

STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC) ON
EARLY INTERVENTION

OCTOBER MEETING PACKET



Meeting Dates and Times

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

October 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
	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 Pete Cervinka)	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
Sarah Neville-Morgan (For Tony Thurmond)	Agency Rep/CDE Preschool Services	SNevilleMorgan@cde.ca.gov	(916) 319-0900
Shanice Orum (for Kim Johnson)	Agency Rep/DSS	Shanice.Orum@DSS.ca.gov	(916) 215-2973
Susan Ducore	Indian Health Service	susan.ducore@ihs.gov	(916) 930-3981
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
Asha Surles*	Parent	ashasurles@gmail.com	(910) 916-4897
Aviril Apple Sepulveda	Nurture Collective	apple@mynurturecollective.com	(714) 883-2798
Christina Nigrelli	Zero to Three	cnigrelli@zerotothree.org	(213) 395-3901
Debbie Sarmento*	Parent/F R C N C A	debrasarmento@comcast.net	(916) 962-0832
Diana Maffei*	Parent/Early Start Service Coordinator	dmaffei@altaregional.org	(916) 978-6416
Diane Williams	Alta California Regional Center	dwilliams@altaregional.org	(916) 978-6417
Edyth Gallardo	Early Start Program Manager/Inland RC	egallardo@inlandrc.org	(909) 890-3000
Elena Bramble*	Rowell Family Empowerment of Northern CA Inc.	elenab@rfenc.org	(530) 209-3621
Felicia Ford*	Leap of Faith Family to Family Support	fefeford@gmail.com	(310) 420-9119
Felipe Garcia	Director of Children Services for Inland RC	fgarcia@inlandrc.org	(909) 890-3407
Fran Chasen	IDA Public Policy Liaison+-	fran.chasen@gmail.com	(310) 452-1142
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Lucero Irizarry	CAEYC Board Member	ecementor@gmail.com	(951) 323-3670
Marty Omoto	California Disability Community Action	martyomoto@att.net	(916) 757-9549
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Pablo Velez	Amigo Baby	pvelez@amigobaby.com	(805) 901-1237

Pam Chueh	Executive Director WarmLine Family Resource Center	Pam@warmlinefrc.org	(916) 455-9500
Patricia Moore*	Parent/Alpha FRC	pjmoore@alphasb.org	(805) 683-2145
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Sheri Rosen	Sunny Days of California	srosen@sunnydays.com	(858) 432-4749
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Wendy Morrison	Ascend Rehab Services, Inc.	wendy.morrison@gmail.com	(510) 757-4004
Yvette O. Baptiste*	Parent/Eastern LA FRC	ybaptiste@elafrf.net	(626) 300-9171



Interagency Coordinating Council Support Staff

Name	Agency	Email Address
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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.

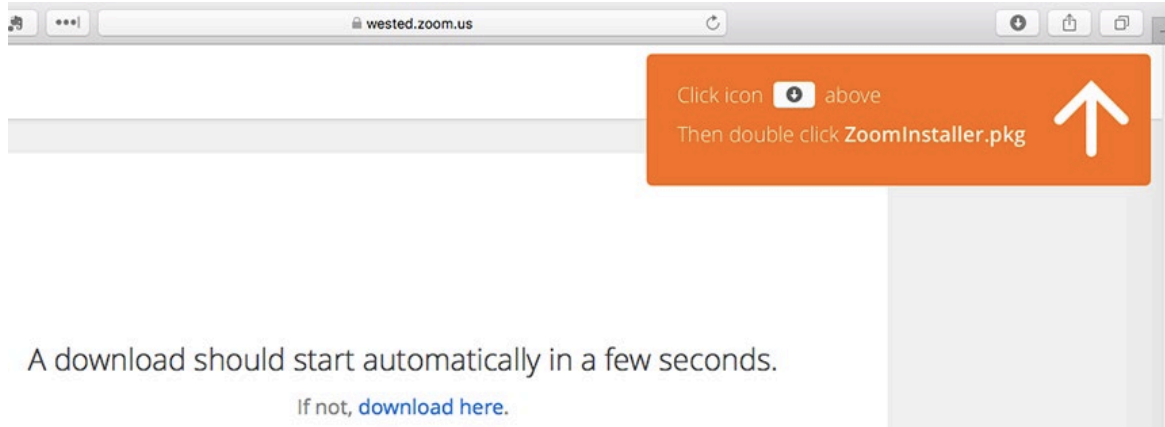
Click on the following hyperlink for [Day 1](#) (9 am to 4:30 pm)

Click on the following hyperlink 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.





MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: 2-Day State Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention October 17-18, 2024

Hello ICC participants & members of the public:

The next 2-day ICC meeting will take place in Pomona on Thursday and Friday, October 17-18, 2024. This **hybrid meeting** will be held online via Zoom and in-person at San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center (SGPRC): 75 Rancho Camino Dr. Pomona, CA 91766. Interested attendees who cannot join the whole meeting are encouraged to join any portions of the 2-day meeting they can, either in-person or online.

