

# State Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Intervention



**“Promoting Excellence In Early Start”**

**October 20, 2022  
9:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.  
October 21, 2022  
9:00 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.**

**Interagency Coordinating Council  
October 20-21, 2022  
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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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Composition</b>	<b>Email Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>
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## Interagency Coordinating Council Community Representatives

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**2022 Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting Dates**

The following is information regarding the 2022 Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Intervention (ICC) Meetings. At this time meetings are being held at 1215 O Street with a Zoom option. The instructions and links to join the meeting are included in the meeting packet.

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](mailto: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](#).

**2022 Quarterly Meeting Dates**

<b><u>January</u></b> Thursday-20 <sup>th</sup> Friday-21 <sup>st</sup>	<b><u>April</u></b> Thursday-21 <sup>st</sup> Friday-22 <sup>nd</sup>
<b><u>July</u></b> Thursday-14 <sup>th</sup> Friday-15 <sup>th</sup>	<b><u>October</u></b> Thursday-20 <sup>h</sup> Friday-21 <sup>st</sup>



## 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.

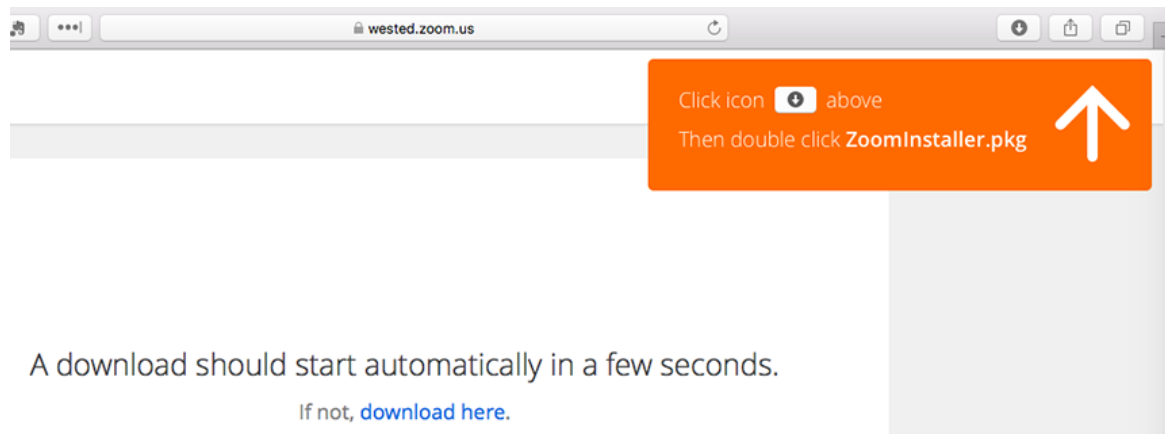
Day 1- [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Day 2- [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

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.)

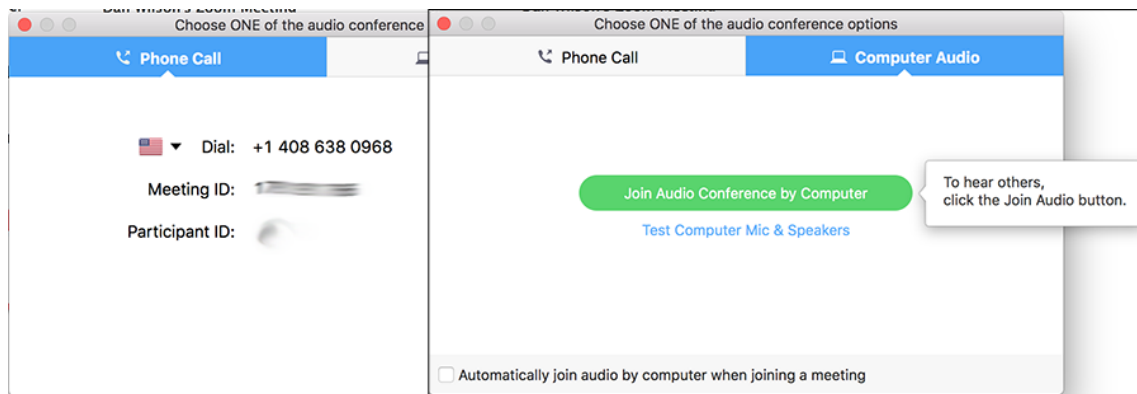
The link will launch Zoom and place you in the conference. This is true for all staff, as well as non-staff.

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.

