

STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC) ON
EARLY INTERVENTION

APRIL MEETING PACKET



Meeting Dates and Times

April 18, 2024
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

April 19, 2024
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



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Additional materials can be found on our website at:

[State Interagency Coordinating Council \(ICC\) on Early Intervention Overview - CA Department of Developmental Services](#)

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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

(* denotes parent of a child with a disability)

Name	Composition	Email Address	Phone
Ashley Franklin (for Kim Johnson)	DSS	Ashley.Franklin@dss.ca.gov	(916) 214-5711
Doug Erber*	Parent/Autism Partnership Foundation	dougerber@hotmail.com	(310) 965-9050
Leanne Wheeler	Agency Rep/CDE Homeless Children	lwheeler@cde.ca.gov	(916) 319-0383
Maricris Acon (For Nancy Bargmann)	Agency Rep/DDS Early Intervention Services	maricris.acon@dds.ca.gov	(916) 654-2250
Marie Kanne Poulsen	Personnel/Preparation Chair	mpoulsen@chla.usc.edu	(323) 361-3819
Michelle Dove	Agency Rep/Head Start	mdove@kcao.org	(559) 362-5629
Pamela Riley	DHCS	Pamela.Riley@dhcs.ca.gov	(916) 204-0055
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Suzanne Sherinian (For Mary Watanabe)	Agency Rep/DMHC Health Care	suzanne.sherinian@dmhc.ca.gov	(916) 255-2391



Interagency Coordinating Council Community Representatives

(* denotes parent of a child with a disability)

Name	Representation	Email Address	Phone
Amy Hansen	Easter Seals Superior California	amyh2@myeasterseals.org	(916) 679-3142
Ana Aragon*	Parent	miss.anav@gmail.com	(626) 343-0131
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Lucero Irizarry	CAEYC Board Member	ecementor@gmail.com	(951) 323-3670
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Yvette O. Baptiste*	Parent/Eastern LA FRC	ybaptiste@elafr.net	(626) 300-9171



Interagency Coordinating Council Support Staff

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Instructions for Joining Remotely for the ICC Meeting

The ICC Meeting will be online via Zoom. Register by clicking the links below.

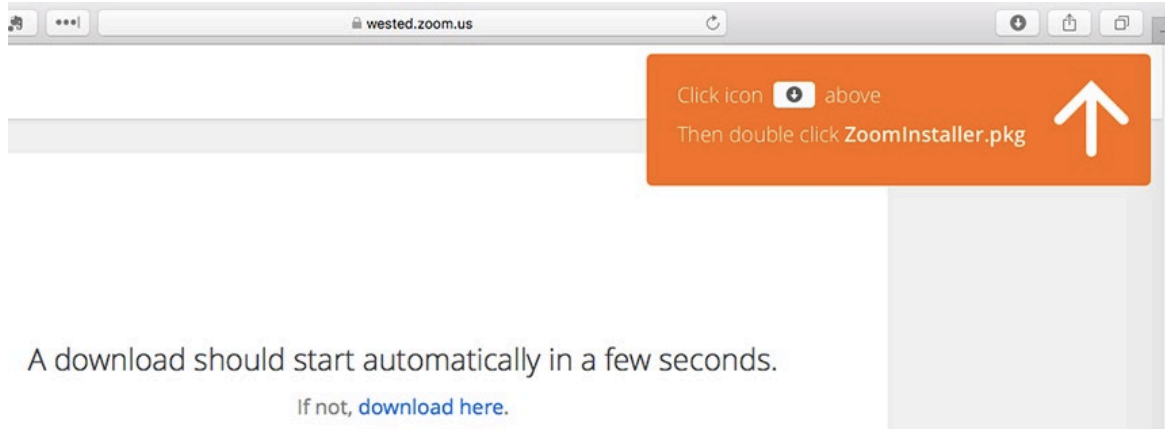
Click on the following hyperlink to [Register Here for Day 1](#) (9 am to 4:30 pm)

Click on the following hyperlink to [Register Here for Day 2](#) (9 am to 12:30 pm)

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.



Join with computer audio or phone

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.



April ICC Agenda

ICC Meeting Agenda (Day One) Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Zoom Link: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Date: April 18, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom

The order in which agenda items are considered may be subject to change. Public comment will be taken as part of the meeting on both days. Prior to making your comments, please state your name for the record and identify any group or organization you represent. Depending on the number of individuals wishing to speak, the facilitators may establish specific time limits on comments.