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. If you are unable to attend but would like your public comment to be read on your behalf, please email EarlyStart@dds.ca.gov at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

Please register for one or both days below.

ICC - Day 1
Thursday, October 17
9:00am-4:30pm



REGISTER for DAY 1 - THURS., 1/17 HERE

ICC - Day 2
Friday, October 18
9:00am-12:30pm

REGISTER for DAY 2 - FRIDAY, 1/18 HERE

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with your personalized link to join the Zoom meeting. Please join the meeting 10 minutes early to test your audio/video.

Please email EarlyStart@dds.ca.gov with any questions.

Note: While you will be prompted to input information in the name field when registering, you may put "anonymous."

Join the DDS Mailing List

California Department of Developmental Services
[State ICC on Early Intervention Page Email:](#)
EarlyStart@dds.ca.gov

See what's happening on DDS' social sites:



ICC Meeting Agenda (Day One) Hybrid Meeting

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

Date: October 17, 2024

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

Location: San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center/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: Child Find Part C Literacy Article 	<p style="text-align: center;">Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DJ Tomko, DDS</p>
(9:20-9:40) Family Testimonial <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions and Answers (10 minutes) 	Silvia Torrico, Parent
(9:40-10:00) Transition Guide Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions and Answers (5 minutes) 	Jennifer Driver, WestEd
(10:00-10:15) Break	
(10:15-11:15) ICC Council Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates by ICC Council Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions and Answers 	ICC Council Members



ICC Meeting Agenda (Day One) Hybrid Meeting

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

Date: October 17, 2024

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

Location: San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center/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.

<p>(11:15-11:45) Voices from the Field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infant Development Association of California • California Disability Community Action Network • Family Resource Center Network of California (FRCNCA) • Questions and Answers (5 minutes per presenter) 	<p style="text-align: center;">Fran Chasen Marty Omoto Ana Seda</p>
<p>(11:45-12:00) Public Input</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DJ Tomko and Marie Poulsen</p>
<p>(12:00-1:00) Lunch</p>	
<p>(1:00-1:15) Announcement of Committee Composition and Goals</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DJ Tomko, DDS</p>
<p>(1:15-4:30) Committee Meetings</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Improving State Systems Communications & Outreach</p>

ICC Meeting Agenda (Day Two) Hybrid Meeting

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

Date: October 18, 2024

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

Location: San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center/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 • Review of Previous Day's Agenda • Review of ICC Mission, Purpose, and Theme • ICC Dates: 2025 	Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair DJ Tomko, DDS
(9:20-10:30) Presentation: NICU Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions and Answers (10 minutes) 	DDS
(10:30-11:30) Presentation: ARPA Child Find & Outreach Initiatives Questions and Answers (10 minutes)	SDRC & SCLARC
(11:30-11:45) Break	
(11:45-12:10) Committee Reports & Approval for Projects <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) 	Improving Systems Committee Communications and Outreach Committee
(12:10-12:25) Public Input	DJ Tomko and Marie Poulsen
(12:25-12:30) Recap and Closing Remarks	Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair

Communications and Outreach Committee Agenda In-Person Meeting (with Zoom Option)

Zoom Link:

<https://cal-dds.zoom.us/j/Committee-meeting>



Date: October 17, 2024
Time: 1:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Location: San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center
 75 Rancho Camino Dr.
 Pomona, CA 91766

Agenda Items	Facilitator
(1:15-1:30) Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Introductions/Roll Call • Housekeeping Items • Review of Agenda 	Committee Co-Chairs
(1:30-1:45) Updates from Committee Co-Chairs	Committee Co-Chairs
(1:45-2:45) Review ICC Demographic Survey Results	Committee Co-Chairs
(2:45-3:00) Break	
(3:00-4:00) ICC Demographic Survey: Action Plan	Committee Co-Chairs
(4:00-4:15) Public Input	DDS
(4:15-4:30) Next Steps	Committee Co-Chairs

Improving State Systems Committee Agenda In-Person Meeting (with Zoom Option)

Zoom Link:

<https://cal-dds.zoom.us/j/Committee-meeting>

Date: October 17, 2024
Time: 1:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Location: San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center
 75 Rancho Camino Dr.
 Pomona, CA 91766



Agenda Items	Facilitator
(1:15-1:25) Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Introductions/Roll Call • Housekeeping Items • Review of Agenda 	Committee Co-Chairs
(1:25-1:45) Updates from Committee Co-Chairs	Committee Co-Chairs
(1:45-2:20) Review Top 2 Committee Priorities and Implementation Strategies	Committee Co-Chairs
(2:20-2:40) Discuss possible structures for Implementing Priorities	Committee Co-Chairs
(2:40-3:00) Break	
(3:00-3:35) Review Family Survey Dissemination Plan	Committee Co-Chairs
(3:35-4:10) Implementation Option: Early Start Personnel Manual Discussion & Planning	Committee Co-Chairs
(4:10-4:20) Public Input	DDS
(4:20-4:30) Next Steps	Committee Co-Chairs



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

Link to Zoom Recording: [Thursday, August 1 Zoom Recording](#)

Opening

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Dr. Poulsen expressed gratitude for all council members, WestEd, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), and community members for their attendance.

