, of WestEd.

Preschool Development Grant Discussion

Jannelle Kubinec from WestEd presented on the Preschool Development Grant (PDG). She provided an overview of the grant, which was awarded to the State in December 2018. Work began in March of 2019, and a strategic plan and needs assessment are due in September. Activities focus on providing a whole child system perspective.

The charge is to address five task areas and for each of the 46 states receiving PDG funding to put together activities that start to help states plan for a mixed delivery system for the birth-5 population. There is explicit attention to a range of needs, not just what's provided at child care centers, but also inclusion of children with suspected or special needs and dual language learners – the full spectrum of needs in California. Work is being done in partnership with the California Department of Education, First 5, Governor's office, and other stakeholders.

Dr. Poulsen thanked Jannelle Kubinec and invited her to return to provide an update on the PDG as it was of interest to the ICC to ensure that Early Start is an active and meaningful participant in the implementation of the strategic plan, as it is part of the charge of the ICC to ensure that Early Start children and families are part of an inclusive high-quality system of services delivered in natural environments across the State.

Dr. Poulsen then advised members to move to Committee Meetings.

Committee Meetings

Both the Improving State Systems Committee and the Communication and Outreach Committee meetings commenced at 3:30 p.m. Committee meetings adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Norayma Cabot
Matt Chesnut
Susan Ducore (on phone)
Douglas Erber*
Marie Kanne Poulsen
Richard Olney (on phone)
Sheila Self
Suzanne Sherinian (on phone)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sally Grevemberg
Julie A. Taylor Souliere
Alma Martinez*
Leanne Wheeler
Libby Woolford*

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Michelle Dove
Kim Johnson
Mary Sheppard

LEAD AGENCY

Sharon DeRego
Townley Saye
Cathy Schulze
Shay Willis
Brian Winfield
Mai Moua

WESTED

Angela McGuire
Virginia Reynolds

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Teresa Anderson (on phone)
Tony Anderson
Kathy Angkustsiri (on phone)
Yvette Baptiste*
Karen Bohall-Ortega
Florence Bracy*
Fran Chasen (on phone)
Edyth Gallardo
Toni Doman* (on phone)
Karen Moran Finello
Amy Hansen

Samantha Hebermehl* (on phone)
Leah Howley (on phone)
Lucero Irizarry (on phone)
Laurie Jordan*
Christina Nigrelli
Michelle Oliver
Marty Omoto
Sheri Rosen
Nancy Sager
Patricia Salcedo* (on phone)
Debbie Sarmento*
Tara Sisemore-Hester (on phone)
Scott Turner
Pablo Velez

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT

Brigitte Ammons
Maurine Ballard-Rosa
Shanee Fulton
Rachel Hagans
Patsy Hampton
Jordan Lindsey
Sherry Torok
Diane Williams

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED

Karen Casey
Shan Chan
Wanda Davis
Linda Landry
Heather Little
Gayatri Mahajan
Robin Millar
Celina Oppus*
Kristine Pilkington
Julie Rems-Smario
Kelly Young

OTHERS PRESENT

Piera Causley
Kimberly Cooper
Sylvia Costichi
Kim DesRoches-Hynes
Elissa Einhorn
Jillian Garcia
Jimi Gilroy

Sara Leff
Tanea Robinson
Sarah Ruff
Lisa Schoyer
Maria Valencia
Natasha Wynn
Desiree Yoo
Sharon Zone

Parent*

**State Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Intervention
Day Two Meeting
Friday, July 19, 2019
South Central Los Angeles Regional Center
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Opening

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Michelle Oliver introduced the family pictured on the welcome screen and shared their early intervention story. She provided short snippets of the child's and family's experiences with Early Start, Part C in California. She said that the child pictured started preschool yesterday and is receiving special education and support services through the California Department of Education Special Education Division. She emphasized that this is a perfect example of what Early Start can be when delivered using a collaborative approach.

Introductions and Roll Call were conducted.

The Council reviewed and approved the Agenda.

It was noted that the Part C literacy articles presented by the Chair are housed under the ICC Community on the [Early Start Neighborhood](#) website and can be accessed in the private files. ICC members can request to be added to the group.