Agenda Items	Facilitator/Presenter
(9:00-9:20) Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Housekeeping Items/Zoom Instructions • Introductions/Roll Call • Review Agenda • Approval of the Minutes • Review of ICC Mission and Purpose, and Theme of Meeting: All About Language • Part C Literacy Article: "PREVERBAL SKILLS: The Skills Your Baby Develops BEFORE Talking" 	Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair DJ Tomko, DDS
(9:20-9:40) Family Testimonial <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions and Answers (10 minutes) 	Samantha Hebermehl
(9:40-10:00) DDS Updates and Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions and Answers (10 minutes) 	DDS
(10:00-10:15) Break	



<p>(10:15-11:30) Presentation: What is California Doing to Improve Early Language Opportunities for Deaf Infants and Young Children?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions and Answers (10-15 minutes) 	<p>Dr. Julie Rems-Smario and Dr. Nancy Hilbok Amann</p>
<p>(11:30-12:00) Voices from the Field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infant Development Association of California • California Disability Community Action Network • FRCNCA • Questions and Answers (5 minutes per presenter) 	<p>Robin Millar Marty Omoto Ana Seda</p>
<p>(12:00-1:00) Lunch</p>	
<p>(1:00-2:10) Presentation: Hanen Programs: Best Practice in Involving Parents and Caregivers in the Child’s Early Language Intervention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Questions and Answers (10 minutes) 	<p>Elaine Weitzman</p>
<p>(2:10-2:25) Public Input</p>	<p>DJ Tomko and Marie Poulsen</p>
<p>(2:25-2:30) Announcement of Committee Composition and Goals</p>	<p>DJ Tomko, DDS</p>
<p>(2:30-4:30) Committee Meetings</p>	<p>Improving State Systems Communications & Outreach</p>



ICC Meeting Agenda (Day Two)

Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Zoom Link: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Date: April 19, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom

The order in which agenda items are considered may be subject to change. Public comment will be taken as part of the meeting on both days. Prior to making your comments, please state your name for the record and identify any group or organization you represent. Depending on the number of individuals wishing to speak, the facilitators may establish specific time limits on comments.

Agenda Items	Facilitator/Presenter
<p>(9:00-9:20) Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Housekeeping Items/Zoom Instructions • Introductions/Roll Call • Review Agenda • Review of Previous Day's Agenda • Review of ICC Mission, Purpose, and Theme 	<p>Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair</p> <p>DJ Tomko, DDS</p>
<p>(9:20-10:20) ICC Council Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates by ICC Council Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Questions and Answers 	<p>Ashley Franklin - Dept. of Social Services Leanne Wheeler - CDE Homeless Education Nancy Bargmann - Dept. of Developmental Services Michelle Dove - Head Start Agency Pamela Riley - Dept. of Health Care Services Sarah Neville-Morgan - CDE Preschool Services Shanice Orum - Dept. of Social Services Susan Ducore - Indian Health Care Suzanne Sherinian - Dept. of Managed Health</p>
<p>(10:20-10:30) Break</p>	



<p>(10:30-11:30) Presentation: Prelinguistic Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions and Answers (10 minutes) 	<p>Anne Davis</p>
<p>(11:30-12:00) Committee Reports & Approval for Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Questions and Answers (5 minutes) • Communications and Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Questions and Answers (5 minutes) 	<p>Improving Systems Committee Communications and Outreach Committee</p>
<p>(12:00-12:20) Public Input</p>	
<p>12:20-12:30) Recap & Closing Remarks</p>	<p>Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair</p>

April ICC Committee Agendas (April 18th)

Improving State Systems Agenda

Date: April 18, 2024
Time: 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Location: Zoom

The order in which agenda items are considered may be subject to change. Public comment will be taken as part of the committee meeting. Prior to making your comments, please state your name for the record and identify any group or organization you represent. Depending on the number of individuals wishing to speak, the facilitators may establish specific time limits on comments.



Agenda Items	Facilitator
(2:30-2:50) Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Introductions/Roll Call • Housekeeping Items • Review of Agenda 	Committee Co-Chairs
(2:50-3:00) Updates from Committee Co-Chairs	Committee Co-Chairs
(3:00- 4:10) Committee Priority Setting	WestEd & Committee Co-Chairs
(4:10 – 4:20) Public Input	DDS
(4:20-4:30) Next Steps	Committee Co-Chairs

Communications & Outreach Committee Agenda

Date: April 18, 2024
Time: 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Location: Zoom

Agenda Items	Facilitator
(2:30-2:40) Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Introductions/Roll Call • Housekeeping Items • Review of Agenda 	Committee Co-Chairs
(2:40-2:50) Updates from Committee Co-Chairs	Committee Co-Chairs
(2:50- 4:00) Review and finalize updated ICC Survey	WestEd & Committee Co-Chairs
(4:00 – 4:15) Public Input	DDS
(4:15-4:30) Next Steps	Committee Co-Chairs



January ICC Meeting Minutes

Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention
Thursday, January 18, 2024
Zoom Conference Call
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Link to Zoom Recording: [January ICC Meeting - Day 1 Zoom](#)

Opening

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Dr. Poulsen expressed gratitude for all council members, WestEd, Alta California Regional Center, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), and community members for their attendance.

Housekeeping Items

DJ Tomko reviewed housekeeping procedures for Zoom and in-person participants. Zoom instructions, ASL/Spanish interpreter instructions, and meeting etiquette were reviewed.

Roll Call

The roll call was conducted by Mr. Tomko.