Dr. Poulsen announced that Nancy Bargmann, Director of DDS, is retiring in September. Dr. Poulsen expressed gratitude for Director Bargmann's years of service to California's infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

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 of appointed members was conducted by DJ Tomko.

Review Agenda

Before beginning, Dr. Poulsen thanked the ICC Community Representatives who met to identify Early Start issues for the DDS master plan. Dr. Poulsen reviewed the agenda. No changes were made to the agenda.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve by Maricris Acon. Seconded by Susan Ducore.

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 Early Access.

Part C Literacy

[2024 California Children's Report Card](#) by Children Now

The California Children's Report Card rates the state on its ability to support better outcomes for children and families based on passing and implementing state-level policies. There are over 13 million Californians from the ages of prenatal to 26. Of these 13 million, 16% are children and youth with special healthcare needs and 45% are from immigrant families. Early Intervention received a D because of the low percentage of enrollment in services compared to the overall population of eligible children. California has made an investment to help with early identification of eligible babies and toddlers,



but it does not make up for the years of underfunding. This report offers a lot of food for thought and calls to action.

Family Testimonial – Janneth Suarez, Parent from ELAFRC [Presented in Spanish]

Parent of Samuel, who has autism and was in the NICU for 20 days because he could not eat on his own. At two years of age, Janneth noticed “something wasn’t right.” Janneth had Samuel’s pediatrician do an evaluation and was sent to a regional center to get early intervention services. The importance of connecting to an FRC was a big deal to Janneth to get vital information about diagnoses and available services. Support groups like Mind the Gap were incredibly important. In the support group, Janneth learned why early intervention is so critical, which services are available and how to access them, and access to assistive communication devices. In Samuel’s case, after beginning Early Start, he was able to communicate much better, learned his ABCs in sign language, and could interact with other children. Samuel is interested in swimming, music, and communicating with his tablet – all thanks to Early Start.

- Nancy Bargmann thanked Janneth for her presentation. She asked, “What is the advice or guidance you would give providers to help families?”
 - Janneth answered [In Spanish], “First, think of your own child’s needs, and second, don’t be afraid to seek help.”

DDS Updates and Information – Nancy Bargmann and Carla Castaneda

Carla Castaneda provided a budget update. DDS has a budget of \$15.9 billion which is an increase from the last budget year but still less than requested.

Nancy Bargmann provided updates on the DDS master plan. The membership for five workgroups will be announced this week. There were over 900 applicants. The first workgroup meeting is August 5th.

Director Bargmann reminded the ICC that the provisional eligibility budget is based on the fact that primarily Black and Latino children are entering Early Start older than two years, and the purpose of provisional eligibility is to retain the supports that families and children need through transition from Early Start. Nancy encouraged the ICC to continue to look at data to determine any needed recommendations. The service access and equity grants have been incredibly important to fund equity initiatives:

- Nearly all Regional Centers have achieved the lower caseload ratios required.
- Six regional centers have agreed to pilot a Chief Equity Officer position.
- Funding initiatives are working on developing NICU liaisons.

****BREAK****

Presentation: Honoring Your Learner: An Assent-Based Approach to Learning and Teaching– Liz Lefebvre, Octave Training



Ms. Lefebvre is a behavior analyst specializing in autism. The foundational philosophy of Assent-Based Learning (ABL) is “the learner is always right”; that is, behavior is a function of the environment that supports that behavior and that learners are doing their best with what they have.

Ms. Lefebvre defined key terms: consent, assent, and assent withdrawal. Assent is further defined as a verbal or non-verbal demonstration of agreement to participate that is provided by those who are not of legal age or capacity to provide informed consent.

Ms. Lefebvre provided historical context of compliance, consent, and assent in education. Cultural norms and practices vary in how compliance is viewed, and therapies for children and those with disabilities have a history of being compliance-based to the point of being harmful. The pressure on teachers and service providers, like funding and productivity metrics, creates an environment for compliance rather than assent.

Ms. Lefebvre explained ABL as based on learner values, building self-advocacy skills, honors assent withdrawal, and requiring clear boundaries and instruction. The presenter explained in detail each component of an ABL approach.

Questions:

- Yvette Baptiste asked, is there a need for some kind of legislation change around the practice? What does the presenter see as the perspective of practice in the field to lean more towards things like consent and assent?
 - Ms. Lefebvre responded that the field has partially been responsive to this approach. As far as legislation goes, each state credentials applied behavior analysts, so it would need to happen at the state-level.
- An anonymous participant asked, do you see applied behavior analysis (ABA) practitioners adopting this approach?
 - Ms. Lefebvre responded that consumers of ABA services can look for things like compassionate-based approaches.
- Julie Eby-McKenzie asked whether there any move to disconnect from the terminology of ABA.
 - Ms. Lefebvre answered that many practitioners are working on educating themselves on the harms of ABA and learning more about ABL-aligned practices. She acknowledged that terms in the field need to be changed.
- Marty Omoto acknowledged his own initial resistance to this approach and appreciated this presentation. Marty sees this as a potential pathway towards equity. Marty asked whether the presenter noticed any gains in equity from this approach, and how this approach can become standard.
 - Ms. Lefebvre replied that the rapid shift in ABA is the result of autistic adults speaking out on their experiences, which has forced the field to make changes quickly, but there is not enough training to meet the need.



