

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



“Promoting Excellence In Early Start”

October 14, 2021

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

October 15, 2021

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

**Interagency Coordinating Council
October 14-15, 2021
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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
Matt Chesnut	Provider/Parent Infant Programs	mattc@parentinfantprograms.com	(530) 247-1375
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Susan Ducore	Indian Health Service	susan.ducore@ihs.gov	(916) 930-3981
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Sally Grevemberg	Provider	sallyrenee@me.com	(209) 465-2311
Marie Kanne Poulsen	Personnel/Preparation Chair	mpoulsen@chla.usc.edu	(323) 361-3819
Alma Martinez*	Parent/Community Medical Centers	AMartinez9@communitymedical.org	(559) 724-4386
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Lisa Witchey	Agency Rep/DSS	Lisa.Witchey@dss.ca.gov	(916) 651-6020

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
Tony Anderson	Executive Director/Valley Mountain RC	tanderson@vmrc.net	(209) 955-3241
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Brenda Baldeon	Provider/West Coast Speech & Swallow Rehab Services	brenb7@earthlink.net	(626) 715-2361
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2021 Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting Dates

The following is information regarding the 2021 Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Intervention (ICC) Meetings. At this time meetings are being held via Zoom. The instructions and links to join the meeting are included in the meeting packet. 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 Melanie Manus at (916) 654-2773 or EarlyStart@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](#).

2021 Quarterly Meeting Dates

<p><u>January</u> Thursday-14th Friday-15th</p>	<p><u>April</u> Thursday-15th Friday-16th</p>
<p><u>July</u> Thursday-15th Friday-16th</p>	<p><u>October</u> Thursday-14th Friday-15th</p>

PROPOSED AGENDA (EXAMPLE)

DATE: Thursdays

TIME: 9:00 A.M.—1:00 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
- Early Intervention presentation

Instructions for joining remotely for the ICC Meeting

The ICC Meeting will be offered in a webinar format. You are invited to attend a Zoom 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).
877 369 0926 US Toll-free
877 853 5247 US Toll-free

Day One
Meeting ID: 982 0246 8837

Day Two
Meeting ID: 973 2864 8300

To Connect with Web:

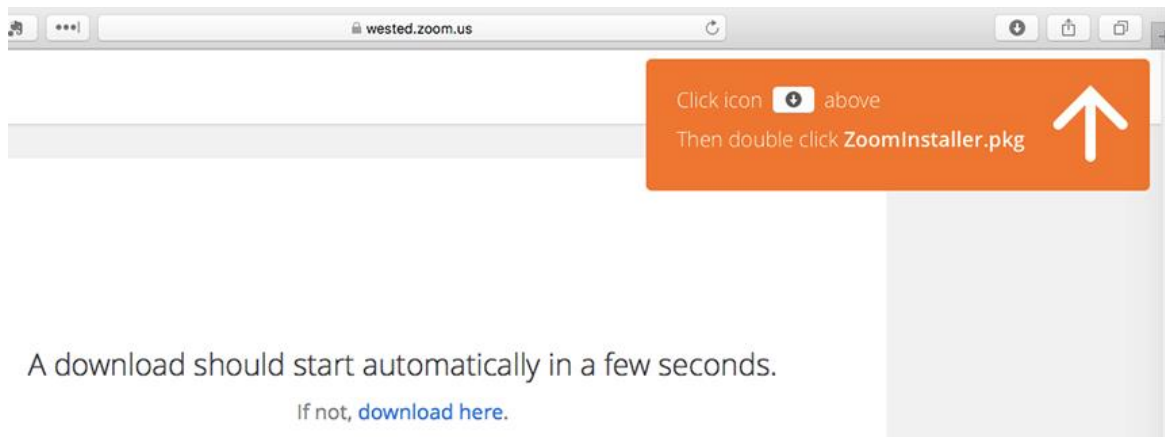
Join Zoom Meeting-Day One
<https://wested.zoom.us/j/98202468837>

Join Zoom Meeting-Day Two
<https://wested.zoom.us/j/97328648300>

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.)