<p align="center"><b>ICC Meeting Agenda (Day One)</b>  <b>In-Person Meeting (with Zoom Option)</b>  <a href="#">Webinar Registration - Zoom</a></p>		<p><b>Date:</b> 10/20/22  <b>Time:</b> 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  <b>Location:</b> 1215 O St.  Sacramento, CA, 95814</p>
Agenda Items		Responsibility
(9:00-9:20) <b>Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome</li> <li>• Housekeeping Items/Zoom Instructions</li> <li>• Introductions/Roll Call</li> <li>• Review Agenda</li> <li>• Approval of the Minutes</li> <li>• Review of ICC mission and purpose, and theme of meeting</li> <li>• Part C literacy article: "An Invisible Crisis: Early Childhood Homelessness- A Primer" by Anna Sucsy</li> </ul>		Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair  DJ Tomko, DDS
(9:20-10:30) <b>DDS Updates and Information</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department Updates</li> <li>• SPP/APR</li> </ul>		Nancy Bargmann Maricris Acon
(10:30-10:45) <b>Voices from the Field</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statewide Screening Task Force</li> <li>• Infant Development Association of California</li> <li>• The Arc</li> <li>• California Disability Community Action Network</li> </ul>		Karen Moran Finello Fran Chasen Teresa Anderson Marty Omoto
(10:45-11:05) <b>Presentation-</b> ARPA Initiative on Diversifying the ICC		Robert Rochin, FRCNCA
(11:05-11:15) <b>Break</b>		
(11:15-12:00) <b>Presentation-</b> Bunker Babies- Review of Preliminary Research on the Effects of COVID-19 on Young Children's Development		Tracey Tasker
(12:00-12:15) <b>Public Input</b>		
(12:15-1:15) <b>Lunch</b>		
(1:15-1:25) <b>Announcement of Sub Committee Composition and Goals</b>		DJ Tomko

(1:25-3:30) <b>Subcommittee Meetings</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving Systems</li> <li>• Communications</li> </ul>	

<b>ICC Meeting Agenda (Day Two)</b> <b>In-Person Meeting (with Zoom Option)</b> <a href="#">Webinar Registration - Zoom</a>	<b>Date: 10/21/22</b> <b>Time: 9:00 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.</b> <b>Location: 1215 O St.</b> <b>Sacramento, CA, 95814</b>
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Agenda Items	Responsibility
(9:00-9:15) <b>Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome</li> <li>• Housekeeping Items/Zoom Instructions</li> <li>• Introductions/Roll Call</li> <li>• Review Agenda</li> <li>• Review of previous day's agenda</li> <li>• Review of ICC mission, purpose, and theme</li> </ul>	Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair  DJ Tomko, DDS
(9:15-10:05) <b>ICC Council Reports and Voting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates by ICC Council Members</li> <li>• Action Item: Voting on ICC dates for 2023</li> </ul>	Leanne Wheeler, CDE Homeless Education Suzanne Sherinian, Dept. of Managed Health Michelle Dove, Head Start Agency Richard Onley, Dept. of Public Health Shanice Orum, Dept. of Social Services Lisa Witchy- Dept. of Social Services Susan DuCore- Indian Health Care Maricris Acon- Dept. of Developmental Services Heather Calomese, CA Dept. of Education (CDE) Special Education Pamela Riley, Department of Health Care Services
(10:05-10:15) <b>Videos/Stories</b>	DDS
(10:15-10:45) <b>Presentation:</b> Birth to 5 Homeless Children- Identifying, Enrolling, and Serving	Leanne Wheeler
(10:45-11:00) <b>Public Input</b>	
(11:00-12:00) <b>Lunch</b>	
(12:00-1:10) <b>Subcommittee Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving Systems</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• Darby's Legacy</li> </ul>	
(1:10-1:25) <b>Public Input</b>	
(1:25-1:30) <b>Recap and Closing Remarks</b>	Marie Kanne Poulsen

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

**Thursday, July 14, 2022**

**In-person - Zoom (Hybrid) Meeting**

**Time: 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

### **Opening**

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. (Late start of the meeting due to technology difficulties.)

### **Welcome**

Dr. Poulsen announced that introduction of members will take place on Day 2. The roll call was conducted.

### **Review Agenda**

No changes were made to the agenda.

### **Announcements**

No announcements were made.

### **CHHS Guiding Principles**

Vishaal Pegany, Assistant Secretary, California Health and Human Services (CalHHS)

Mr. Pegany presented the latest revised version of the CalHHS Guiding Principles and Strategic Priorities and described the “North Star” envisioned for Healthy California for All and its components.

- Seven Guiding Principles: Focus on Equity, Actively Listen, Use Data to Drive Action, See the Whole Person, Put the Person Back in Person-Centered, Cultivate a Culture of Innovation, and Deliver on Outcomes.
- Six strategic priorities: Create an Equitable Pandemic Recovery; Build a Healthy California for All; Integrate Health and Human Services; Improve the Lives of California’s Most Vulnerable; Advance the Well-Being of Children and Youth; and Build an Age-Friendly State for All.
- DDS has been an important partner in the planning for improving outcomes for children living in extreme poverty, in foster care and juvenile justice systems, among others described in the PPT.

The updated Guiding Principles may be downloaded at: [https://www.chhs.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CalHHS-Guiding-Principles\\_condensed\\_R1.pdf](https://www.chhs.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CalHHS-Guiding-Principles_condensed_R1.pdf)

Dr. Poulsen reaffirmed about the importance of the values of improving services for children and families.

### **Tribal Early Education and Outreach Program: Helping families access information about their child’s developmental progress**

Liz Sardinas, Deputy Director Northern California Children’s Therapy Center

Ms. Sardinas introduced the Tribal Early Education and Outreach Program, based in Yolo county.

