

Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention
Friday, October 21, 2022
Hybrid in-Person/Zoom Meeting
DDS HQ
1215 O Street
Sacramento CA, 95814
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Link to Zoom Recording [October ICC Day Two Meeting](#)

Opening

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

Housekeeping Items

Zoom Instructions and etiquette was reviewed

Roll Call

The roll call was conducted.

Review Agenda

Yesterday's agenda was reviewed as well as the review of the mission, purpose, and theme of the ICC Meeting. Members and Guests were asked to submit theme/topic ideas for January's meeting

ICC Council Reports and Voting

- ***Suzanne Sherinian- Assistant Chief Council with the California Department of Managed Healthcare Help Center.***

Suzanne reports that her department regulates and licenses 96% of the healthcare service plans in the State of California, one of the largest being Kaiser Foundation Health Plan. For the last several months the department has been actively monitoring the access to health care services for Kaiser members who may have been impacted by the Kaiser Behavioral Health Care Workers strike in Northern California. However, it appears that they have reached a resolution, we will continue to see how that plays out.

Suzanne worked on a case recently at the help center where there were able to advocate for Kaiser to authorize a procedure for a 14 month old child that was born with a rare blood vessel abnormality of the brain called a [Vein of Galen Malformation](#), at Boston's Children's Hospital.

Molina Health Care of California was fined 1 million dollars for failing to acknowledge and resolve provider disputes involving claims payments in a timely manner. The plan also had to pay 80.3 million dollars in payments to those providers that they hadn't paid in a timely manner along with an additional 1.8 million dollars in interest.

DMH has a provider dispute resolution process and Suzanne hopes that people will take advantage of that if they encounter issues with payment with the health plans that they regulate.

- **Michelle Dove—Head Start/Child Development Director, Kings Community Action Organization**

A letter sent by a collaboration of OSEP and office of Head Start went out to state directors of special education, local education agencies, special education directors, part B and C coordinators, and all Head Start grant recipients on October 5th. The letter emphasizes the importance of providing children with disabilities and their families the services and support they need to thrive in coordination with the local Head Start.

- **Richard Onley MD, MPH—Division Chief, Genetic Disease Screening Program, California Department of Public Health**

Richard talked about prenatal screening that they do in their department it goes back 35 years to screening for Spina Bifida which continues today. Over the years they have added several conditions including Trisomy 21. Recently they were able to expand screening for Trisomy 13 using DNA technology. It is a statewide program, and they hope that expanding the access to this screening will help to close gaps in equitable usage of new technologies.

- **Annie Baccay—Education Programs Consultant, California Department of Education**

Annie provided a budget update for FY 22-23 report that children with an IEP or IFSP with will categorically be eligible for CSPP and CSPP contractors are to set aside and reserve at least 10% of children will be phased in in the next three years. The CSPP programs received 2 million dollars in one-time funds to incorporate early identification and learning disabilities into the state's preschool assessment tools, including a process for follow up by expert evaluators. 250 million one time finds to support the IEEEP, Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program, which funds infrastructure necessary to support general education and special education students in inclusive classrooms.

The budget also included funds to support Part C to B transition in response to SB 75. The budget committed several thousand of federal IDEA funds for CDE in partnership with DDS to develop parent-friendly resources on transition services. It also commits 200,000 of federal IDEA funds for the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence to convene a panel to continue defining the IEP template designed by the workgroup.

Annie further stated that they are up to 36 family empowerment centers throughout California which includes the recent increase of nine and they will be adding five more with the Request for Applications (*RFA*) out

- **Leanne Wheeler—California State Homeless Coordinator, Homeless Education Program, California Department of Education**

Leanne stated that she is one of four consultants that are working to support and serve not only our homeless children but also our local education agencies as well. There is a state-wide homeless education conference that is set to take place in San Diego at the Town and Country Resort April 16-28th 2023. Will have more information once the contract is signed.

There are three new [Homeless Education Technical Assistance Centers](#). (HE TACS)

Video Shared by DDS: [Be a Part of Early Intervention](#) summarizes the purpose and the importance of Early Intervention and how you can support children and families by choosing a career in EI.