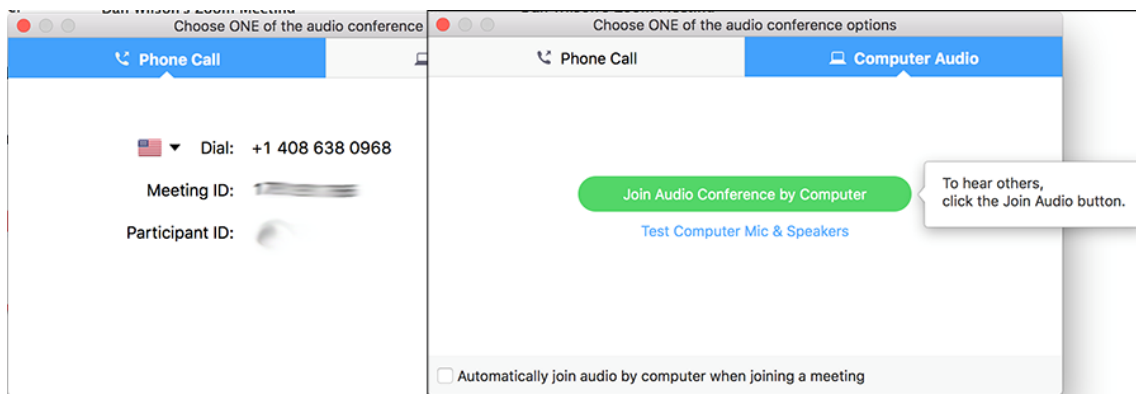
The link will launch Zoom and place you in the conference. This is true for all staff, as well as non-staff.

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 14-15, 2021

AGENDA

ICC Meeting Agenda (Day One)		Date: Thursday, Oct 14, 2021 Time: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Room: Zoom
AGENDA ITEMS		RESPONSIBILITY
9:00—9:15	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Introductions/Roll Call • Review Agenda • Announcements • Action Item-2022 Meeting Dates 	Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair
9:15—9:45	Optimizing Language Opportunities for Deaf Infants and Young Children	Julie Rems-Smario, CDE
9:45—10:15	Early Start Outreach and Child Find Recovery Activities and Services	Angela McGuire, WestEd
10:15—10:30 BREAK		
10:30—1:00	Committee Meetings	Communications and Outreach Improving State Systems

<p style="text-align: center;">ICC Meeting Agenda (Day Two)</p>	<p>Date: Friday, Oct 15, 2021 Time: 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Room: Zoom</p>
AGENDA ITEMS	
<p>9:00—9:15 Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Introductions/Roll Call • Review Agenda • Approve April Meeting Minutes • Part C Literacy—Helping Parents Cope in the NICU 	<p>Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair</p>
<p>9:15—9:30 Committee Reports</p>	<p>Communications and Outreach Improving State Systems Darby’s Legacy Adhoc</p>
<p>9:30—10:00 The Benefits of a Preschool Collaborative Classroom</p>	<p>Dean Tagawa, Executive Director Early Education LAUSD</p>
<p>10:00—10:15 Public Input</p>	
<p>10:15—11:00 Part C to B Report</p>	<p>CDE DDS</p>
<p>11:00—11:15 BREAK</p>	
<p>11:15 —12:15 Department and Council Member Reports Representatives will provide a summary allow for discussion, questions and answers</p>	<p>Maricris Acon, Dept. of Developmental Services Heather Calomese, California Dept. of Education (CDE), Special Education Leanne Wheeler, CDE, Homeless Education Suzanne Sherinian, Dept. of Managed Health Care Stephanie Welch, CHHS Child Mental Health Michelle Dove, Head Start Agency Richard Olney, Dept. of Public Health Shanice Orum, Dept. of Social Services Lisa Witchey, Dept. of Social Services Susan Ducore, Indian Health Service</p>
<p>12:15—12:50 Voices from the Field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero to Three • Statewide Screening Task Force • Infant Development Association of California • The Arc • California Disability Community Action Network 	<p>Christina Nigrelli Karen Moran Finello Fran Chasen</p> <p>Teresa Anderson Marty Omoto</p>
<p>12:50—1:00 Family Resource Center Network of California (FRCNCA)—Report</p>	<p>Yvette Baptiste</p>
<p>1:00—2:00 American Rescue Plan Funds for Part C</p>	<p>Maricris Acon, DDS January Crane, DDS</p>