The program provides free developmental screenings and assistance to families in accessing



services. Following a review of developmental screening, tools, and practices, she described the services offers and asked participants to collaborate to create a system to ensure all children are screened, to encourage families to call their center, and to spread the word to other communities. Contact information: <https://www.ctchelpskids.org/tribal/>

### **Darby's Legacy**

Cindy Rubin, Liz Spencer and Linda Landry (via Zoom)

Presenters are representative from an Ad Hoc work group of the ICC that has been working on a best practices resource for providing access to services and supports for children who are medically fragile and their families. Ms. Landry introduced Ms. Rubin and Ms. Spencer. Ms. Rubin presented a PowerPoint to introduce Darby Jean (Ms. Rubin's daughter) and her family. She then related their experiences, including the moment they found out about Darby's diagnosis during pregnancy, life expectancy after birth, caring for Darby, the struggles in securing support to care for a medically fragile child, and the support they eventually received. She is hopeful that the Darby's Legacy Best Practices resource will improve services and guide families and professionals to resources.

Ms. Spencer described 4 areas of content in the draft resource: family supports, available services, health coverage, and linkage of families to resources through Medi-Cal and Medicaid waivers. She also shared her experiences supporting families and working within and across systems to navigate very complicated regulations and processes to secure services and supports. Linking families to home and community-based services and resources through Medi-Cal (Medicaid Waivers) improves the quality of life of a child with complex medical needs and their family's journey.

Members are invited to contact Linda Laundry if they would like to further communicate with Ms. Rubin. Dr. Poulsen commented that the dissemination effort for this resource is being developed.

### **Committee Meetings**

Meeting of the whole adjourned at 12:15; committees met separately.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Maricris Acon (for Nancy Bargmann)  
Annie Baccay (for Sarah Neville-Morgan)  
Douglas Erber\*  
Richard Olney  
Shanice Orum  
Marie Kanne Poulsen  
Leanne Wheeler  
Lisa Witchey

### **MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Suzanne Sherinian

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Matt Chesnut  
Michelle Dove  
Susan Ducore  
Sally Grevemberg  
Alma Martinez\*  
Pamela Riley

Stephanie Welch

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tony Anderson  
Kathy Angkustsiri  
Yvette Baptiste\*  
Jazmine Blackman  
Shan Chan  
Karen Moran Finello  
Samantha Hebermehl\*  
Leah Howley  
Laurie Jordan\*  
Linda Landry\*  
Diana Maffei\*  
Gayatri Mahajan  
Patricia Moore  
Michelle Oliver  
Marty Omoto  
Robert Rochin  
Sheri Rosen  
Debbie Sarmiento\*  
Scott Turner  
Pablo Velez  
Diana Williams  
Edyth Gallardo

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tamara Allen  
Brigitte Ammons  
Teresa Anderson  
Brenda Baldeon  
Maurine Ballard-Rosa  
Florence Bracy\*  
Elena Bramble\*  
Fran Chasen  
Pam Chueh  
Rosalyn Daggs  
Wanda Davis  
Sheri Farinha  
Felicia Ford\*  
Rachel Hagans  
Amy Hansen  
Katie Hornberger  
Lucero Irizarry  
Jordan Lindsey  
Robin Millar  
Wendy Morrison  
Christina Nigrelli

Julie Rems-Smario  
Maria Ruiz-Merroth  
Nancy Sager  
Patricia Salcedo\*  
Tara Sisemore-Hester

### **DDS**

Maricris Acon  
January Crane  
Desmond Fang  
James Garcia  
Lisa Gonzales  
Lauren Libero  
Marcy Okada  
Sandra Sanchez  
Catherine Schulze  
Omari Smith  
Shay Willis  
Lucia DaSilva  
Sandra Sanchez  
Reyna Ambriz  
DJ Tomko  
Hilda Jimenez

### **WestEd**

Ross Adams  
Jeffri Brookfield  
Rebecca Halpern  
Angela McGuire  
Lilia Rodriguez  
Laura Romero  
Jennifer Teykaerts

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

\*Parent  
Jennifer Bloom  
Sara Cruz  
Teena Earheart  
Julie Eby-MacKenzie  
Victoria Fisher  
Katelyn Foley  
Ashley Franklin  
Karen Harrison  
C.J. Hartsock  
Sarah Leff  
Randy Lesser  
Julie Loe  
Liliana McDonough  
Vishaal Pegany

Alexandra Parma  
Cindy Rubin\*  
Margarita Salazar  
Norma Sandoval-Pedroza  
Liz Sardinas  
Tricia Simmons  
Liz Spencer\*

**Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention**  
**Friday, July 15, 2022**  
**In-person - Zoom (Hybrid) Meeting**  
**Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Opening**

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**Roll Call**

The roll call was conducted. The chair welcomed Pamela Riley from the Department of Health Care Services as a new member of the ICC.

**Review Agenda**

**Approve April Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Poulsen noted a correction made to the minutes: Fran Chasen was present in the ICC meeting. Maricris Acon approve; Lisa Witchey seconded. Minutes were approved.