- Teresa Anderson commented on the importance of advocacy on increasing the uptake on adopting this approach. Teresa asked how this approach could be used in early childhood education.
 - Ms. Lefebvre answered that it can be done in a systematic way in group settings, but every adult in the room needs training to support it.
 - Teresa asked if anyone is doing research studies on outcomes with ABL approaches. Ms. Lefebvre responded that research in this field is new and literature is just starting to come out.

Voices from the Field

- ***Infant Development Association of California (IDA) – Fran Chasen***
Ms. Chasen reflected on the Early Start budget, mentioning the change to the implementation of the funding rate model. Ms. Chasen summarized some IDA accomplishments from the last year:
 - In coordination with Family Resource Centers Network of California (FRCNCA), IDA compiled an accurate list of current functional local interagency coordination areas (LICAs), which was submitted to FRCNCA and will be included with their report to DDS.
 - At the federal level, California Representative Jared Huffman continues efforts to get full funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in the IDEA Full Funding Act bill, with particular emphasis on recruitment of quality direct service providers. IDA will be working with Teresa Anderson (Executive Director of the Center for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities) to implement focus groups around recruitment and retention efforts.

- ***California Disability Community Action Network – Marty Omoto***
Mr. Omoto shared an update that the state legislature is in recess until Monday and will adjourn August 31st. Then, all passed bills go to the Governor. Any bill that is going to cost a lot of money and is not sponsored by the administration will have difficulty getting a signature from the Governor.

Mr. Omoto shared the details of the next informational hearing for the Early Childhood Policy Council under the California Health and Human Services Agency. Mr. Omoto also shared details about informational hearings on barriers and solutions to nonprofit participation in state government, facilitated by the California Senate and Assembly Select Committees on Nonprofit Sectors.

- ***Family Resource Centers Network of California (FRCNCA) – Ana Seda***
Ms. Seda shared key accomplishments from the last year:
 - With support from the Lucille Packard Foundation, the Access to Care Project offered two webinars to share the results from a survey conducted with over 600 families about experiences with children's specialty care.



- In the last quarter, FRCNCA hosted support group facilitator trainings for 29 participants to enhance skills for creating safe environments for families in support groups.
- FRCNCA executed two standards of quality for family strengthening and support sessions. Thirty-four FRC staff attended and received certification. Ms. Seda shared a video produced with Options for All to promote Community Navigator programs.

****LUNCH BREAK****

Presentation: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder – Dr. Lucy Esralew, DDS

Dr. Esralew began by defining and explaining Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASDs) as a spectrum of effects on the development of individuals prenatally exposed to alcohol resulting in brain damage and other lifelong mental and health conditions. Individuals with FASD are heterogeneous and do have many strengths, though this presentation focuses more on their challenges. Dr. Esralew then explained how individuals with FASD are often misdiagnosed due to stigma, lack of awareness among healthcare professionals, and overlap between neurobehavioral symptoms of FASD and other neurodevelopmental disorders. She then listed the types of diagnoses under the FASD umbrella to demonstrate the range of conditions that are in the spectrum.

Dr. Esralew described in detail Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS), Alcohol-Related Neurodevelopmental Disorder (ARND), and Alcohol-Related Birth Defects (ARBD). Each of these can impact thinking and memory, behavior, and day-to-day living skills.

Dr. Esralew shared strategies for working with children with FASD: establishing structure and routine, using hands-on learning methods, remaining calm, keeping instructions short and simple, providing consistent and specific directions, and offering frequent check-ins.

Dr. Esralew described the effects of prenatal alcohol exposure in infants, toddlers, preschoolers, school-aged children, and adolescents. She provided case studies of an infant named John, who received Early Start supports for FASD, and a toddler named Miranda, who was not diagnosed with FASD but was otherwise eligible for Early Start services.

Questions from attendees:

- Yvette Baptiste asked whether a child could have the co-occurring condition of ADHD without the hyperactivity. Dr. Esralew confirmed this possibility. Ms. Baptiste continued with a situation with a former client who did not qualify for Early Start or Lanterman Act services despite having prenatal exposure to alcohol and related issues. She asked about the changes in the regional center clinical departments to identify these kinds of children, particularly those who have been in the foster/adoption system.
 - Dr. Esralew replied that often it is executive functioning that is impacted by FASD, which does not present until later in a child's life and is difficult to assess in infants and toddlers. Reducing the developmental delay criteria and



establishing provisional eligibility has been helpful in identifying these individuals.