July 15-16, 2021

Past Meeting Minutes

Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention

Thursday July 15, 2021

Zoom Conference Call

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Opening

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair, opened the Zoom room at 9:05 a.m., welcomed everyone, thanked everyone for the work they do and reminded attendees to practice self-care.

Roll Call

The roll call was conducted.

Review Agenda

No changes were made to the Agenda.

Announcements

- Wendy Morrison, Felicia Ford, and Rosalyn Daggs were welcomed as new Community Representatives.

Coming Home – Easing the Process from NICU to Early Start *Project Update

Howard Doi, San Andreas Regional Center

Michelle Oliver, Santa Clara County Office of Education

Michelle Kjellesvig, Santa Clara County Office of Education

Presenters provided an update on this project, including how the focus has shifted specifically in the Family and Developmental Assessment processes to take a “family first” approach, emphasizing being flexible and acknowledging the traumas that families have already faced. There is still work to be done to support families of children who have experienced the trauma of having a child in the NICU. Next steps include assessing if the program should expand, how best to collaborate with the NICUs, and the continued need for supporting Child Find through pediatric practices.

Discussion included timing and pacing of processes, feasibility of implementation in other parts of the state, referral rates, and practices for providing additional information about services to parents prior to discharge.

Service Access and Equity

Leinani Walter, DDS & Lauren Libero, DDS

Data was presented about the Early Start Program and the role of data in effectively understanding how the service system functions. This was followed by a summary of new funding for Department priorities, especially to address a gap in services for some children who are not found eligible for Lanterman services at age three, but later return as eligible when slightly older. Discussion included the feasibility of capturing data on socio-economic status.

Remote Services Emergency Regulations

Maricris Acon, DDS

DDS provided information related to the extension to the regulations permitting alternate service delivery methods due to the pandemic.

The ICC expressed interest in extending the emergency regulation that allows families to receive services remotely. Feedback on the proposed language of the regulation indicated that they believe need should focus on parent choice, allowing parents flexibility in choosing when they would like to receive services remotely, and by the method they wish.

Some concern was expressed that if decisions related to provision of remote services were left to the regional centers, then there might be some regional centers that choose to provide remote-only services for communities that are more challenging to visit in person (remote or more poverty stricken), which might lead to subpar services being provided to those communities.

Any additional feedback should be sent to earlystart@dds.ca.gov.

Committee Meetings

The following ICC Committees met for breakout sessions:

- Communications and Outreach
- Improving State Systems

MEMBERS PRESENT

Matt Chesnut

Sharon DeRego

Susan Ducore

Douglas Erber*

Marie Kanne Poulsen

Richard Olney

Shanice Orum

Sarah Neville-Morgan
Suzanne Sherinian
Leanne Wheeler
Lisa Witchey

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Norayma Cabot
Michelle Dove
Alma Martinez*
Felica Ford
Julie Rems-Smario

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sally Grevemberg
Stephanie Welch
Wendy Morrison
Marty Omoto

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT

Teresa Anderson
Tony Anderson
Kathy Angkustsiri
Yvette Baptiste
Jazmine Blackman
Elena Bramble
Shan Chan
Fran Chasen
Sheri Farinha
Karen Moran Finello
Edyth Gallardo
Samantha Hebermehl*
Leah Howley
Laurie Jordan*
Linda Landry
Heather Little
Gayatri Mahajan
Diana Maffei*
Robin Millar
Patricia Moore*
Christina Nigrelli
Michelle Oliver
Robert Rochin
Sheri Rosen
Maria Ruiz-Merroth
Nancy Sager
Patricia Salcedo