Review Agenda

Dr. Poulsen reviewed the agenda. No changes were made to the agenda.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve was unintelligible but acknowledged by Chair. Doug Erber seconded.

Review of ICC Mission, Purpose, and Theme of Meeting

Dr. Poulsen reviewed the mission and vision of the ICC; the theme of this month's meeting is Family Guided Early Intervention.

Part C Literacy

[Mediating Parent Learning to Promote Social Communication for Toddlers with Autism: Effects from a Randomized Control Trial](#), by H. Schertz, S. Odom, K. Baggett, and J. Sideris



This publication provides evidence regarding the effectiveness of parent-guided social communication in enhancing targeted outcomes of toddlers with autism - in their capacity for eye gaze to initiate and respond to engagement with others and in their capacity to return smiles, take turns, imitate, and point to an object.

Dr. Poulsen spoke on the research that provides evidence that autism intervention's success for babies and toddlers is most effective when provided through family-guided intervention. A major concern is that thorough language evaluations including pre-verbal social communication may not occur until 18-24 months, although best practice is to provide a thorough language evaluation during infancy. Dr. Poulsen invited programs who are doing early assessment to share their experiences with the Council.

DDS Updates and Information – Maricris Acon and Reyna Ambriz

DDS Updates

Ms. Acon shared data on Early Start caseloads and referrals. The number of children referred to Early Start has decreased by about 16% since this time last year, though it is still higher than pre-COVID referral numbers. In Southern California we saw an increase over 30% compared to November 2022. Early Start caseloads have doubled over 10 years with Hispanic/Latino children representing 45% of all children receiving Early Start services. Asian children represent the largest growth in racial groups receiving Early Start services with an increase of 80% over the last decade. Additionally, the number of children served per month has increased by 13% compared to November 2022, and the average age of children receiving Early Start services is 27.3 months.

ARPA Updates

Ms. Ambriz reminded the Council that DDS received American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for regional center pilot projects to promote service access and equity in Early Start. Pilots are ongoing until November 2024. Ms. Ambriz shared the following updates about ongoing pilot projects:

Alta California Regional Center's pilot program focuses on recruiting providers and increasing the availability of the provider network that reflects cultural and language needs. Alta representatives provided an in-depth presentation on this pilot at the July ICC meeting.

Lanterman Regional Center is also focusing on recruitment. In collaboration with the Special Needs Network, the pilot program focuses on training, targeted outreach and recruitment efforts, and engaging community partners to facilitate job placement of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) Early Intervention providers.

DDS is developing an interactive map of early childhood resources to better connect families with resources in their zip codes. After additional feedback and additional recommendations, we intend to launch the application and make it available on the DDS website.

San Andreas Regional Center and Central Valley Regional Center are piloting a technology lending library to increase delivery of services to families who do not have technology equipment and/or reside in rural communities. Currently they're serving 145 families and more incoming referrals are expected until November of 2024.



Additionally, Ms. Ambriz made two announcements:

The Early Start January 2024 newsletter has been published on the DDS website here: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/services/early-start/early-start-publications-resources-and-program-guidance/online-resources/>.

The Early Start Partners Symposium (ESPS), a professional development event for Early Start personnel, is taking place from July 17-18, 2024, in Berkeley, CA. Dr. Valerie Williams, Director of the Office of Special Education Programs, will be the keynote speaker.

Questions:

Rennie Saltzman, Easterseals in Sacramento, asked what specialties are being recruited for the internship program.

Ms. Ambriz will provide that information.

Yvette Baptiste, Executive Director of the Eastern Los Angeles Family Resource Center, asked if DDS has a plan to address delays in children and families receiving assessments to determine eligibility for services under the Lanterman Act at age three.

Ms. Acon responded that this is a priority for the Department. There is a change in state statute that would standardize the way intakes are processed across the state, which they hope will improve transition processes.

Marty Omoto, a dad and a family member, and also CD CAN CA Disability Community Action Network California, asked if there will be an update on the proposed governor's budget and its impact on Early Start.

Dr. Poulsen replied that DDS Director Nancy Bargmann will be presenting on this tomorrow during the council reports.

DDS Quality Incentive Program – Leslie Morrison

Ms. Morrison provided a background summary of the Quality Incentive Program (QIP). From July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, through the QIP, regional center vendors receive \$300 incentives for each initial intervention service for children less than three years old and their families that starts within 31 days of the purchase of service (POS) authorization. DDS will instruct regional centers to issue incentive payments for each eligible service every quarter directly to the vendor. LEAs are not included in this program, only vendors in the rate study going through the adjustment process.

Questions:

Julie Mole asked if this program is just for services with an 805 service code.

Ms. Morrison replied that this program applies to all intervention services provided to children and families under the age of three.

Pablo Velez asked how to handle regional centers who "lump" services together in a purchase of service (POS).

Ms. Morrison responded that DDS will be starting with each service that was delivered if the authorization meets the requirements – in other words, multiple services on one authorization will be picked up by the data system. When data was tested, 90% of services are starting within 31 days.