Committee Reports

Improving State Systems Committee

Foster Care Subgroup

- Sharon DeRego, DDS, Part C Coordinator, shared a survey to identify local practices between Regional Centers and Child Welfare Services, which may possibly lead to a best practices document. Eighty-nine survey responses were received during the 10 days that it was open. Responses were received via family resource centers, SELPAs, and regional centers. Sharon reviewed some of the questions from the survey, which focused on challenges regarding foster care and assessments and eligibility. Many responses were about difficulties receiving consent and cases where it might be necessary to request a court order for consent to conduct assessments.
- The survey responses indicate some length of delay due to challenges with obtaining parental consent. Most of the responses reported 1-3 months delay for services; the next reported length of time was 3-6 months. The group will continue to consider the analysis of this response.
- The Foster Care Subgroup is looking into which counties are easier or more difficult to navigate from a family perspective. Dr. Poulsen pointed out that the child welfare agencies and the regional centers sometimes do not have a Memorandum of Understanding which would enhance navigation.

The Insurance Subgroup

- The group focused on identifying concerns pertaining to the Rate Study, reinforcing those noted on Day One (see page 21). Members added that it is important that the ICC be heard.
- The Subgroup would like the ICC to request that the decision to exclude Early Start from the rate increase be revisited. Fran is also working on that through Infant Development Association (IDA) and we should support that effort.
- In requesting that the Rate Study be revisited, the ICC needs to clearly describe the purpose of Early Start and the professionals that provide services. The ICC has a voice and will develop a letter to the Governor, the head of the Legislature, and DDS. This discussion is part of a larger issue of Early Start professionals needing to develop an advocacy group to get ahead of these issues. Concern was expressed that the ICC should have been talking about this 18 months ago. Early Start as an entity needs a better network to communicate issues with a consistent voice.
- Dr. Poulsen suggested that the ICC call an Executive Committee meeting to develop a letter to the Governor and other powers.
- Sheri Rosen recommended that the ICC send a letter to Burns and Associates copying relevant stakeholders and thanking them for their time and recognition of the flaws in the Rate Study and their admission of their failures to properly identify the Rate Study methodology and the uniqueness of the Early Start program for infants and toddlers under IDEA. The letter should also recognize that Early Start has not had a rate increase in 10 years and needs immediate assistance. The Committee should also have a call to look more collaboratively for immediate assistance and long-term activities, such as an Early Start Task Force. The ICC is asking DDS to work with us and with the Infant Development Association (IDA) to obtain a list of contact information for vendored program providers by regional center cost codes (used for Early Start). This will assist with advocacy efforts. The California Speech-Language-Hearing Association (CSHA) has a new lobbyist, Laura Preston, and CSHA is willing to collaborate. Matt Chesnut proposed the motion and Norayma Cabot seconded. All present voted in favor of the motion. Susan DuCore voted in favor by phone and the motion passed.

Family Navigation of Systems Subgroup

- Yvette Baptiste shared an infographic with the group developed by the Family Navigation of Systems Subgroup. This will become a poster to be used in different community settings to help families access and navigate the Early Start system. Yvette wants feedback from the group and ideas about a distribution plan. They need to know what needs to be included for the parent to use a QR [Quick Response] code or other interactive elements. The Chair suggested sending it to ICC Members and Community Representatives for feedback to be given to the Communications and Outreach Committee.

Strategic Plan

The ICC will contact members by email and there will be a two-day strategic planning session in October. Ardith Ferguson, of WestEd, will be the facilitator.

Public Input

Lisa Schoyer, a parent of a child who benefited from Early Start services and a professional who works for Department of Mental Health, noted that Trauma Informed Care is crucial.

Angela McGuire spoke as the parent of an adult child with Down syndrome. She noted that the presentations provided on Day One displayed a fundamental lack of understanding about what early intervention is. During the Rate Study discussion, Early Start was equated with all other vendored services. She stressed that Part C is fundamentally different from all other regional center services because it is an educational program under a federal law, IDEA, with requirements for highly competent and qualified professionals to deliver specialized services for infants and toddlers and their families. During the Preschool Development Grant discussion, early intervention was equated with child care and Early Head Start. She urged the group as parents and providers to be more assertive and resolute in their approach to responding to the needs of Early Start services and potential rate decreases because of the Rate Study.

Samantha Hembermehl is the parent of a deaf child named Oliver with Usher syndrome, including growth and motor delays, progressive hearing loss, and vision loss. Through early intervention services, he is blossoming and able to use more than 1,000 signs. She expressed her gratitude to all of the Early Start providers. She would like to participate more with the Preschool Development Grant and change services for the 3-5 group. She expressed that there is fear in the Deaf community about getting lost between Early Start and pre-K.

Debbie Sarmiento is a grandparent of a child with a chromosomal condition. Her daughter cannot get one extra piece of equipment or supplies to have in case of an emergency – one extra feeding bag, adaptor tube, or other medical devices. If her daughter is away from the house during a disaster and does not have extra supplies/equipment, she is unable to feed her grandchild. This seems to be a systems issue. Marie Kanne Poulsen noted that the ICC should include this concern in the strategic plan.