Debbie Sarmiento*
Tara Sisemore-Hester
Pablo Velez
Diane Williams

COMMUNITY MEMBERS EXCUSED

Florence Bracy
Rosalyn Daggs
Heather Little

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ABSENT

Brigitte Ammons
Brenda Baldeon
Maurine Ballard-Rosa
Wanda Davis
Rachel Hagans
Amy Hansen
Lucero Irizarry
Jordan Lindsey
Scott Turner

DDS

Maricris Acon
Reyna Ambriz
January Crane
Desmond Fang
Lauren Libero
Mai Moua
Marcy Okada
Omari Smith
Nathaniel Taleon
Emily Woolford
Shay Willis
Townley Saye
Cathy Schulze

WEST ED

Ross Adams
Jeffri Brookfield
Angela McGuire
Ian Ratliff
Virginia Reynolds
Laura Romero
Jennifer Teykaerts

OTHER'S PRESENT

Annie Baccay
Karmina Barrales
Jennifer Bloom
Ashley Franklin
Jillian Garcia
Adele Gray
Krista Gurko

*Parent

Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention
Friday, Jul 16th, 2021
Zoom Conference Call
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Opening

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair, opened the Zoom room at 9:06 am, welcomed everyone, and thanked the WestEd staff for helping facilitate the meeting. She then reminded all present about the importance of self-care.

Roll Call

The roll call was conducted.

Review Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

Approve April Meeting Minutes

- Douglas Erber moved that the minutes be approved, Suzanne Sherinian seconded the approval motion with one correction.
- The correct figure in Suzanne Sherinian's Department Report should be \$51,000 dollars.
- Minutes were accepted as corrected.

Dr. Poulsen spoke about a report that showed systematic inequities in the healthcare system which disproportionately affect people of color. These include but are not limited to increased stress levels, limited access to high-quality health care, lack of insurance, increased rates of infant low birth weight, infant mortality, and maternal mortality and morbidity. One-third of black Americans surveyed said they faced discrimination when interacting with the health care system. The report recommended, in part, increased support and access to culturally sensitive models of care, group prenatal care, and increased access to midwives and doulas. Additionally, an expansion of Medicaid was recommended covering the first-year post-partum as 1 in 8 deaths occur during this time period, removing administrative barriers to programs like WIC, and expanding childcare hours into the evening and weekends as these steps would benefit the most underserved communities. Dr. Poulsen then encouraged the ICC to share other reports that the ICC could discuss at the next meeting.

Committee Reports:

Improving State Systems Committee, Fran Chasen:

- A status update on Early Start was given to the committee, including a report on how the additional 23 million dollars in Part C funds could be used. A facilitated discussion followed, with input provided to the DDS team.

Communications and Outreach Committee, Douglas Erber:

- The committee discussed the creation and dissemination of outreach materials. Brainstorming ideas included using existing interviews with parents, creating a poster for pediatricians' offices, and sending out resources that have already

been made by DDS and others such as Learn the Signs, Act Early from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). All committee members were asked to send contact information to DDS to add to the DDS outreach list, so that contacts who can facilitate outreach in their local communities are provided with Early Start outreach materials.

Ad Hoc Committee on *Darby's Legacy, Best Practices in Serving Families with Infants and Toddlers who are Medically Fragile*, Linda Landry:

- Three new members have been added to this committee, and two meetings have been held since the last ICC meeting. At these meetings, the committee identified resources to reference in the upcoming document, outlined the major topic areas to include, and drafted some content.

Early Start Public Service Announcements (PSAs):

Omari Smith, Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

- Omari introduced a newly developed PSA featuring Early Start families. The PSA includes information on developmental milestones and is intended to connect families to Early Start. This new PSA, as well as the PSA featuring California's Surgeon General, Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, are intended to be shared on websites and via social media.