Ms. Morrison reviewed the focus area and how success measures were developed. DDS will be providing trainings and developing FAQs for vendored service providers. Yvette Baptiste asked how this program can be sustained after the funding ends. Ms. Morrison stated they hope to continue this program through the implementation of the rate adjustment process and improvement measures.

Presentation: Autism in the DDS System – Dr. Lauren Libero

Dr. Libero from DDS provided an overview of individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) within DDS programs. ASD accounts for 49% of all Lanterman diagnoses and has only increased since 2016. ASD will soon overtake intellectual disabilities as the largest diagnosis served. DDS has seen a 157% increase in total ASD caseload since 2013 especially among individuals under 22. Individuals who are Hispanic comprise 41% of ASD cases. Reviews the statistics of autism caseload by race/ethnicity, 11 percent are Asian, seven percent are African- American, 41% are Hispanic, 26% are white, and 15% are “Other”.

Dr. Libero then provided statistics on system entry:

1 in 5 children in Early Start will require lifelong services.

50% of children with ASD served by regional centers previously participated in Early Start.

60% of those transitioning to Lanterman services have an ASD diagnosis.

This indicates that California is doing much better at identifying ASD in Early Start services.

Dr. Libero described the role of the newly established Autism Services Branch (ASB) of DDS as being to build statewide capacity and expertise to meet the needs of those diagnosed with ASD. ASB engages in research, policy, programming, outreach, training, technical assistance, and community engagement. Dr. Libero introduced the five members of the branch.

Questions:

Dr. Paulsen asked: what percent of Early Start infants have ASD diagnoses?

Dr. Libero estimated around 10% that transition to Lanterman.

Dr. Paulsen commented that she would like to see more robust pre-verbal social communication assessments for babies under 1 year old.



Pablo Velez asked: if the children that are being diagnosed with autism are being tracked and mapped to identify relationships with environmental concerns. He asked why the population is rapidly increasing each year.

Dr. Libero responded that there are trends by catchment area and recommended a presentation from a UC Davis research team that is looking more at environmental factors.

Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation for Virginia Reynolds

Dr. Poulsen presented a certificate to Ms. Reynolds upon her retirement to honor her thirty years of caring support for infants, toddlers, and families and for her support of the ICC since its inception.

****BREAK****

Presentation: Annual Performance Report (APR) – Nathaniel Taleon

Mr. Taleon gave an overview of the FY 2022-23 APR, which is due to OSEP in February. He gave definitions of key terms found in the report and provided data for the performance indicators in the report.

Questions:

Lisa Schoyer asked for clarification of what “timely notification to the local educational agency (LEA)” means for Indicator 8B in the chat.

Stefanie Callori replied in the chat clarifying that this refers to the regional center notifying/sending a referral to the LEA where the child resides.

Michelle Oliver asked whether there is a penalty for not providing timely services if the POS hasn’t come in. Ms. Oliver also commented that communication to families about the transition process needs improvement.

Mr. Taleon clarified that “timely services” means services beginning within 45 days from consent for services. He mentioned resources available through DDS to further clarify for staff and families.

Voices from the Field



Infant Development Association of California (IDA) – Fran Chasen

Ms. Chasen shared that IDA's ninth annual policy update will occur on Monday January 22, 2024, to educate families and providers on the budget process. IDA will then develop next-step strategies on critical issues.

On May 20, IDA is hosting a webinar about the California budget revision process. Ms. Chasen reminded all present of the March 5 statewide election.

The Arc of California – Jim Frazier

Mr. Frazier was not present.

California Disability Community Action Network – Marty Omoto

Mr. Omoto encouraged participation in the development of a master plan for developmental services. He commented that this plan should address concerns of families, individuals, and providers of services to people with disabilities. Mr. Omoto also shared that there are two state budget hearings on January 23 and a hearing on the proposed Medicare waiver amendment that is open for public comment with public hearing on January 29. For more information on the Medicare waiver amendment go to <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Documents/Cont-Coverage-for-Kids-1115-Amendment-1-8-24.pdf>. Mr. Omoto explained that SB 805, signed by the Governor on October 8, expands criteria for qualified autism professionals. Mr. Omoto suggested that ICC members work with DDS to make sure their voices are heard in developing those regulations.

Family Resource Centers Network of California (FRCNCA) – Yvette Baptiste

Dr. Baptiste introduced Ana Seda, the new executive director. Robert Rochin serves in a new role as manager of the Education and Training Division. Dr. Baptiste introduced Victoria Berrey, Director of Family Focus Resource Center at Cal State University Northridge, who is facilitating parent leadership training to get more parents involved with ICC.

Review of Public Input Guidelines, Followed by Public Input

DJ Tomko invited comments first from in-person attendees.

Pablo Velez commented on the continued rise in the cost of living in California which is impacting service provision. He would like DDS to explore enabling asynchronous or telehealth intervention sessions to provide more flexibility for parents and families.

Patty Moore voiced a concern about referrals from pediatricians and other healthcare providers coming in far too late. Another concern is a trend for families who are resistant to developmental screenings or acting on referrals or assessments. There is a need to address the communication and messaging around developmental screenings and Early Start.