Yvette Baptiste from Eastern Los Angeles Resource Center received a letter from a grandmother in East Los Angeles who has a grandchild with a disability and significant needs. Her grandchild was involved in the court system. Many members of the family were involved with drugs and gangs. The child was involved with Early Start. The grandmother has guardianship and now uses the regional center and the family resource center to help her understand his needs.

Yvette also shared the story of an immigrant family and highlighted their fear in receiving services. The mother does not want to go to the regional center or enter the building. Even though Yvette has tried to welcome the mother, the mother does not feel safe. Yvette emphasized the need to reach out to people wherever they are.

Natasha is a service provider with the Los Angeles Unified School District which has Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with six different regional centers and can dually serve children. She has worked in other places where it is not the case. When families move to other places in California, the transition can be quite difficult. When she has reached out to other Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPA), she has asked if they dually serve consumers with the regional center, including the expertise of the regional center and the SELPA for the low incidence component. For example, a child with hearing loss and Down syndrome may see experts separately for these issues. One uniform system throughout California would be ideal. She wants uniformity for children who need the expertise that regional center and local educational agencies provide, so children are served with experts on both sides.

Samantha Hembermehl shared her experience as a professional moving from Southern California to Northern California. In Southern California, the regional center would cover children if the education agency could not, but not all regional centers have the deaf or hard-of-hearing component.

Nancy Sager noted that there was an interagency group for children who are deaf and hard of hearing, but that it got derailed, and that this continues to be a problem that needs to be addressed.

Scott Turner mentioned that addressing this issue would require legislative action, and that the legislation that established the division of systems (AB 2602) did not consider infants and toddlers adequately.

Pablo Velez brought up a change by the Governor regarding the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) program by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) for all physicians to follow best practices. As many as 15% of children may have disabilities according to the Governor's report, but the goal of Early Start is to serve 2% of the (50,000) children in the state. The medical system is being very aggressive in implementing the assessments and there is a huge system deficit to serve these children. Transitions from Early Start to the school system are very challenging. If the parents are not proactive, and the kinds of services provided may not be comprehensive. Many times, services are the result of the success of the parent's role as an advocate.

Sheri Rosen noted that many families are told that the regional center does not have the services and/or therapists, and that this needs to be monitored.

Voices from the Field

Zero to Three

Christina Nigrelli announced that, in February, Zero to Three and Child Trends released the “State of Babies Yearbook” for 2019, a state-by-state story of America’s babies. California received a mixed bag of results with an overall rating of R for “reaching forward,” on two out of four indicators.

Statewide Screening Collaborative (SSC)

Karen Finello reported that primary care is mandated, as of July 1st, to provide developmental, mental health, and trauma screenings. The SSC is concerned about increased referrals without an increase in the workforce to provide needed services. The SSC has formed a workgroup that has created drafts of infographics about different issues, including eligibility and referral to Part C. The SSC reports that young children and families with significant mental health needs are having difficulty accessing mental health services because there is a lack of providers. The SSC is mapping this out county-by-county so influencers can see a snapshot. They are working hard to engage high-level stakeholders who can impact policy. Kris Perry asked the SSC to loop her in to issues affecting the birth-5 population.

Infant Development Association of California (IDA)

Fran Chasen shared www.IDAofcal.org for those who would like to get updates and current information about policies. The Policy Committee of IDA is addressing some of the issues from the DDS Rate Study and supporting a plan to get additional funds to programs this year. IDA is looking at ways to support this at several upcoming events: the IDA conference will be in San Jose in September; the Vivian Weinstein Leadership Conference is on September 23; and IDA’s 5th Annual Policy Awareness Day is on January 27.

First 5 Association

Piera Causley shared that on May 20, at First 5 Riverside Help Me Grow, 1,100 people attended a mental health symposium. Dr. Bruce Perry presented about the importance of relational connectedness for children who have experienced trauma. The First 5 Association attended advocacy day at the Capitol. The Governor is very supportive of early childhood and early intervention as a priority.

The Arc

Teresa Anderson said she is working with Fran and is focusing their lobbying on following IDA’s lead.

Family Resource Center Network of California (FRCNCA) Report

Yvette Baptiste reported about trainings and webinars. She presented one of the guiding documents for the next 5 years, the “FRCNCA: Roadmap for the Future.” The FRCNCA is part of the family support infrastructure to ensure that families understand

what evidence-based practices are and what they can bring to the education of their child. They are working on an infographic about evidence-based practices and will share when it is ready. Yvette introduced the Managing Director for the McClaney Family Resource Center at South Central Los Angeles Regional Center.