DDS Annual Performance Report (APR) Performance Targets

January Crane, DDS

DDS presented data and received input from the ICC on upcoming proposed targets for the Annual Performance Report. Targets will be established using linear regression, so that they are both rigorous and achievable. DDS will send the ICC a summary of the presentation and data sources.

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

Adele Gray, California Department of Social Services (CDSS)

Adele Gray discussed the qualifications for the Family First Prevention Services Act.

This includes special requirements for tribal communities within the state. She presented a timeline for FFPSA approval, which stakeholders and the public are reviewing. Upon completing the second draft, a meeting with tribal councils will be held to allow for their input. In the future, CDSS will be releasing guidance on the implementation of the FFPSA. Federal requirements for Part 1 are limited, and candidacy for the program means that the child is at imminent risk of being placed into foster care.

Public Input:

- Nancy Sager, a Community Representative, announced that [California Hands & Voices](#), her organization, will be writing a letter that will list questions they have about the Hearing Aid Coverage for Children Program (HACCP).
- Michelle Marciniak: The HACCP is a \$10 million-dollar program from the general fund that provides assistance to parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Barriers remain, however, and some children are misdiagnosed by

audiologists without pediatric experience. It is important that a standard be created, and parents should be told of the importance of having an audiologist with the proper experience.

- Samantha Hebermehl, a parent, and Community Representative who has two children who are deaf, is provided information on a proposed law mandating health insurance providers cover hearing aids.

Department and Committee Chair Reports:

Leanne Wheeler, California Department of Education (CDE), Homeless Education:

- California has received 98 million in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan, which will be allocated in two disbursements. These will be used to provide services to and help identify homeless youth from birth to 21. The first round of funding from the American Rescue Plan has already been allocated to local educational agencies (LEAs) in supplemental grants who have until Sept. 30th, 2024, to spend it.
- The second round of funding from the American Rescue Plan will be allocated to LEAs at a later date.
- CDE will allocate 6 million in funding for one or two county offices of education to be Technical Assistance Centers for the other 58 counties. Their focus will be to provide homeless education and act as a point of contact for questions around homeless education.
- An Early Education and Homelessness webinar was hosted in May by Kings County Office of Education's Homeless Liaison, Lavena Najera, and Ruth Rodriguez, Director with the King's Community Action Organization.
- On Tuesday, Sep 28th, there will be a virtual statewide homeless conference. All are encouraged to [sign up](#) for their listserv to get more information.

Suzanne Sherinian, Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC):

- DMHC recently published its [annual report](#), which celebrated its 20th anniversary. DMHC is celebrating the 45th anniversary of the law that regulates them and the 10th anniversary of the Affordable Care Act. The report contains case stories of those that received help.
- They publish a [newsletter](#) and encouraged everyone to [sign up](#).

Stephanie Welch, California Health & Human Services Agency, Child Mental Health:

- Not present.

Michelle Dove, Head Start Agency:

- Not present.

Richard Olney, Department of Public Health (DPH):

- The Department of Public Health's major activity has been COVID-19 and COVID-19 vaccinations. Seventy percent (70%) of Californians aged 12 and over have received one or more shots of the vaccine. The focus of the organization going forward is to reach unvaccinated people.

DPH is providing funding to direct services remotely, and they will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of those remote services.

Shanice Orum, Department of Social Services (DSS):

- In June, DSS resumed these in-person inspections of the licensed facilities. Technical assistance requests have increased and are mostly focused on compliance with COVID-19 procedures.
- Last year in July, there was guidance created, and this was updated two weeks ago with some relaxed standards that were no longer required.

Lisa Witchey, California Department of Social Services:

- CDSS is looking into developmental screening data and trying to increase screenings and referrals. They are continuing to improve this process, and there will be an all-county letter that will go over this data in more detail, with an emphasis on foster programs. The letter will include a section on 0-5 service guidance.
- DSS is planning a webinar to follow up on the guidance that will be provided in the all-county letter.
- The birth-to-six workgroup will have another meeting on July 27th from 2-4 pm, and they will be focusing their efforts on forming teams around data.