- Yvette Baptiste added that FASD education is needed in the foster/adoption community. Dr. Esralew agreed and noted that child welfare departments have taken the lead on this.
- Gilda Giron thanked Yvette for her example and shared a similar struggle with individuals with spina bifida.
 - Dr. Esralew reminded the ICC that a diagnosis is not required for Early Start, including provisional eligibility, only the 25% delay in one or more developmental domains.
- Lisa Schoyer asked if there any strategies regarding ABA.
 - Dr. Esralew stated that ABA is very much based on individual assessment. She recommended getting a good functional behavior assessment by someone trained in FASD.
- Mica Harris asked whether there any key things service coordinators should look for if prenatal exposure was not disclosed by parent during intake.
 - Dr. Esralew noted that stigma is a real issue. It is a matter of having a sensitive conversation with parents to get consent for further evaluation.
- Teresa Anderson asked for some suggestions of how to get diagnoses, especially for adults.
 - Dr. Esralew answered that she is not sure. There are specific clinics in the state who can provide evaluation, assessment, and diagnoses. She will follow-up with Teresa and shared her email address to all ICC attendees if people want to get more information.

Review of Public Input Guidelines, Followed by Public Input

Lisa Cooley asked about what is being done to help people with FASD as they age, specifically beyond the age of 40 or 50. DJ Tomko answered that Dr. Esralew will follow up.

Lisa Schoyer shared a case where a parent is trying to get ABA for her child under age 3 which HealthNet Managed Care insurance requires a diagnosis to cover. Insurance has a long wait, and the family doesn't have access to gap funding. She asked for any ideas to help this family. Suzanne Sherinian provided her contact information so she can assist with this issue.

Yvette Baptiste asked if Suzanne Sherinian can give a presentation again soon, as many insurers are not providing coverage for ABA. Suzanne agreed to do so and encouraged everyone to reach out to her directly for assistance.

Announcement of Committee Composition and Goals

DJ Tomko provided a summary of committee composition and goals. He reminded everyone that only ICC members and community representatives are members of committees.

Subcommittee Meetings

Meeting of the whole was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.; committees met separately.



Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention
Friday, August 2, 2024
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Link to Recording: [Friday, August 2 Zoom Recording](#)

Opening

Dr. Marie Kanne Poulsen, ICC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Dr. Poulsen thanked DDS and WestEd 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 quarter's theme is Early Access.

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](#).

ICC Council Reports

Department of Developmental Services – Maricris Acon

Ms. Acon provided an update on the US Department of Education's determination based on the state performance plan/annual performance report (SPP/APR). California received its determination in July and was downgraded in rating. The determination will be posted on the website shortly. One area of focus is the need to capture data on exit metrics.

DDS is working on the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). SRI International is a subcontractor that is supporting these efforts, and three different advisory and constituency groups are contributing to the SSIP.

DDS received funding to reduce service coordinator caseloads. Caseloads are being tracked to ensure no coordinator has more than 40 Early Start cases, though the current average is closer to 54. Ms. Acon provided demographic statistics on caseloads and referrals and an overview of data completion rates for regional centers.



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) pilots and projects will conclude in November 2024. One project that was funded was an interactive map to help families see all resources in their community available to help with transition from Early Start.

Ms. Acon provided a summary of the Early Start Partners Symposium in July in Berkeley, CA. Highlights included Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Director Valerie Williams as a keynote speaker, a panel of adults with disabilities who shared their experiences with the disability service system, and a new addition of a Service Coordinator Day held the day before the ESPS.

DDS was awarded an OSEP Part C grant amount of over \$57 million.

- Yvette Baptiste asked about the issues that led to a downgraded rating.
 - Ms. Acon explained that the determination downgrade was largely related to data collection, especially child outcomes exit data.
- Patty Moore asked whether the data reflect numbers of children who transition to Part B whose status is unknown.
 - Ms. Acon answered that there is a different data metric for transition, which California scored well on.
 - As a follow-up, Patty asked if the state is confident that timely transition takes place when there is still undetermined eligibility for Part B. Ms. Acon explained that exit outcomes do not impact timely transition or Early Start services. Patty again asked whether there are any mechanisms in place to track what happens with those children once they leave Early Start. Ms. Acon replied that this data comes from CDE, which DDS has a partnership with, but will take some time to analyze because CDE and DDS use different data processes.
- Patty Moore asked about the interactive map and how it can be accessed.
 - DJ Tomko answered that the demo is not yet open to the public as it is being refined. It is targeted to be released on the DDS website at the end of the month.

California Department of Education, Special Education Division – Alberto Orellana

In June, CDE and DDS conducted a webinar on strategies to support children and families as they transition from Part C to Part B. Once it is ready to be shared publicly, it will be on the DDS website.

CDE was granted \$700,000 in consultation with DDS to develop parent-friendly resources for families transitioning from Part C to Part B: a video, partly funded by a CalECSE grant, and a parent-friendly resource guide being developed by WestEd.

CDE launched a technical assistance website (CALTAN) with various partners to provide transition resources. Mr. Orellana promoted the family empowerment centers



(FECs) in California and a database for families to find FECs at Seeds of Partnership and CDE Parent Organizations sites.