**Announcements**

Dr. Poulsen announced that the DDS team is now disseminating an Early Start (ES) newsletter. She also drew attention to new outreach materials available to pick up in the room and to order/download at [CEITAN](#) website:

- Early Start Community posters in English and Spanish and flyers in multiple languages
- California Family Resource Centers brochures
- Family Introduction to the California Early Start brochures
- Reasons for Concern brochures

**Part C Literacy – Communicative Gestures and Developmental Outcomes With and Without Autism Spectrum Disorder**

Dr. Poulsen introduced the comprehensive article that Dr. Libero provided to validate the importance of early identification of social communication problems. The article addresses the rate, gestures, and developmental paths that toddlers with or without autism exhibit during home observation. Dr. Poulsen recommends this article to build Part C literacy because social communication vulnerabilities and early assessment of autism is part of Early Start practice.

**2022 Budget Act**

Nancy Bargmann, Director of DDS

- Ms. Bargmann's presentation and [PowerPoint](#) addressed:
  - An overview of the DDS budget, showing year over year comparisons,
  - Caseloads and caseload growth,
  - Early Start referral and assessment rates, and
  - Provisional eligibility for children ages 0-3 showing delays but without a Lanteman-eligible diagnosis.
- The hope is that there will not be children exiting Early Start without services who return to regional centers years later and eligible. DDS is tracking related data and it is available for those interested.

- Ms. Bargmann also discussed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) regarding Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS):
  - Accelerates the Rate Model implementation by a year, with the adjustment occurring 6 months earlier than it was projected in 2023.
  - For Early Start (through Jan 2024), supports family wellness; develops focus on culturally and linguistically sensitive services; supports outreach, technology, or other resources to support families; and targets improving Part C to B transition experiences for children and families through work with CDE.
  - Improves the service coordination caseload ratios.
  - Supports a performance incentive program.
  - Supports emergency preparedness.
- Ms. Bargmann also discussed:
  - IDEA technical support at regional centers: Each regional center will have an IDEA specialist, familiar with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), to provide technical assistance to staff regarding special education systems, processes, opportunities, and expectations.
- Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Spending Plan webpage on the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) website that includes links to the approved spending plans and other related documents may be accessed [here](#).
- Text of the Developmental Services budget trailer bill that is part of the 2022-2023 State Budget signed into law June 30, 2022 may be accessed here: [PDF Document](#).
- Dr. Poulsen invited questions from the audience:
  - From Michelle Oliver: What sort of checks will there be to ensure that families coming out of the Early Start into Kindergarten do not experience disconnects?
    - Ms. Bargmann responded that there will be technical support, training, and processes for internally tracking the hiring of service coordinators and management of caseloads. Community input on what kind of training will be needed and the development of a training plan is welcome.
  - Ms. Oliver also commented on recent losses of experienced service coordinators and on the impact of the requirement to access insurance for services on the transition. Specifically, she said that parents are looking at Early Start in more of a medical model and that is making the transition to Part B more challenging.
    - Ms. Bargmann responded that she will work with Ms. Acon to understand these important issues. She added that a significant recent change is the eligibility threshold for Early Start services moving from 33% to 25% developmental delay. More children will be eligible and it will add more pressure for the network of providers. The Department is prioritizing development of Early Start providers and using some of the ARPA funds to address some of those issues.

Transition timeline data by regional center can be viewed [here](#); see indicators 8a, 8b & 8c. Dr. Poulsen noted that the budget works well for the young infants and toddlers in California and thanked Ms. Bargmann for being a special advocate for Early Start.

## **DDS Autism Priorities**

Lauren Libero, DDS

Dr. Libero presented a PowerPoint with statistics of all individuals served by DDS through their life span, highlighting the children served through Early Start. Data showed the categories of diagnosis from 2016-2022, noting increases in the diagnosis of autism. The full presentation is available [here](#).



## Early Identification of Autism

Dr. B.J. Freeman, UCLA School of Medicine

- Dr. Freeman presented a [PPT](#) focusing on the early identification of autism, causes, development, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), research and knowledge gaps, and preventable negative outcomes.
- Dr. Freeman described the barriers to early diagnosis:
  - Lack of clinicians' knowledge on typical and delayed development in general.
  - Lack of definition in the DSM-5.
  - No consensus regarding assessment protocols. Lack of training in assessment.
- Lack of access to evidence-based treatment and treatment implemented with fidelity. Dr. Freeman's recommendations included the following:
  - Observing the child in the home gives the clinician more information about the things the child can do.
  - Providers need to be well trained and to think about everything that is going on for the parents and the child.
  - Develop training for infant development psychologists attempting to give diagnoses.

Members with questions may email Dr. Freeman. [bjfreeman007@gmail.com](mailto:bjfreeman007@gmail.com)

## Public Input

Public input comments are summarized below.