Dr. Libero from DDS commented to follow up about delays in receiving services. If a family experiences a delay of 60 days or more in receiving medical services, the regional center is authorized to pay for that service per Welfare and Institutions Code 4646.5.



Ann England shared about the California Autism Professional Training and Information Network (CAPTAIN), a 400-member, multiagency entity that promotes research-based, evidence-based practices for autism. CAPTAIN partners with UC Davis MIND Institute and represents California at the International Autism Conference.

Jacqui Knudsen reviewed results of a survey of caregivers whose children had a new specialty care appointment. 227 respondents reported that wait times for applied behavioral analysis (ABA) therapy is more than six months, which significantly impacts those children and their families. Survey results will be used for advocacy efforts.

****LUNCH BREAK****

Presentation: Five Public Policy Arguments for Parent-Implemented Autism Intervention Models: From Clinical Practice to Research to Statewide Implementation – Dr. Richard Solomon

Shana Wirth, training director, co-presented with Dr. Solomon. They presented an autism-specific model for providing early intervention services which is play-based, relationship-based, parent-implemented, and supported by public policy.

The presentation began with statistics on autism prevalence in 2024 and the need for intensive intervention for young children with ASD, which ideally begins as soon as signs of ASD appear (e.g., around 18 months old). The presentation also defined parent-implemented models (PIM) and shared research to support these models.

The PLAY Project Model trains a global network of pediatric professionals and child development experts (“consultants”) to provide parent-implemented, autism-specific intervention. Consultants coach parents to use daily PLAY methods and techniques during regular daily routines as well as play time. Dr. Solomon concluded by sharing the research into PLAY Project over the course of several years. As compared to control groups, PLAY participants report improved child-parent interactions; less depression and anxiety of caregivers; improved attention, persistence, involvement, initiation, and compliance outcomes; and a decrease in the severity of autism symptoms.

Questions and comments:

Michelle Oliver appreciated the clarification of how much parent time is required and noted that early intervention requires more than an hour a week of intervention.

Yvette Baptiste offered a parent perspective that some providers do not implement approaches with fidelity.

Dr. Solomon agrees that fidelity is important, and this model provides transparency about consultants getting feedback on their coaching.

Elena Bramble asked how one can get trained.

Dr. Solomon provided details about training on the website (<https://playproject.org/>).

The next intensive workshop is online from February 7 to 28, 2024.

Michelle Dove, Head Start Child Development Director, commented this would be a powerful model in Head Start.



Dr. Solomon agreed and shared that there is a training program for teachers. Pablo Velez supported incorporating this model statewide to address the lack of early intervention supports for Hispanic families for whom ABA doesn't work. Reyna Ambriz reminded everyone that PLAY Project training is eligible for reimbursement by regional centers for completion by service providers, through the Early Start Providers Training Initiative.

Announcement of Committee Composition and Goals

Mr. Tomko provided a brief overview of the purpose of the subcommittees and provided instructions for the groups to meet.

Subcommittee Meetings

Meeting of the whole was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.; committees met separately.

**** END OF DAY 1 ****

**Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention
Friday, January 19, 2024
In-Person Meeting (with Zoom Option)
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Link to Recording: [January ICC Meeting - Day 2 Zoom](#)

Opening

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Dr. Poulsen thanked DDS, WestEd, and Alta Regional Center for supporting the meeting.

Housekeeping Items

Zoom instructions, ASL/Spanish interpreter instructions, and meeting etiquette were reviewed by DJ Tomko.

Roll Call

Roll call was conducted.



Review Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

Review of ICC Mission, Purpose, and Theme

This month's theme is Family Guided Early Intervention.

Review of Previous Day's Agenda

Dr. Poulsen reviewed yesterday's agenda and announced that all presentation materials will be posted on the DDS ICC website.

Presentation – Engaging and Supporting Families in Early Intervention Services

Yvette Baptiste, Executive Director of the Eastern Los Angeles Family Resource Center and Chair of the Family Resource Centers Network of California

This presentation invited the ICC to reflect on what is needed to ensure parents are full partners in intervention practices.

Dr. Baptiste described two components of effective family engagement: trust and vulnerability. She noted that trust requires vulnerability, and shared Dr. Brene Brown's video framing vulnerability as courageous. Dr. Baptiste also proposed that partnership requires equality and shared obligations; she shared a number of strategies for developing effective partnerships.

Questions and comments from participants:

Nancy Grosz Sager commented that many Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing (DHH) families do not always feel supported by family resource centers (FRC), and wondered how to improve that perception.

Dr. Baptiste noted that funding for FRCs to hire appropriately trained staff to serve families of children with low-incidence disabilities such as hearing loss is inadequate; capacity needs to increase to improve outcomes overall.

Victoria Berrey, from Family Focus Resource Center, shared information about a project that specifically helps families who did not get a newborn hearing screening; its success has been based on being able to get funding for sign language experts.