- Yvette Baptiste asked how CDE is ensuring smooth transitions.
 - Mr. Orellana explained that many of the initiatives he talked about are intended to do just that. There are interagency agreements with DDS about monitoring DDS and LEA data. Partnership requires timely referrals from regional centers.
- Fran Chasen asked if CDE is acknowledging the 25% eligibility for Early Start.
 - Mr. Orellana answered that the eligibility criteria for the Early Start program does not apply to eligibility for services provided through LEA programs governed by CDE; however, some LEAs are adhering to the 25% eligibility through local agreements. LEA programs are held to the 33% eligibility requirement for services.

Department of Social Services – Suada Sergio

DSS recently released two provider information notices (PINs):

- [PIN 2410](#) regarding child abuse prevention and awareness.
- [PIN 2411](#) about guardian training and background check processes with accompanying webinars.

The next upcoming provider webinar is September 24th, 6-7:30 pm, and more information will be available in an upcoming PIN.

Ms. Sergio provided statistics on newly licensed facilities and provided updates on staffing changes.

- Yvette Baptiste asked for an update on any childcare slots and access for children with disabilities to full day slots and appropriately trained staff.
 - Ms. Sergio did not have those details available but will follow up.
- Lisa Schoyer asked about the reach for 10% ratio in Head Start/Early Head Start programs.
 - Ms. Sergio replied that she does not have that information but will follow up.
- Pablo Velez asked how service provider licensure and regulation is occurring for independent service providers who may be discriminating against specific disabilities.
 - Ms. Sergio was saddened to hear that these barriers are happening and encourages everyone to report these cases to the department.

Indian Health Care – Susan Ducore



Ms. Ducore continued to recognize challenges in screening and referrals. As a response to that, Season Goodpasture presented at the Provider Best Practices conference to raise visibility of Early Start services.

Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) – Suzanne Sherinian

The Department's mission is to ensure consumer healthcare rights. DMHC has its 2023 [annual report](#) available. Some work includes improving mental health care delivery with Kaiser and assessed its highest overall fines for providers not in compliance.

Department of Social Services – Ashley Franklin

Ms. Franklin was not present.

California Department of Education, Homeless Division – Leanne Wheeler

Ms. Wheeler was not present.

Head Start Agency – Michelle Dove

Ms. Dove was not present.

Department of Health Care Services – Pamela Riley

Ms. Riley was not present.

California Department of Education (CDE), Preschool Services – Sarah Neville-Morgan

Ms. Neville-Morgan was not present.

Presentation: Provisional Eligibility Questions and Answers

Marcy Okada, DDS; Kiara Lopez and Laschell Miles, South Central Los Angeles Regional Center

The presenters provided an overview of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the regional center system in California. They described Early Start eligibility standards and available services as well as eligibility for services under the Lanterman Act. Lanterman Act services provided through provisional eligibility are intended to bridge the gap for those exiting Early Start services. The presenters described provisional eligibility criteria within Lanterman eligibility with the goal of minimizing necessary assessments and facilitating more services through age five.

Kiara Lopez shared outreach strategies used by SCLARC to increase referrals for provisional eligibility.



Laschell Miles described the provisional eligibility process.

- Hanna Michaelson asked if SCLARC housed the provisional eligibility cases in Early Start or in a different unit?
 - Ms. Miles answered they are in the Status U Children's Unit and held there until they are 90 days before turning 5.
- An anonymous attendee asked if any of those provisional kids are under age 3 and are still receiving Early Start services?
 - Ms. Miles answered that after 3 years old, those services stop and go to a different unit where they are eligible for Lanterman services.
- Mika Harris asked how provisional eligibility is being assessed younger in Early Start cases, such as age one year or 18 months, in a way that it differs from a child eligible under Early Start. She also asked whether the children's units are then having 1:40 caseloads?
 - Ms. Miles answered they are under normal Early Start at that age. Provisional eligibility begins during transition out of Early Start. Caseloads are maintained at 1:40 or under.
- Yvette Baptiste noted that DDS and regional centers need to be clearer with families about this program.
 - Ms. Miles mentioned that SCLARC helps monitor and navigate services through the school system and health insurance.
- An anonymous attendee asked how to ensure that an assessment has been conducted in a timely manner (i.e., no later than 90 days prior to the third birthday) if a child is not being referred until 90 days prior to the third birthday?
 - Ms. Miles answered SCLARC monitors cases these cases so there is time to receive an assessment and get some benefits of provisional eligibility.

****BREAK****

Committee Reports and Approval for Projects

Improving State Systems Committee – Fran Chasen

The Improving State Systems Committee is looking to address concerns within the implementation of the Early Start system. The Committee's two priorities are: 1. Add to the ICC chair's growing list of presentation options and request an update on Early Start monitoring; 2. Conduct a survey, in partnership with the FRNCA, to get input from families and caregivers related to challenges that resulted from COVID-19. On behalf of the committee, Ms. Chasen asked the Council to approve the survey and requested help in the distribution of that survey. The survey is intended to get background information about how families are or are not being supported.

