

Birth to 3 Interagency Coordinating Council

ICC Meeting
Monday, December 10, 2007
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
1 W. Wilson St. – Room 751
Madison

Members Present: Sandra Butts (Chair), Nicole Bowman, Sharon Fleischfresser, Diane Fett, April Hartjes, Jill Haglund, Linda Huffer, Andy Paulson, Laura Saterfield, Terri Vincent, Norma Vrieze, Julie Walsh

Teleconference: Linda Tuchman

Guests: Bridget Roleck, Arianna Keil, Loraine Lucinski, Theresa Walske

Staff: Carol Eichinger, Jacqueline Moss

Carol E. called the meeting to order at 9:20 with an invitation for everyone present to introduce themselves. The minutes of September 19, 2007, had one correction – adding Nicole Bowman as joining the meeting by teleconference.

***Motion:** Julie Walsh moved to accept minutes with correction that will add Nicole Bowman as teleconferencing; Norma V. seconded, passed unanimously.

The floor was opened to the public: Bridget Roleck addressed the Council with issues concerning vision treatment not being integrated with other Birth to 3 services for her child. She is asking the ICC to consider adapting a policy for serving children with visual impairments. She spent some time describing her own experiences and concerns.

Discussions after the public speaker left addressed her concerns about the lack of specialized vision teachers and resources and how many children are currently receiving vision services. Serious thought has to go into encouraging students to enter this field. Does the ICC have a responsibility to act on parents' questions, issues, and requests? It was decided to refer the issue back to the Birth to Three team to research how many children throughout the state under the age of three currently have this disability. The Birth to Three team will also be asked to research possible policies developed for delivering services to children with visual impairments. Other low incidence disabilities are also of concern. Some concern was raised about structuring public commentary time with time limits, and encouraging parents to utilize the Parent Forums scheduled regionally to discuss issues and raise awareness about parental concerns and experiences. Discussion occurred around whether or not the ICC needed to respond to the parent.

***Motion:** Jill H. motioned not to send a letter to the speaker; Julie W. seconded. A friendly amendment to this motion – that Lori Wittemann send Ms. Roleck a letter because her original request to address the Council was through Lori, and she was on the agenda- carried unanimously.

ICC Meeting

12/10/07

-2-

Rock County Update: Terri V. updated the Council on the Rock County Family Night, which had about 25 families in attendance. There was good feedback with parents appreciating the aspect of home visits and networking with other parents and providers. Parents had diverse opinions, comments and suggestions about extending program to Birth to 6.

New ISFP Format: Families do not like the new format saying it's confusing. 'Birth to 6' approach is being discussed at more county meetings. What is ICC doing about these and other issues concerning transitioning? Jill H. described the need to build better capacity to prepare parents for transition. Home-based treatment is preferred both by children and parents and providers see a marked difference in responses to these therapies. Questions were raised on how to assist parents in feeling they continue to have some parental control once children transition into the school.

The ICC's website needs updating; by-laws, rules and regulations needed to guide Council's business.

***Motion:** Diane Fett motioned to explore other council's rules and regulations – Nicole B. seconded, motion carried unanimously.

APR Indicators: Carol E. updated the Council on Preliminary Data APR Indicators 1-9 and where we are in preparing this tool for submission to OSEP by February 1, 2008. The Birth to 3 Program is still collecting data for Indicators 1, 4, 7, and 8. She asked if the Council could meet via teleconference the third week in January for final discussion and approval of the APR, the Council's Annual Report, and clarifying issues with OSEP contact.

There was discussion about Indicator 2 (Natural Environments) being at 100 percent in 53 counties and Milwaukee County being below objective and therefore affecting the state's average. Discretionary decision-making on what will be the rule for counties to meet objectives.

Wisconsin's Indicator 3 – Child Outcomes - was shown by at a national meeting, and there was some question raised that the data didn't represent the typical "bell curve".

During discussion about Indicators 5 & 6, representing the population of children served, concerns about the small percentage of children under age one served led to a discussion on how physicians are paid for Child Find in other states, developmental screenings, and program not getting information on children until they are 1 year to 18 months.

ICC Meeting

12/10/07

-3-

Indicator 7 – 45-day timeline: We are at 90.59 percent meaning we have not met the 95 percent objective. What are repercussions to a state out of compliance? Questions were raised about possible sanctions. Once this APR is submitted on February 1, OSEP will prepare a Response Table. Once the state receives this Response Table, a state will have 5 business days to supply additional documentation to explain any deficiencies identified.

Leadership Event: Arianna K. discussed this event as generally being a good and informative meeting. She noted there were fewer northern counties represented at the November 28 and 29, meeting at the Kalahari, but that there were about 120 in attendance; she also noted that Sharon Walsh and Ann Bailey were speakers at this event.

Dashboards: Carol E. presented the NCRRC website and the Wisconsin dashboards, comparing counties performance on the indicators.

Workgroups: Rejuvenating the subgroups that make up this Council-State report and ICC plan being merged; power point report may be in future. Fiscal subgroup consists of Norma V., Terri V., Andy P., and Jill H. Quality Assurance and Personnel Development are the other subgroups that make this Council.

It is requested that the Birth to Three team put together a proposal of key activities and tasks reflecting the current concerns and priorities for Birth to Three. The workgroups could consider these suggestions as they re-convene to begin new work plans or projects. The next round of OSEP findings would tie this together. By-laws do not name subcommittees but ICC can use discretion on creating, etc.

Circles of Life: The next Circles of Life conference will convene in Eau Claire on April 24 and 25, 2008. ICC will meet during this event.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.