From parents:

- Linda Landry shared on behalf of Cindy Rubin: The Rubin family shared the story of their daughter with the goal of creating beneficial and critical improvements across the state of California. She hopes that as the ICC members peruse the Best Practices document to decide whether or not to endorse it, they will remember Darby's story and envision possibilities of what can be achieved for many families and children coming after Darby.
- From Samantha Hebermehl: Shared the struggles her family has had in the past year and a half in seeking help for her children who are deafblind. She shared that an inappropriate and unqualified diagnosis of autism was made for one of her children, demonstrating a lack of awareness and expertise about deaf and blind children and their needs, lack of professionalism and interest from some of the members in her educational team, and the lack of disposition to discuss possible accommodations and IEP evaluations. She shared that she and her husband feel turned away by their own community and asked for resources and guidance.
  - Members responded with empathy and provided information about the [California Deafblind Services](#). Dr. Baptiste acknowledged Ms. Hebermehl's courage in speaking up, validated seeing her as a parent, and extended her understanding of the stressors and emotional distress in navigating the system and the need to take care of herself emotionally. Dr. Baptiste made herself available to be a source of support and highlighted that for Early Start, family wellness is important and may be supported by FRCs and service providers. She also noted that her committee will also focus their work on services for children with low incidence disabilities.
- From Michelle Rogers (via the Zoom chat): Requested that additional public input time be added to the next agenda as individuals who had made time to provide input to the ICC at this meeting were not going to have the opportunity to speak. She also commented on the severe and imminent possibility of early intervention programs closing across California.
  - Mr. Erber responded (via chat): Perhaps there can be a pre-meeting way for individuals to make a public comment request, and the ICC adjust the agenda accordingly. He also commented that it is a pity the ICC only meets quarterly, as he understands that it used to meet more frequently.

- From Elizabeth (via chat): Communicated agreement with Ms. Rogers.
- From Maria Moberg: Reiterated Ms. Rogers statement.
- From Pablo Velez: Reiterated Ms. Rogers' concerns.
- From Dr. Baptiste: Commented that while vendor issues should be brought forward, she had difficulty with extensive use of ICC time on vendor issues. She suggested that the Department might establish a workgroup to study and address these concerns.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Communications and Outreach Committee**

Douglas Erber reported:

- The ICC is not in compliance with the federal requirement to have a legislative representative or staff member serving on the ICC. Mr. Erber will send Ms. Acon a list of potential representatives. Robert Hertzberg's office staff will help the ICC in this effort for the Governor to appoint a representative.
- Child Find Efforts:
  - DDS has produced a series of family stories videos to promote Early Start and they will be available to everyone soon.
  - The Department is working on an Early Start public service announcement and billboards campaign.
  - The committee would like to distribute a survey to ICC members and Community Representatives to find out who and where they are, what they do, and their regional center catchment areas.
  - The committee also has a parent survey and wants to ensure there are parents as Community Representatives and the ICC.
- The committee discussed voting protocols for committees to clarify which members are authorized to vote. Mr. Erber reaffirmed that as a cross-agency state organization the ICC needs to have a protocol to follow and know who can vote. The Communications and Outreach Committee is inclusive and welcomes any input and all that are interested in becoming members as long as they are committed to attend meetings.

### **Ad Hoc Committee – Darby's Legacy: Best Practices Serving Families with Infants and Toddlers who are Medically Fragile**

Linda Landry reported:

- The committee is working on finalizing the Darby's Legacy document.
- Ms. Landry will suggest the group discuss the possibility of a video about Darby's Legacy and the use of different modalities of media.

### **Improving State Systems Committee**

Yvette Baptiste reported: Systems committee met as a group and as subcommittees.

- Child and Family Subcommittee: The group decided to look at the needs and challenges for families with children with low incidence disabilities and work with other groups that have special populations that have experienced trauma who are in Early Start.
  - The committee laid out some possible questions for surveys.
  - The committee would like to have training about two items:

- Trauma related to COVID
- Low incidence disabilities and how children with multiple disabilities, including low incidence disabilities, are served across systems
- Regional Center Vendors Subcommittee: The group discussed their purpose and qualifications for quality Early Start workforce. The group would like:
  - Information on the new laws and initiatives regarding education and training for Early Start.
  - Information about the DDS Quality Incentive work.
  - To see the Early Start Personnel Manual (ESPM) and how to make sure it gets implemented.
  - Information and possibly a presentation about programs that have had success in workforce recruitment.
- Laws and Regulations Subcommittee: The group discussed issues around the rate study, remote services, observation, and issues transitioning from Part C to Part B. The group will meet again to decide on specific areas to focus on to bring back to the ICC.

### **Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program (IEEEP)**

Stephen Propheter and Kim McMillan, California Department of Education (CDE)

- Mr. Propheter provided a PowerPoint presentation about the CDE's Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) and investments to support inclusion and students with disabilities. Mr. Propheter's presentation included:
  - Goal for UPK: For all 4-year-old children to have access to early learning and education.
  - Statistics related to the low number of children enrolled in Pre-school and Head Start Programs and some of the barriers to access early learning and education services.
  - Budget inclusion for 2022-23: Children with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) will be categorically eligible for California State Preschool Program (CSPP). Enrollment reserved for 5% of children with exceptional needs in 2022-23; 7.5% in 2023-24, and 10% 2024-25.
  - Two million dollars have been allocated to incorporate early identification of learning disabilities into the state's preschool assessment tools.
- Ms. McMillan talked about IEEEP's purpose, grantee responsibilities, current distributed funding, management and partnerships, professional development, facilities construction, and adaptive equipment, which includes instructional materials, furniture, and playgrounds.
- The presenters would like to gather Input from the ICC and will send questions to the ICC Chair. Dr. Paulsen offered to send out a survey, put together the information, and send it to Ms. McMillan.
- Questions from the chat:
  - From Samantha Hebermehl: Can families decide which preschool program they want to enroll their children into? If not, which preschool programs are eligible for this grant?
  - From Kristin Schumacher: Will the CSPP categorical eligibility be funded as an entitlement? Or will new spaces only become available upon appropriation?