Department and Council Member Reports

California Department of Education (CDE), Special Education Division

Sheila Self reported that there is a [Blue Ribbon Commission Report on Early Childhood Education](#) from the Legislature. Jannelle Kubinec gave an update about the Preschool Development Grant yesterday, including a strategic plan. There is a need to include Early Start as part of that plan.

There is an Early Education Expansion Program – \$1 million available for seed money for four years for preschools to create inclusive environments. Two-hundred-ten Letters of Intent have been received. Funds can be used for facilities, adaptive equipment, and professional development. There has been a lot of interest because state preschools have not had those inclusive opportunities in the past.

A workgroup will be addressing Medi-Cal billing and the transition from Part C to Part B, and making recommendations.

There is a state leadership group called Impact Inclusion. This is a mandated group to look at high quality preschool programs regarding inclusion as an evidence-based practice.

Scott Turner also mentioned a workgroup is working on disproportionality and will make recommendations. Since California does not have universal preschool, the workgroup is also trying to address that issue.

California Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

Sharon DeRego acknowledged the ICC's concerns about the Rate Study and will report back to the Department.

Angela McGuire of WestEd reported that the new Early Start Online training year begins September 9 with [registration](#) for Fall session opening at the end of July. The Winter session will begin January 13 and the Spring session, April 20. The Early Start Partners Symposium will likely be in May. The Neighborhood underwent some organizational changes in collaboration with DDS.

California Department of Social Services (DSS)

Mary Sheppard reported that a neglect research project is under way. Children entering child welfare often have a history of abuse and neglect, but general neglect is a large umbrella. DSS is looking at neglect allegations to see where they can support counties. DSS is establishing policy around the inclusion of the birth-5 population in foster care. A lot of children are being excluded from participating in team meetings. DSS is

providing guidance to counties about how to have children participate in meetings and to ensure they are included. One of the efforts will be to collect data about why they are not included and to add a field to the form about the reason why children were not included in the meeting.

Sharon Zone reported that through the Families First Prevention and Services Act, they are exploring evidence-based practices. They must be federally approved to be funded. They are looking at what that means regarding eligibility. Regarding childhood neglect, they are looking at the safety plans for children from 0-5 years old.

California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC)

Suzanne Sherinian reported that the Department licenses and regulates most health care service plans. DMHC recently published its 2018 Annual Report which has data as well as stories about people who were assisted with their health care issues.

The Department reached an agreement with Blue Cross of California to correct the health plan's repeated failure to properly identify and handle enrollee grievances and appeals. In addition to imposing a \$2.8 million fine, Anthem agreed to a corrective action plan.

The Department issued a cease and desist order against Kaiser Foundation's health plan to require it to cover fertility preservation when medically necessary for enrollees who are at risk of infertility due to cancer treatment.

Department of Public Health

Richard Olney reported that Dr. Smith stepped down and Susan Fanelli is now the acting Director of the California Department of Public Health.

In the past few months, the Department has been working with an Interagency Leadership Council convened by Kris Perry, Deputy Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency for Early Childhood Development and Senior Advisor to the Governor, on implementation of early childhood development initiatives. The Department is providing expertise regarding family health and maternal and child health.

Maternal Mental Health Presentation

Gabrielle Kaufman, Clinical Director of Maternal Mental Health Now, presented "Perinatal Mental Health – Not just the blues" (see presentation handout). The presenter invites viewers to watch this YouTube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YTTBiaQgRrM>

The Council meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

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Matt Chesnut
Susan Ducore (on phone)
Kim Johnson (on phone)
Marie Kanne Poulsen
Richard Olney (on phone)
Sheila Self
Suzanne Sherinian (on phone)

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Alma Martinez*
Mary Sheppard

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Shay Willis
Emily Woolford (on phone)
Mai Moua

WESTED

Angela McGuire
Virginia Reynolds

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Sherry Torok
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Leah Howley
Linda Landry
Heather Little
Gayatri Mahajan
Robin Millar
Christina Nigrelli
Celina Oppus*
Kristine Pilkington
Julie Rems-Smario
Kelly Young

OTHERS PRESENT

Piera Causley
Kimberly Cooper
Sylvia Costici
Kim DesRoches-Hynes
Elissa Einhorn
Jillian Garcia

Jimi Gilroy
Gabrielle Kaufman
Tanea Robinson
Sarah Ruff
Lisa Schoyer
Maria Valencia
Natasha Wynn
Desiree Yoo
Sharon Zone

Parent*