Diane Storman, Family Resource Center Network of California, shared her successes



with working with families whose children are DHH and establishing trust with them.

Robert Bertine, Family Resource Center Network of California, goal of the presentation was to provide solutions and skills and processes for case management.

Michelle Oliver, Community Representative, acknowledged the need for constant reminders of relationship-building and suggested that the same principles are required for coaching. She suggested ARPA funds go toward ongoing training on coaching and relationship-building with families. She encouraged everyone to try reaching out to county programs to support families of children who are DHH. She asked whether there is still funding for a DHH support person at regional centers.

Marty Omoto, Father and sibling of family members with developmental disabilities, agreed that there is a need for regular reminders of partnership-building skills, particularly around vulnerability. Mr. Omoto shared personal experiences with needing that trust when advocating for his own son and sister.

Samantha Hebermehl, Parent Representative, shared a parent's perspective of how exhausting it is to have to be vulnerable, and how violating it feels to have your own expertise of your child questioned.

Julie Rems-Smario, California School for the Deaf Representative, commented to emphasize the importance of language services and noted that many Deaf & Hard of Hearing (DHH) children are not receiving those services.

Jacqui Knudsen, Family Resource Center Network of California, went on to share information about an ARPA pilot project to increase parent awareness and participation in the ICC through outreach, recruitment, and incentives. This is crucial to develop true partnerships with parents in state and local advocacy work. There will be participants from this project at the April's 2024 ICC meeting.

Victoria Berrey, Director of the Family Focus Resource Center, shared an effort to convene a local group of parents in Antelope Valley to become more involved in FRCs and ICC work.

****BREAK****

Video: Family Testimonials and Stories – DJ Tomko, DDS

DJ Tomko shared a video from San Diego Regional Center portraying family experiences with the regional center as a result of targeted outreach activities to provide information and access to Early Start for non-English speaking families.



Comments from participants:

Pablo Velez reminded the group to use culturally appropriate practices and approaches within the child find system.

Patty Moore, parent and Director for Help Me Grow, agreed that how Early Start professionals communicate and respond within child find efforts is so important to families. Yvette Baptiste added on to the last two comments about the impact of outreach efforts

Yvette Baptiste, reiterated the support for rethinking how to do outreach.

ICC Council Reports

Department of Social Services – Ashley Franklin

Ms. Franklin was not present.

California Department of Education (CDE), Homeless Education – Karmina Barrales

Ms. Barrales shared that CDE is in a new cycle of Education for Homeless Children and Youth grants to support McKinney-Vento Act. A Request for Applications was announced in November 2023, and they are due March 7, 2024. Applications were sent to districts and county offices of education to support connecting educational services to unhoused populations. Through ARPA funds, there was money set aside to fund homeless education technical assistance centers (HETAC) within three county offices. CDE and HETAC will be hosting the Statewide Homeless Education Conference from May 8–10, 2024, in San Diego.

Head Start Agency – Michelle Dove

Ms. Dove shared that Head Start recently released a notice of proposed rulemaking on changes to performance standards. The proposed revisions include a request for clearer federal requirements on wages and benefits, better integration of mental health into all levels of programming, and enhanced standards in other service areas to promote quality improvement (e.g., caseloads, promoting child safety, testing for lead in water and paint at facilities). Head Start also wants to identify barriers to program attendance.

Ms. Dove also shared that there are concerns about under-enrollment in Head Start and encourage continued partnership with Early Start for identification and screening.



Department of Health Care Services – Pamela Riley

Ms. Riley was not present.

Department of Public Health (DPH) – Richard Olney

Mr. Olney was not present.

Department of Social Services (CDSS) – Shanice Orum

Ms. Orum reported that the Community Care Licensing programs have the capacity to serve over one million children in homes and childcare centers with over 21 regional offices across the state and over 400 staff. CDSS recently put on an event to engage licensees and families to promote inclusive settings and environments. They are working to implement a key piece of legislation, AB 605, that allows more flexibility for licensees to better address child needs. CDSS is also working on implementing AB 2827, which allows the department to write directives for children with exceptional needs to use the same outdoor play spaces as non-disabled children without a special waiver.

Michelle Oliver wondered if a childcare setting is on a school campus, are districts still not allowing joint use of a playground?

Ms. Orum answered that this is specific to the district to understand why they are disallowing this and who has oversight authority. Written directives are needed and are being developed.

Edyth Gallardo asked if there will be consideration for assisting with funding for specialized equipment on shared playgrounds?

Ms. Orum reported there was some funding released for those purposes.

Alberto Orellana agreed and believes that LEAs will release some money for renovation funds. The Childcare Development Division has a renovation and repair grant available.

Department of Developmental Services (DDS) – Nancy Bargmann

Ms. Bargmann provided an overview of the Governor's proposed budget, including:
overall increases to support higher caseloads,



the projected growth in caseloads due to provisional eligibility, a proposed change to the implementation date of the provider rate reform.

Ms. Bargmann also shared updates regarding the development of an external-facing provider directory, funding for access to social recreation and camping, and training stipends for direct service providers.