Maricris Acon, Dept. of Developmental Services:

- Referrals are up 23 percent, but they are still down from pre-pandemic levels. We want to thank everyone who helped identify these children.
- Support from the Department and the Governor's Office has opened up additional funding for regional centers.
- Ms. Acon shared updates from the Budget Act:
- The Department's focus is on providing support to hard-to-reach communities, and with the additional funding in the budget, there will be more opportunities to support consumers and for service equity.
- DDS is looking to implement rate reform, which will change the model from compliance-based to an outcome-based model.
- The State's increased investment means that qualified incentive programs will be able to build outcomes. As well as track all levels of the system, from local to State level, to better realize these outcomes.
- Family Resource Centers (FRCs) will be receiving additional funding for implicit bias training, more community navigators, and additional language services.
- Funding for Early Start outreach to tribal communities and the deaf and hard of hearing has been increased. Regional Centers (RCs) will now have a deaf specialist, which will be accompanied by increased eligibility for RC services.
- The expansion of services will provide more functional access for children from 3-4 years in age. This is to address issues where children leave Early Start and lose their eligibility for services. This expanded criteria should prevent these children from falling through the cracks.

- [AB 136](#) passed the legislature and provided a uniform standard for all RCs, stating that 90 days before a child turns three, they will be given an eligibility assessment.
- A grant will be offered to local organizations to fund integrated services, which will allow for more socialization of children receiving services.
- Rate increases will be phased in over a five-year implementation period.
- There is investment to support modernization of the case management system by providing more access to electronic case files. This system will allow parents and caseworkers to access the latest files on demand.
- RCs will now be a part of an incentive program and select RCs will be receiving payments in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.
- Additional Part C funds were provided as part of the American Rescue Plan. This \$24 million must be used by September 2024. DDS would like to receive more stakeholder input on the disbursement of these funds; please submit input via earlystart@dds.ca.gov

Heather Calomese, California Dept. of Education (CDE), Special Education:

- Not present.

Voices from the Field:

Zero to Three, Christina Nigrelli & First 5 Association, Heather Little:

- Zero to Three has partnered with First 5 California to offer communities of practice. These trainings and resources can be found [here](#) on a variety of topics.
- First 5 Association has a home visit oral history project to capture the history of the home visiting field.
- Zero to Three will be hiring a Director of Government Affairs for their organization, and they will be formally announcing this position in September.
- A kindergarten readiness assessment will be published soon, and they would like stakeholder input. Contact Zero to Three if you would like to be included.

Statewide Screening Task Force, Karen Finello of WestEd:

- They have been able to convince the leadership of the preschool grant in California, and it will include other childhood grants from part C. There will be monthly reports that will be part of a report that will be linked. This will be broadcast throughout the Early Start Neighborhood to bring support to providers and supervisors.
- The California Screening Collaborative has partnered with First 5 California, and has put on a webinar series that focuses on native populations. The first was hosted in January of this year, and the second webinar happened at the end of May. One hundred and sixty people attended the webinar, which allowed parents to share their stories and bring in stakeholders from various tribal communities.
- A third webinar will include industry leaders and tribal elders who will talk about how to work with tribal leaders and seek their approval.

Infant Development Association of California (IDA), Fran Chasen:

- Three years ago, there was a report around the rate study.

There were concerns that the infant codes and independent living rates were flawed, and now there is an adjustment in the rates.

- Personal Protective Equipment is still needed, and RC's need cleaning products and other supplies.
- IDA is currently evaluating the effectiveness of tele-intervention services and how it can become a tool that is used post-pandemic.
- Coach to Coach program is coming up on Aug 11th, register for this event at this [link](#).
- IDA has received approval for a \$15 thousand-dollar COVID-19 relief grant, and they are in the final process of being a vendor for their local RC. Once they become a vendor for them, they can be a courtesy vendor for all RCs across the state for parent training. The RCs will be able to pay for parents to attend IDA's programs.