Suzanne Sherinian moved to approve; the motion was seconded by Doug Erber. Council members voted on approval of dissemination of survey. The motion was passed by the Council.



The Systems Committee also reviewed Master Plan documents and came up with several areas to consider in their discussions, such as equal access to services across the state and pathways for transition.

Communications and Outreach Committee – Doug Erber

The Communications committee held an interim meeting on July 11 to work on finalizing the survey to enhance the diverse representation of the ICC. Another interim meeting on August 29 is scheduled to finalize the survey with plans to distribute it in early September. The committee hopes to present the results at the October ICC meeting.

The Communications committee also discussed DDS Master Plan workgroup representation. Mr. Erber announced the resignation of the co-chair and extended an invitation to fill that role.

Future work of the committee will include complying with a new Federal rule that websites and digital content must be compliant with Section 508 to ensure all communications are accessible.

Fran Chasen suggested a coordination of survey distribution so as not to overwhelm participants. Mr. Erber agreed.

Public Input

DJ Tomko reviewed public input guidelines.

Nelva Salgado, parent representative, thanked the Council for giving parents this space for learning about resources and networking with other families. With this help, her daughter has been able to get services she needs.

Samantha Hebermehl asked for the location for the next ICC meeting. DJ Tomko answered that the location has not yet been decided. DDS is looking for a location that can support a hybrid environment. As soon as it is determined, everyone will be notified.

Tony Anderson shared that the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) held a Partners in Policymaking event with Patty Moore and graduated 80 self-advocates and parents ready to advocate for disability issues.

Janis Connallon, director of Family Voices of California, thanked the meeting organizers and applauded the great work of Patty Moore and Yvette Baptiste to alleviate referral and transition issues. Ms. Connallon stated interest in contributing to parent participation on the ICC.

Recap and Closing Remarks

Meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.



MEMBERS PRESENT

MEMBERS EXCUSED

MEMBERS ABSENT

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ABSENT

DDS

WESTED

OTHERS PRESENT

*Parent



MEETING ATTENDEES
Thursday, August 1, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Douglas Erber	Marie Poulsen	Suzanne Sherinian
Maricris Acon	Susan Ducore	

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ashley Franklin	Leanne Wheeler	Pamela Riley
Michelle Dove	Shanice Orum	Sarah Neville-Morgan
Richard Olney		

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Diane Williams	Laurie Jordan	Rachel Hagans
Fran Chasen	Lisa Schoyer	Robert Rochin
Gayatri Mahajan	Marty Omoto	Samantha Hebermehl
Julie Maier	Michelle Oliver	Sheri Farinha
Julie Rems-Smario	Pablo Velez	Tony Anderson
June Ursini	Patricia Moore	Yvette Baptiste
Kathleen Angkustsiri	Patricia Salcedo	Thao Tran

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT

Amy Hansen	Lucero Irizarry	Tamara Allen
Christina Nigrelli	Nancy Sager	Tara Sisemore-Hester
Diana Maffei	Linda Landry	Shan Chan
Edyth Gallardo	Lindsay Crain	Sheri Rosen
Elena Bramble	Pam Chueh	Virginal Reynolds
Felipe Garcia	Robin Millar	Wendy Morrison
Jonathan Eckrich	Rosalyn Daggs	Apple Sepulveda
Jim Frazier	Season Goodpasture	Debbie Sarmiento
Jazmine Blackman	Scott Turner	Penelope Knapp

DDS STAFF PRESENT

Amy Whiting	Hilda Jimenez	Marcy Okada
Anne De Mederios	Hope Beale	Matias Soloranza



Annie Drinkwater-Wright
Ashley Lambert
Carla Casteneda
Carmen Ruiz-Ochoa
Cristina Tsuji
Daniel Jordan
Daniel Kim
DJ Tomko
Ednalín (Edge) Francisco
Erin Brady
Erin Havey
Estaban Ortiz

Jacqueline Carmona
Jasmine Suo
JJ Fernandez
John Knight
Joni Hasselbring
Kel Avila
Kristina Gomez
Kristine Reed Brown
Lauren Libero
Lisa Gonzales
Lucy Esralew
Maria Gonzalez

Matt Harmetz
Mini Nandakumar
Monica Hudnall
Nate Dozier
Nathaniel Taleon
Norma Salazar
Ryan Digman
Sara Grijalva
Sarah Yang
Shannen Cheng
Stephanie Santamaria
Terquoia Bourne

WESTED STAFF PRESENT

Angela McGuire
Ross Adams

Jennifer Driver

Rebecca Halpern

OTHERS PRESENT

Aisha Bennett
Akshita Goswami
Alicia Meyer
Ana Aragon
Ana Barranco
Ana Cornado
Ana Seda
Andrea Lemus
Arsho Garlanian
Bianca Garcia
Blanca Villareal
Brenda Gonzalez
Brenda Lory
Cassie McWilliams
Cecilia Rideout
Charlotte French
Chris Hickey
Christina Rockwell
Christine Kiebert-Boss
Cindy Arstein—Kerslake
Cintya Diaz
Clara Chang
Cris Schlanser