Finally, Ms. Bargmann announced that the development of a DDS Master Plan is underway.

Questions and comments:

Yvette Baptiste remarked that developing a master plan is very difficult and that the FRCs will be available to assist in any way.

Pablo Velez commented on the continued increase of cost of living in California and the difficulty of hiring qualified service providers. He encouraged DDS to remember this when negotiating budgets and master plans.

Fran Chasen shared concerns about delays in master planning because funding for providers is not available, especially as caseloads rise.

Marty Omoto reminded the ICC that the budget undergoes a series of steps before approval, so things can and likely will change before May.

Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) – Suzanne Sherinian

Ms. Sherinian shared some examples of how DMHC assists families in accessing the care they need and reminded the ICC that they are there to handle consumer-provider complaints. DMHC launched a new website (<https://www.dmhca.ca.gov/>) designed to improve user experience, making it easier and more accessible to file complaints.

California Department of Education (CDE) – Alberto Orellana

Mr. Orellana shared that CDE offers a Supporting Inclusive Practices grant to increase opportunities for students with disabilities ages 3-22 to meaningfully participate in the least restrictive environment. The grant provides training, website, and technical assistance to LEAs.

CDE also received funding to develop parent-friendly resources around the transition process.

Patty Moore asked how CDE will be collaborating with local communities to develop the parent-friendly resources.

Mr. Orellana shared that having this resource in multiple languages is the goal, and



community collaboration is the first step in the development of this resource.

Indian Health Services (IHS) – Susan Ducore

Ms. Ducore announced the [healthcare best practices conference](#) and sought input from providers. The conference will be held May 20-23, 2024 in Sacramento and is the first face-to-face gathering since COVID.

Committee Reports and Approval for Projects

Improving State Systems Committee – Fran Chasen

Ms. Chasen shared updates from the three workgroups of the Improving State Systems Committee:

Children and Families is a work in progress with a goal to develop a survey for parents to address systems issues.

Laws and Regulations is making a suggestion to the chair that a variety of presentations might be considered (e.g., information regarding the Early and Periodic Screening, Detection, and Treatment program, children with low-incidence disabilities, outreach to consumer affairs licensing process, and information related to waivers).

Regional Centers and Vendors group requested approval of a recommendation to move forward with revising the Early Start Personnel Manual. Michelle Dove so moved, and Susan Ducore seconded the motion. Roll call was performed to confirm approval. The recommendation was approved.

An interim meeting of the Improving State Systems committee will be held on February 27, 2024 to fine tune priorities.

Communications and Outreach Committee – Doug Erber

Mr. Erber, Parent representing Development Association and serving as Co-Chair of the Communications Outreach Committee, requested approval of the Committee's three goals: to increase diversity and representation on ICC by disseminating a survey, to develop a dissemination plan for the Darby's Legacy resource, and to develop orientation materials and a mentorship program for new ICC members.

Michelle Dove so moved; Susan Ducore seconded. Roll call was conducted to vote. The request was approved.

Public Input

DJ Tomko reviewed public input guidelines.



Lisa Schoyer advocated for adding crisis prevention planning to IFSPs.

Kathy Hickenbotham asked: When it comes to testing newborn babies' blood at certain intervals, is private insurance required? Is there any follow up on blood tests for lead? Is this something that comes up in Early Start?

Approval of 2024 ICC meeting dates

Dr. Poulsen proposed a motion to approve the following future ICC meetings dates: April 18-19, 2024; August 1-2, 2024; October 17-18, 2024; and January 16-17, 2025. Maricris Acon so moved, and the motion was seconded by Doug Erber. Roll call was conducted for approval. The dates were approved.

Recap and Closing Remarks

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

**** END OF DAY 2 ****

MEETING ATTENDEES

**Thursday, January 18, 2024
Day 1**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Douglas Erber	Leanne Wheeler	Susan Ducore
Maricris Acon	Michelle Dove	Suzanne Sherinian
Marie Poulsen	Shanice Orum	

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ashley Franklin	Pamela Riley
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COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Apple Sepulveda	Laurie Jordan	Penelope Knapp
Debbie Sarmiento	Dr. Penny Knapp	Robert Rochin
Samantha Hebermehl	Lindsay Crain	Robin Millar
Edyth Gallardo	Lisa Schoyer	Patricia Moore
Elena Bramble	Marty Omoto	Shan Chan
Fran Chasen	Michelle Oliver	Sheri Farinha
Gayatri Mahajan	Nancy Sager	Yvette Baptiste



Virginia Reynolds
Julie Maier
Ana Aragon

Pablo Velez
Patricia Moore
Jeffri Brookfield

Rachel Hagans
Jazmine Blackman
June Ursini

DDS STAFF PRESENT

Cathy Schulze
Anne De Medeiros
Catherine Schulze
John Knight
Cristina Tsuji
DJ Tomko
Erin Paulson-Brady
Hilda Jimenez
JJ Fernandez
Linda Gutierrez
Kel Avila
Frances Chacon
Annie Drinkwater-
Wright