Action Item: The ICC Members Approved the Proposed Meeting dates for 2023
January 19-20, April 20-21, July 13-14, and October 19-20, 2023

Presentation: Birth to 5 Homeless Children-Identifying, Enrolling, and Serving Leanne Wheeler

Leanne reports that in California, in 2018–19 (pre-COVID) there were 269,699 homeless children and youth enrolled in public schools. Since COVID, California has seen a decrease in identification and enrollment of homeless children and youth. Unfortunately, due to difficulty tracking these children these children have fallen through the cracks.

In 2015, it was estimated 220,940 children under age six in California experienced homelessness. Over half of children living in federally funded homeless shelters are 5 years old and younger. Homelessness affects the physical and mental health of children; the children may show significantly slower development than housed peers their same age. Need to work with families to build relationships to remove the barriers for them to receive help with the emotional, psychological, and physical issues they may have. For more information: [National Center on Family Homelessness | American Institutes for Research \(air.org\)](#)

Federal Definition of Homeless: Individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

Examples of homelessness include children and youth living in:

- Shared housing due to economic hardship, loss of housing, or natural disasters
- Motels or hotels
- Public or private places not designed for sleeping
- Trailer parks or campgrounds
- Cars, parks, and abandoned buildings
- Emergency or transitional shelters

Families are scared and they don't understand their rights or what resources are available to them.

Leanne spoke about the [McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act](#) that was reauthorized the intent is to provide stability access and support for homeless children and you including preschool aged children. California has aligned a lot of their educational codes in the last then years to follow the Federal law, however, they haven't backed it up with any financial assistance.

Leanne stated that there is a homeless liaison at every school district and every county office and at every direct charter that you can coordinate with. There is a list online but Leanne lwheeler@cde.ca.gov can assist if you need help locating your [local liaison](#).

When children must leave their school due to homelessness, they can lose 4-6 months of academic process. McKinney-Vento is helpful because LEAs and preschool programs are required to continue the child's education in the school of origin for the duration of their homelessness.

A list of all homeless liaisons, as well as county offices of education (COEs) can be found on the CDE Homeless Education web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/>.

The homeless liaisons are responsible for identifying infants, toddlers, and preschool age students that are homeless. They are responsible for heling to serve and support these kids.

Posters can be accessed at the California Department of Education (CDE) Resources for Homeless Children and Youth web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/cy/> You can also obtain free Spanish and English posters by contacting the CDE Homeless Education Program by email at HomelessED@cde.ca.gov

Outreach is so important. Your homeless liaison can help you to initiate interagency communication and collaboration. Building awareness through training staff. There are training modules available on the website.

Incorporate questions on housing status on enrollment applications. Housing Questionnaire can be accessed at the CDE Resources for Homeless Children and Youth web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/cy/>.

[California Early Care and Education Resource Guide](#) This HETAC resource outlines key California early care and education (ECE) programs and shares information with California homeless liaisons and service providers on how to connect families experiencing homelessness to needed ECE supports.

[Local Early Care and Education Programs: A Resource for Families in Transition](#)

This resource outlines key California ECE programs and shares information with parents and caregivers about how to help their children access needed ECE supports. It also is customizable to the local community context and is intended to serve as a companion resource to the HETAC's [California Early Care and Education Resource Guide](#)

CDE Homeless Education web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/> and our general email is HomelessED@cde.ca.gov

Public Input

Yvette Baptiste shared a story of a family that became homeless that had 3 children in South LA made the referral to SCLARC but the father was concerned about getting off the streets and he wasn't interested in services. She went on to say, referring to Leanne's presentation, that the connection to other resources besides EI for homeless families is very helpful. The follow through is important

Robert Rochin-Director FRCNCA reports they hosted a webinar training on the Mind the Gap live binder presented by Alvin Stammer-Director of University Center on Developmental Disabilities. The webinar was an overview of the Mind Institute's Mind the Gap project, and it included a tour of the public access live binder which can be used to support families. They hold a bi-monthly directors check in which provides an opportunity for our directors to check in and support each other. Thanks to Maricris for participating in our last one and sharing information on the changes to Early Start eligibility. Also, we are gearing up to offer professional development training schedule on standards of quality for family strengthening and support. We will be offering two-day trainings in the spring.