### **Family Resource Center Network of California (FRNCA)**

Robert Rochin reported:

- FRNCA has met monthly and has delivered/attended multiple webinars, including:
  - Part C Members Only Early Start Website Work
  - Examining and Internalizing Better Support for Infant Disabilities

- Understanding Race, Racism, and Anti-Racism

- FRCNCA has been working on sharing information for the Early Start Newsletter, requests for parent stories, and the need for respite care.
- Family Resource Centers will hold grant-funded summits in Fall of 2022. The advisory committee and representatives for these summits include Help Me Grow, Head Start Programs, Regional Center service coordinators and program managers, SELPAS and County Offices of Education, First 5, and CAPTAIN.
- Community Navigators: The FRCNCA has provided guidance for the community navigator work to identify language and population priorities and activities that will assist in building trust and effective working relationships between individuals and families served by the RC. Training for community navigators will be implemented statewide.
- Dr. Baptiste added information about the new toolkit for FRC's to conduct screening. It was developed by CHLA in collaboration with Help Me Grow LA with First 5 LA funding. The FRCNCA will be seeking ways to pilot the toolkit at FRCs throughout the state.

## **Department and Council Member Reports**

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

- Ms. Wheeler was unable to attend; Dr. Poulsen relayed information. The American Rescue Plan has led to 20 local educational areas developing a homeless intervention program, including statewide professional and resource development. Ms. Wheeler will provide a formal presentation to ICC in October.

Suzanne Sherinian, Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC)

- Lisa Witche reported for DMHC. DMHC released their 2021 annual report and infographic which highlights the Department's activities and achievements for the year. As of the end of 2021, DMHC assisted 2.6 million consumers through the Department's health center. Links to reports for more detailed information:
  - [Annual Report](#)
  - [Infographic](#)

Richard Olney, California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

- Shortages of infant formula are especially impacting California. CDPH and MCH have been working with the California Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) on their response to this shortage and have provided a variety of resources that are summarized on the CDPH website. Manufacturing of formula (both US and imported) has increased. Information available at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/formula>
- COVID vaccinations for children at 6 months of age have been recently approved. CDPH is promoting vaccination for this group through social media, CA Chapter of AAP, local clinics, and WIC offices. Website information is available at <https://www.vaccinateall58.com/> and <https://myturn.ca.gov/>

Shanice Orum, Department of Social Services (CDSS) Community Care Licensing

- CDSS continues offering childcare license stipends to encourage individuals who are serving as licensed providers, centers and family childcare home providers to offset their expenses through COVID and be able to remain open.
- CDPH and CDSS community care licensing have been working in partnership with clinics to promote vaccination of children under 5.

- Received approval to continue with flexibility to licensees to be able to help serve the community and allow flexible response to new issues that arise related to COVID and the workforce.
- Will work this summer on updating guidance on COVID. Updated after analysis of K-12 status and modifications were made. Changed the language in guidance as to what is required, recommended, or best practice.

Lisa Witche, Department of Social Services (CDSS)

- Children and Family Services are working with DDS to address identification of education rights holders to expedite assessment and intake by RC for infants and toddlers who are at risk of or have been identified with developmental delays.
  - Assembly Bill 1243 includes DDS, DPHS, DSS, and CDE to collaborate and work along with their county partners and regional centers to identify gaps in the system of care that are impacting children in the welfare system as well as other child and family systems. CDSS is preparing the legislative report identifying those gaps and making recommendations and will seek stakeholders for review. It would be important for members of the ICC to review the report and note gaps and recommendations that involve individuals with developmental disabilities and co-morbid or co-occurring conditions. The report will be ready to share by September. Dr. Poulsen confirmed that the ICC will be interested in reviewing the report and invited questions.
  - From Yvette Baptiste: When will the report be released and what is the website?
    - Each department will share the report with their stakeholder list. She will share the report with ICC chair to disseminate among the ICC members for review.

(Unclear audio and fast talking)

Maricris Acon, Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

- Report addressed all of the following:
  - Caseloads and statistical data about the number of children being served by age group in DDS.
  - Data about changes in the number of children referred, intakes, and registration.
  - DDS extended services and the allowance of remote IFSP meetings for another year until June 30, 2023. IFSP meetings may be held in the way and place of preference at the request of parents.
  - Increased the frequency of IFSP reviews from 6 to 4 months.
  - Each regional center will have an IDEA specialist to support transitions from Part C to Part B and LEAs.
  - Annual Performance Review determination by the Office of Special Education Programs for California's implementation of Part C was again "Needs Assistance."
  - Updates, information about supports, and determinations for every regional center are available at the regional center and DDS websites.
  - The State Systemic Improvement Plan, required by the federal government, addresses social and emotional development of infants and toddlers. A diverse group of stakeholders has made recommendations on the continued focus on social and emotional development. The next steps will be to develop a theory of action, logic model, activities, and evaluation plan.
- Comment from the chat:
  - Michelle Oliver: Is there any clarification on what the additional IFSP meetings will entail? Will this be with Family and SC or require outcome updates by the service providers? If it does, will time/purchase of service be allotted to the providers? MY

HOPE is that these additional IFSP's are with SC's and families to have more frequent contact.