John Knight
Josh Sudarma
Esteban Ortiz
Lauren Libero
Lisa Gonzales
Marcy Okada
Matthew Harmetz
Nancy Chen
Nathaniel Taleon
Chynna Terwilliger
Sara Grijalva
Leslie Morrison
Amy Whiting

JJ Fernandez
Omari Smith
Reyna Ambriz
Ryan Digman
Sarah Yang
Shirley Chan
Stefanie Callori
Leah Dempsey
Xiaozhu Li
You Zhan
Matt Harmetz

WESTED STAFF PRESENT

Angela McGuire
Ross Adams

Jennifer Driver
Lilia Rodriguez

Rebecca Halpern

OTHERS PRESENT



Ana Elvia Sanchez
Cindy Nobles
Kizi Smith
Anaelvia Sanchez
Elizabeth Vega,
Cathy Hickenbotham
Diana Iuras
Elizabeth Jimenez-Winslow
David Manson
Alberto Orellana
Richard Solomon, MD
Cathy Hickenbotham
Cecilia Rideout
Rachel Edwards
Hope Beale
Christina Renteria
Matt Chesnut
Dulce Flores
Erika Witt
Jonathan Eckrich
Gilda Giron

Felipe Garcia
Josh Sudarma
Hannah Michaelson
Hillary Martinez
Janice Hinton
Jacqui Knudsen
Wendy Morrison
Sue Digre
Diane Storman
Katharyn Sinelli
Julie Eby-McKenzie
Kim Pierce
June Ursini
LaWanna Blair
Elizabeth Schmitt
Linda Thrift
Rennie Saltzman
Lowell Ens
Mahnaz Ehsan
Marc Gutierrez
Crystal Smith

Martha Ornelas-Cruz
Karmina Barrales
Kim Pierce
Linda Thrift
Nick Lutton
Olivia Hinojosa
Porsha Rasheed
Rachel Liebert Lewis
Saniyyah Rasheed
Sarah Sullivan
Shana Wirth
Shannen Cheng
Tara Sisemore Hester
Victoria Berrey
Teresa Anderson
Alex Rounds
Amy S
Ann England
Breanna Gatti
Anna Sega

MEETING ATTENDEES

**Friday, January 19, 2024
Day 2**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Douglas Erber
Suzanne Sherinian
Marie Poulsen

Michelle Dove
Shanice Orum

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ashley Franklin

Leanne Wheeler

Pamela Riley



COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Apple Sepulveda
Dr. Penny Knapp
Ana Aragon
Edyth Gallardo
Elena Bramble
Fran Chasen
Gayatri Mahajan
Rachel Hagans
Samantha Hebermehl
Julie Maier

Julie Rems-Smario
Laurie Jordan
Tara Sisemore-Hester
Lindsay Crain
Lisa Schoyer
Marty Omoto
Michelle Oliver
Nancy Sager
Pablo Velez
Patricia Moore

Penelope Knapp
Robert Rochin
Robin Millar
Yvette Baptiste
Shan Chan

DDS STAFF PRESENT

Nancy Bargman
Anne De Medeiros
Catherine Schulze
Reyna Ambriz
DJ Tomko
Erin Brady Paulsen
Hilda Jimenez
JJ Fernandez
Jim Knight
Sara Grijalva

John Knight
Esteban Ortiz
Lauren Libero
Lisa Gonzales
Chynna Terwilliger
Ednaline Francisco
Nancy Bargmann
Nathaniel Taleon
JJ Fernandez
Terquoia Bourne

Norma Salazar
Omari Smith
Lisa Gonzales
Ryan Digman
Melissa Averitt
Stefanie Callori
Wesley Roberson
Xiaozhu Li
You Zhan

WESTED STAFF PRESENT

Angela McGuire
Ross Adams

Jennifer Driver

Rebecca Halpern



OTHERS PRESENT

Jennifer Bloom
Alexis Bermudes
Ana Elvia Sanchez
Diane Storman
Victoria Berrey
Brookfield
Michelle Dove
Breanna Gatti
Cathy Hickenbotham
Cecilia Rideout
Virginia Reynolds
Alberto Orellana
Dulce Flores
Elizabeth Vega
Martha Ornelas-Cruz
Shelley Lawrence

Breanna Gatti
Christina Renteria
Crystal Smith
David Manson
Hannah Michaelson
Elizabeth Vega
Janice Hinton
Jacqui Knudsen
Jennifer Bloom
Elizabeth Jimenez-Winslow
Erika Witt
Frances Chacon
LaWanna Blair
Hope Beale
Nick Lutton
Wendy Morrison

Mahnaz Ehsan
Johana Caicedo
Julie Mo
Karmina Barrales
Kim Pierce
Kizi Smith
Olivia Hinojosa
Rachel Edwards
LaWanna Blair
Sarah Ramos
Leah Dempsey
Liliana McDonough
Marc Gutierrez
Matt Chesnut
Shannen Cheng
Weston Perry