First 5 Association, Heather Little:

- Presented First 5 and Zero to Three together.

The Arc, Teresa Anderson:

- Not Present

California Disability Community Action Network:

- Not Present

Family Resource Center Network of California (FRCNCA), Yvette Baptiste:

- FRCNCA formed as a network for the planning of Part C. They started Family Voices and the FRCNCA. They are now more independent from Public Health Foundation Enterprises, which is a nonprofit agency.
- Forty-eight (48) different FRCs are under their network, and they have a steering committee with monthly meetings.
- Early Start and DDS funding have enabled them to create two different webinars. The first was on using data in decision-making processes, and the second was a partnership with Indian Health Services, which focused on partnering with tribal communities.
- There is a monthly staff newsletter that is provided through a listserv. This has been the most significant point of contact during the pandemic.
- They worked with [CAPTAIN](#) to identify and develop California schools and family services and provide training and EBP around autism.
- They started a community engagement project called Equity through Engagement. This project explores how crucial managed-care plans are when working with the community. There was a focus group at the Tri-Counties RC, and it was supported to bring in Chinese and African American families. The findings should be presented once they are compiled.
- FRCNCA is waiting for the Governor's signature on the community navigator program that will be funded through the Department, and they will provide more information once they have been approved.

- The FRCNCA is happy to hear that Family Empowerment Centers will be funded through CDE. The program will have 32 centers, but they only now have reached this goal. These centers give family members accurate information and specialized training.
- They received some Part C funding to help transition Black and Latino families, and they will be creating learning communities across the state to support this aim. Look for more information to come in the future.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Matt Chesnut
Michelle Dove
Sharon DeRego
Susan Ducore
Douglas Erber*
Marie Kanne Poulsen
Richard Olney
Shanice Orum
Suzanne Sherinian
Leanne Wheeler
Lisa Witchey

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Norayma Cabot
Alma Martinez*
Sarah Neville-Morgan
Sheri Farinha
Felicia Ford

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sally Grevemberg
Stephanie Welch
Marty Omoto

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT

Teresa Anderson
Tony Anderson
Kathy Angkustsiri
Yvette Baptiste
Jazmine Blackman
Elena Bramble
Fran Chasen
Karen Moran Finello
Edyth Gallardo
Samantha Hebermehl*
Leah Howley

Laurie Jordan*
Linda Landry
Gayatri Mahajan
Diana Maffei*
Robin Millar
Patricia Moore*
Wendy Morrison
Michelle Oliver
Julie Rems-Smario
Robert Rochin
Sheri Rosen
Maria Ruiz-Merroth
Nancy Sager
Patricia Salcedo
Debbie Sarmiento*
Tara Sisemore-Hester
Pablo Velez
Diane Williams

COMMUNITY MEMBERS EXCUSED

Florence Bracy
Shan Chan
Rosalyn Daggs

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ABSENT

Brigitte Ammons
Brenda Baldeon
Maurine Ballard-Rosa
Wanda Davis
Rachel Hagans
Amy Hansen
Lucero Irizarry
Jordan Lindsey
Christina Nigrelli
Scott Turner

DDS

Maricris Acon
Reyna Ambriz
January Crane
Desmond Fang
Lauren Libero
Mai Moua
Marcy Okada
Omari Smith
Nathaniel Taleon

Emily Woolford
Shay Willis
Townley Saye
Cathy Schulze

OTHER'S PRESENT

Annie Baccay
Jennifer Bloom
Denise Bosse
Heather Calomese
Beth Cole
Ashley Franklin
Jillian Garcia
Adele Gray
Krista Gurko

WEST ED

Ross Adams
Jeffri Brookfield
Angela McGuire
Ian Ratliff
Virginia Reynolds
Laura Romero
Jennifer Teykaerts

*Parent