

**Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention
Children and Families Workgroup
Monday, March 6, 2023
Zoom Meeting
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Welcome and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 11:11 a.m. Introductions were made and roll call was conducted.

Review of Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

Continue Workgroup Discussion from ICC Meeting on 1/19/23

- Yvette Baptiste recapped the following for the Families & Children workgroup of the ICC's Improving State Systems Subcommittee:
 - The RCs & Vendors workgroup is focusing on having qualified personnel to provide services.
 - The Laws & Regs workgroup is focusing on having qualified personnel in attendance at IFSP meetings and having physicians sign IFSPs to activate medical necessity status for Early Start services.
 - This workgroup will work on “trauma” related to Covid-19. A suggestion was made about surveying parents of children with Solely low incidence (SLI) disabilities over the next year to determine the roadblocks encountered due to the pandemic as well as how did pandemic impact the language and social learning of children.
- There was a discussion among the workgroup regarding who will do what on this topic.
- The following questions were discussed among the group members: What changes to the system need to be made to catch children up to speed? Can the group find a speaker to address this topic? Could a white paper be produced based on the results of the parent survey? Can the workgroup pull together a list of all the new programs that the Governor instituted post-Covid-19? What has the system put in place to address these issues?
- The workgroup returned to their original intent and determined that surveying how Covid-19 impacted parents as well as how social-emotional learning was impacted in a major way due to isolation and receiving all services through Zoom. Basic needs were a big issue early in the pandemic. The survey could be conducted by the Family Resource Centers (FRCs) and if the group receives good responses statewide, they can propose changes. Having FRCs administer the survey would likely bring a stronger connection between FRCs and local educational agencies (LEAs).
- The workgroup members also discussed how they need to be careful about how they use the term “trauma.”
- A question was raised about the Deaf specialists at local and their role. Lisa Gonzales mentioned that she and other specialists were recently flown to Sacramento for a two-day leadership training.
- The workgroup can also rely on the regional centers' Deaf specialists, and they have a new connection with CA Deaf-Blind Services (Julie Maier).

- From the workgroup's discussion, Yvette Baptiste announced that the focus will be on the impact of Covid-19 on all children, including children with SLI disabilities. A proposal will be written up to share for the next ICC meeting.

Finalize "Next Steps" for Action Plan

- The workgroup discussed the following items as next steps:
 - Need to stay focused on the original idea and make sure that the workgroup is moving forward.
 - A survey will enable the workgroup to gather useful information; it seems to be a very good first step.
 - Relying on Deaf specialists would also be a good idea. The workgroup could have the Deaf specialists present to their local FRCs to start the conversation and a presentation could also be provided to the ICC.
 - Determine how to promote ASL as being for many children, not just Deaf and Hard of Hearing children.
- Yvette Baptiste summarized for those workgroup members who joined the meeting late and informed them that the group needs to arrive at a consensus about our next steps.

Member Assignment

A statement capturing the below next steps will be prepared and the workgroup's objective will be shared at the next ICC meeting.

- Survey families through FRCs, LEAs, and other groups involved.
- Find out what parents see as the challenges.
- Identify new initiatives that may be supported.
- Identify gaps that may still exist.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Community Members Present

Crystal Perez
Felicia Ford
Laurie Jordan
Samantha Hebermehl
Yvette Baptiste

DDS

Hilda Jimenez
Lisa Gonzales

WestEd

Ross Adams