Kate Movius-LA Found Task Force established to help locate individuals who go missing who have ID, autism, Alzheimer's, and dementia. She is the mother of an autistic young man who has wandered and gone missing several times in his lifetime. Reports she is here to advocate on behalf of families who require supports for this time of potentially fatal behavior. It's never too early to start laying down the foundations for these families for behavioral supports in the home as well as in the community. Including things like access to swimming lessons as drowning is a high risk for these individuals. Would like to return in January to give a presentation on Wandering Prevention and how to reach out to families to prevent tragedy.

****LUNCH BREAK****

Subcommittee Reports

Improving State Systems-Fran Chasen/Suzanne Sherinian co-chairs currently there are three separate workgroups that are working on three areas that have been deemed a priority: Children and Families, Regional Center and Vendors, Laws and Regulations. Some of the highlights from the discussions were the topics of Service Access and

Equity, the lack of providers for children with low incidence disabilities like blindness or low vision, how to become more resource aware. Having a quality workforce is a huge issue, recruitment and retention, the Early Start personnel manual needs an update. Thinking about how we can reach college students and show them that Early Intervention is a field that they might be interested in pursuing for their career. Also discussed what laws and regulations that are causing roadblocks for families and maybe providers from accessing appropriate, equitable, high-quality services.

Communications Committee-Linda Landry/Doug Erber chairs want to look at the composition of the ICC the appointed members who are voting members and the community members who are trusted advisors. Says we have a lot of work to do and meeting four times a year is not enough. We are going to survey the ICC to find out the demographics including geographic location of members so that recruitment is focused on underrepresented areas. Linda brought up an outreach distribution list and Fran said that they should just reach out to our partner organizations to get their updated contacts. Teresa Anderson also mentioned a list of associations that they would like to reach out to as well.

Yvette Baptiste asked DDS for a better system to track action items and documents that are generated by the ICC. She says when she is at home, she wants to be able to access an online resource where this information is readily available and accessible to members. Marie Kanne Poulsen suggested an ICC SharePoint, Angela McGuire reports that WestEd did have a drop box folder, but it wasn't easily accessible. Maricris said that DDS could create a SharePoint so that the knowledge isn't lost when people leave the ICC. Fran Chasen mentioned perhaps using Google Docs. Maricris says that they need to be conscious of Bagley Keene when working outside of the public meeting space. Linda requested a presentation on the recently revised Early Start materials at the next meeting.

Darby's Legacy-Teresa Anderson/Linda Landry co-chairs shared the document that they worked on the last two and half years. "*Best Practices When Serving Families with Infants and Toddlers Who are Medically Fragile*". This is designed to be a very user friendly, family friendly, professional friendly document. Gives professionals a way to talk to families and how families may need to talk to professionals to find a good partnership to best serve the child and the family. This document is designed to serve as a step-by-step guide for families and professional s that explains the whole system of existing resources and how to link to the services, with an emphasis on family-centered care. Thanked Darby's family for bringing this issue to the ICC and helping to reminder the community on how to better serve children like Darby. Teresa requested that the ICC read the document and share it with their networks and that the ICC Communications Committee can come up with a plan for outreach and distribution of this information. Their hope is that it becomes a living document that is available online and that can be updated as necessary.

Public Input

Yvette talked about an upcoming webinar- OCRA African-American Conference

Shanice Orum-DSS talked about next week being [lead awareness week](#) and how they have joined the campaign to disseminate information in partnership with the Department of Public Health on the impact of lead on young children. DSS has a vested interest in this topic because they have implemented a law that requires lead testing in their childcare facilities. Also talked about raising awareness around the rainbow fentanyl crisis.

Recap and Closing Remarks

Marie thanked everyone for their input and mentioned that the ICC will be revisiting their strategic plan that was interrupted by Covid. Also, that if members have ideas for presentations and/or topics for upcoming meetings to email Marcy Okada.