Fanny Cisneros
Flor Parra Morales
Geyso Lemus
Gilda Giron
Glenis Ulloa
Hannah Michaelson
Janice Hinton
Janis Connallon
Jenee King
Jennifer Bloom
Johana Caicedo
Jonathan Eckrich
Julie Eby-McKenzie
Julio Ramirez
Kaitlynn Truong
Karen Bohall-Ortega
Karina Cruz
Kim Pierce
Kim Train
Kristin Symonds
LaLetia Jamison
Shanee Fulton
LaWanna Blair

Maria Cumiskey
Maria De Jesus Rodriguez
Maria Elena Diaz
Martha Ornelas-Cruz
Mika Harris
Natalie Williams Awodeha
Petra Gordian
Rachel Heenan
Rachel Liebert Lewis
Renee Faulkner
Rennie Saltzman
Robert Araiza
Ruth Davis
Sarah Franco
Sharown McGee
Suada Sergio
Susana Silveira
Tamerla Prince
Tara Sisemore-Hester
Teresa Anderson
Tumboura Hill
Victoria Berrey
Virginia Sancez



Crystal Perez
Debbi Davis
Denise Saucedo
Diane Storman
Donna Crawford
Dulce Flores
Elisa Hill
Elsy Romero

Lilian Ansari
Liz Lefebre
Lorena Gallardo
Lori Luzader
Lori Molhook
Lourdes Albalbisi
Mahnaz Ehsan
Margaret Shipp

Yesenia Garcia
Jessica Burnett
Kavitha Sreedhar
Yvette Renteria

MEETING ATTENDEES

Friday, August 2, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Douglas Erber
Maricris Acon

Marie Poulsen
Susan Ducore

Suzanne Sherinian

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ashley Franklin
Michelle Dove
Richard Olney

Leanne Wheeler
Shanice Orum

Pamela Riley
Sarah Neville-Morgan

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Diane Williams
Fran Chasen
Gayatri Mahajan
Jazmine Blackman
Julie Maier
Julie Rems-Smario
June Ursini
Kathleen Angkustsiri

Laurie Jordan
Lisa Schoyer
Marty Omoto
Michelle Oliver
Pablo Velez
Patricia Moore
Patricia Salcedo
Elena Bramble

Penelope Knapp
Rachel Hagans
Robert Rochin
Samantha Hebermehl
Sheri Farinha
Tony Anderson
Yvette Baptiste
Thao Tran

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Diana Maffei
Edyth Gallardo

Nancy Sager
Linda Landry
Lindsay Crain
Pam Chueh

Tamara Allen
Tara Sisemore-Hester
Shan Chan
Sheri Rosen



Felipe Garcia
Jonathan Eckrich
Jim Frazier
Lucero Irizarry

Robin Millar
Roselyn Daggs
Season Goodpasture
Scott Turner

Virginal Reynolds
Wendy Morrison
Apple Sepulveda
Debbie Sarmento

DDS STAFF PRESENT

Anne De Medeiros
Ashley Lambert
Cathy Schulze
Daniel Jordan
Daniel Kim
DJ Tomko
Ednalín (Edge)
Francisco
Erin Brady
Estaban Ortiz
Hilda Jimenez
Hope Beale

Jasmine Suo
JJ Fernandez
John Knight
Kel Avila
Kim Chu
Kristina Gomez
Kristine Reed Brown

Lauren Libero
Lisa Gonzales
Marcy Okada
Matias Soloranza

Matt Harmetz
Mini Nandakumar
Monica Hudnall
Nancy Chen
Nate Dozier
Nathaniel Taleon
Ryan Digman

Sara Grijalva
Sarah Yang
Shannen Cheng
Stephanie Santamaria

WESTED STAFF PRESENT

Angela McGuire
Ross Adams

Jennifer Driver

Rebecca Halpern

OTHERS PRESENT

Akshita Goswami
Ana Barranco
Ana Cornado
Ana Seda
Brenda Lory
Cassie McWilliams
Cecilia Rideout
Chris Hickey
Christina Renteria
Christina Rockwell
Cristina Preuss
Cindy Arstein—Kerslake
Crystal Perez

Donna Crawford
ERenae Antalan
Elisa Hill
Fanny Cisneros
Flor Parra Morales
Gilda Giron
Hannah Michaelson
Janice Hinton
Janis Connallon
Johana Caicedo
Kim Pierce
Kim Train
Kristin Symonds

Lorena Gallardo
Lori Luzader
Lori Molhook
Lourdes Albalbisi
Mahnaz Ehsan
Maria De Jesus Rodriguez
Maria Talavera
Martha Ornelas-Cruz
Mika Harris
Rachel Heenan
Rachel Liebert Lewis
Sarah Franco
Suada Sergio



Debbi Davis
Denise Saucedo
Diane Storman

Laschell Miles
LaWanna Blair
Lilian Ansari

Tara Sisemore-Hester
Teresa Anderson