- Ms. Acon commented: I think the comment Michelle raised regarding IFSP meetings is important and we should find out from the families (and from the RCs and others) how this is working out.

(Choppy unclear sound-several people commented they could not hear)

Pablo Velez: (Question -not understood).

- In response to an inaudible question from a participant, Ms. Acon responded that the ratio for service coordinators will be reduced and paperwork required of service coordinators will also be considered. The goal is to have closer touchpoints to the family and not add more paperwork for the service coordinators.
- Question: Following up on IFSP changes, will this also apply to children with Low Incidence disabilities as well as for those who are served by regional centers?
  - Ms. Acon responded that the change is for the Early Start Program, inclusive of programs for children with Low Incidence disabilities.
- Participant comment: There is a gap between LEAs helping families of low incidence children to connect with FRCs. Is there additional oversight to help increase those relationships with FRCs?

Heather Calomese, CDE, Special Education

- Annie Baccay reported for CDE.
- The East San Gabriel Valley SELPA and the Irvine Unified School District will be forming a new technical assistance project under CDE to support LEAs, SELPAs, County Offices of Education, and other agency partners, such as RCs, FRCs, and Part C providers in the area of IDEA Part C to Part B evaluations, preschool assessment practices, and preschool child find. The project will be known as [California Early Childhood Special Education Network](#) (CA-ECSE).
- CDE is reviewing initial findings and recommendations gathered from a CDE funded study to identify fiscal and systemic barriers to preschool to third grade inclusion. The study included a literature review, policy review, constituent interviews, and convening of the cross-sector taskforce to identify barriers and potential solutions for funding restructure to increase inclusive education opportunities for students with disabilities and dual language. A summary of the conclusions and recommended next steps will be produced.
- The [Embedded Instructions for Early Learning California](#) grant is continuing this year. LEAs in California will work with experts and researchers in the area of instruction to pilot techniques and practices in the Early Childhood programs. [Embedded Instruction for Early Learning Tools for Teachers](#).
- CDE is planning the beginning phase for the expansion of the IEEEP program and is looking for input from the ICC.
- The Early Education (EE) Teaching Development grant will provide funding on a competitive basis to LEAs to identify, recruit, and retain a robust workforce and increase specific workforce competencies. CDE will provide further information on announcement of awards for this funding.
  - From Scott Turner: CalECSE is currently seeking to identify Exemplar Leads across agencies, as well as Geographic Technical Assistance Facilitators to assist in improving



Part C to B transitions, preschool assessment practices, and preschool ChildFind. For more info: [sturner@calecse.org](mailto:sturner@calecse.org)

Pamela Riley, CA Department of Health Care Services

- The DHCS' Medi-Cal Strategy to Improve Health and Opportunity for Children and Families consolidates some of the core services that Medi-Cal currently provides to children and families and includes a more comprehensive vision of the impact that Medi-Cal can have in improving health and opportunity for children.
- DHCS wants to get to a more integrative, accountable, comprehensive vision for how the department is supporting children and families and coordinating with stakeholders and other agencies to achieve that vision.
- DHCS will campaign to increase awareness of EPSDT services among members, providers, and health plans to encourage utilization of those as a core support services for children and families.
- Enhanced Care Management (ECM): Looking at defining who will be eligible in terms of children's populations of focus, those enrolled in CCS or CCS whole child model who have additional care management needs beyond their CCS eligible condition. The ECM goal is to drive a more comprehensive approach to care management and that benefit for children will be effective in July 2023.
- More coordination between DCPH and CDSS to align WIC and CalFresh to maximize the enrollment of eligible Medi-Cal children and families into these programs. She will reach out to some of the ICC members for support on this effort. Contact info: [pamela.riley@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:pamela.riley@dhcs.ca.gov)
  - Dr. Poulsen will invite Dr. Riley to present to the ICC in October and will provide Dr. Riley a document about Early Childhood Mental Health and Part C (through Shay Rosauero-Willis).
  - From Dr. Baptiste: Speaking as a council member for Family Voices of California, families need help in understanding how to get support for coordinating the care for their children. California is moving to managed care and often care coordination is left out for families with children who are very fragile and require frequent hospitalization. This is an equity issue in California and she would like to see the managed care system engage with families to see what is really needed at the local level and how to expand care coordination at that level.

## Voices from the Field

Statewide Screening Task Force, Karen Moran Finello:

- CDPH decided that the SSC will no longer be part of their portfolio as they believe that with the extension of early childhood services in the state, there are a number of collaboratives to check the work. Dr. Finello disagrees. She hopes to have another meeting in September and plan for transition some key activities and content, such as the website designed for pediatricians, to another entity. Members with ideas about transitioning the work may contact Dr. Finello.
- CDPH thanks all members of the SSC for their great work. Dr. Finello noted that the SSC has had many ripple effects and encouraged members to contact her about other the impacts from the SSC work that they know about to include in the final report.

Infant Development Association of California (IDA)

Doug Erber reported for Fran Chasen.

- A \$50K grant was secured from a family foundation to support parents and students to attend IDA training events for free and for new clinicians to attend for half price.
- As part of IDA's focus on diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging: e.g.,
  - IDA presented a 2-part series on neuro diversity and affirmative care for infants and toddlers presented by Hilary Crow of Orange County who is an autistic individual and a Speech Pathologist.
  - Scheduled for August 3: Being a Welcoming Guest in a Prismatic Home, Understanding and Supporting LGBTQ and Other Marginalized Families.
- Additionally, IDA has
  - Provided updates on provider rates and hosted discussions about the challenges and issues associated with it.
  - Hosted a May event on the May Revise, presented by Teresa Anderson.
  - Provided updates on Governor Newsom's signed budget and its impact on early intervention.
  - IDA is seeking parents to serve on their board. IDA website: <https://www.idaofcal.org/>

#### The ARC

Linda reported that Teresa Anderson was not able to attend.

#### California Disability Community Action Network, Marty Omoto

- Mr. Omoto shared his experience professionally and in his personal life in caring for someone with disabilities. He recommended for advocates to act with a sense of urgency and for the ICC to include in the agenda:
  - Issues related to rates in our workforce,
  - Updates on major proposals in the legislature and state budget,
- Requested that ICC meetings be recorded and posted on the DDS website. It helps with transparency, to spread awareness, and presentations can be used by other people.
  - Dr. Poulsen confirmed that the ICC will invite someone to talk about rates and provide resources.

Prior to adjourning no additional comments were provided. Adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Maricris Acon  
 Doug Erber\*  
 Sarah Neville-Morgan  
 Richard Olney  
 Shanice Orum  
 Pamela Riley  
 Marie Kanne Poulsen  
 Lisa Witchey

#### **MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Suzanne Sherinian  
 Leanne Wheeler

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Matt Chesnut  
Michelle Dove  
Susan Ducore  
Sally Grevemberg  
Alma Martinez\*  
Stephanie Welch

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tony Anderson  
Yvette Baptiste\*  
Elena Bramble\*  
Shan Chan  
Karen Finello  
Felicia Ford\*  
Edyth Gallardo  
Samantha Hebermehl\*  
Leah Howley  
Laurie Jordan\*  
Linda Landry\*  
Diana Maffei\*  
Gayatri Mahajan  
Patricia Moore\*  
Michelle E. Oliver  
Marty Omoto  
Robert Rochin  
Sheri Rosen  
Patricia Salcedo\*  
Debbie Sarmiento\*  
Tara Sisemore-Hester  
Scott Turner  
Pablo Velez  
Diane Williams

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tamara Allen  
Brigitte Ammons  
Teresa Anderson  
Kathy Angkustsiri  
Brenda Baldeon  
Maurine Ballard-Rosa  
Jazmine Blackman  
Florence Bracy\*  
Fran Chasen\*  
Pam Chueh  
Rosalyn Daggs  
Wanda Davis  
Sheri Farinha  
Rachel Hagans  
Amy Hansen

Katie Hornberger  
Lucero Irizarry  
Jordan Lindsey  
Robin Millar  
Wendy Morrison  
Christina Nigrelli  
Julie Rems-Smario  
Maria Ruiz-Merroth  
Nancy Sager  
Patricia Salcedo\*

### **DDS**

Nancy Bargmann  
January Crane  
Lucia DaSilva  
Desmond Fang  
Lauren Libero  
Marcy Okada  
Sandra Sanchez  
Townley Saye  
Catherine Schulze  
Omari Smith  
DJ Tomko  
Shay Willis  
Reyna Ambriz

### **WESTED**

Ross Adams  
Jeffri Brookfield  
Rebecca Halpern  
Angela McGuire  
Virginia Reynolds  
Lilia Rodriguez  
Laura Romero

### **OTHERS<sup>†</sup>PRESENT**

Elizabeth  
Annie Baccay  
Jennifer Bloom  
Heather Calomese  
Valerie Donelson  
Lisette Duarte  
Teena Earheart  
Julia Estrada  
Victoria Fisher  
Katelyn Foley  
Ashley Franklin  
BJ Freeman  
James Garcia

Virginia Gantong  
Lisa Gonzales  
Sarah Leff  
Randy Lesser  
Lorenzo Manlutac  
Liliana McDonough  
Jacob Mickelson  
Maria Moberg  
Sharon Moone-Jochums  
Vishaal Pegany  
Alexandra Parma  
Adriana Ramos-Yamamoto  
Nancy Sager  
Erik Saucedo  
Kristin Schumacher  
Tricia Simmons  
Diane Williams  
Sterling Williams

\*Parent

†Names taken from the Zoom participant list may not be complete.