

ICC MISSION STATEMENT

"The mission of the Utah Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers with Special Needs and Their Families (ICC) is to assure that each infant and young child with special needs will have the opportunity to achieve optimal health and development within the context of the family."



**MINUTES OF THE UTAH INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC)
FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

Utah Department of Health, Division of Family Health and Preparedness

4431 S. 2700 W., Taylorsville, UT, Main Conference Rooms

May 27, 2015 // 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Present: Debbie Ballard, Karen Borg, Gina Pola-Money, Teresa Whiting, Ginger West, Simon Bolivar, Paula Pittman, Michelle Summerhays - proxy for Orvil Stokes, Coreen Anderson, Barbara Fiechtl, Janet Wade (now part of the tri-chair), Linda DeGross, Esperanza Reyes, Gina Troop, Betsy Sutherland, Cassie Selim, Nicole Brown, Jeff Ojeda, Esperanza Reyes, and Stephanie Roach

Via Telephone: None

Excused: Tiffany Jo Evans

Absent: Jennifer Adams, Debbie Justice, Kevin Morris, Kristina Shock, Eric Tadehara, Susan Ord, Lorna Roberts

BWEI/Health Department Staff: Carma Mordecai, Joe Peterson, Lisa Davenport

Other Attendees: Heather Waters (KOTM), Kelsey Lewis (KWC), Mary James (JSDCDC)

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Nichole Brown and Gina Troop, new Parent Representatives were welcomed and thanked for their time by Debbie Ballard.
- II. **Minutes** – After a few grammatical & spelling corrections, Motion to approve minutes passed unanimously.
- III. **Public Comment Period** – No comments
- IV. **Parent/Provider Spotlight**-Esperanza Reyes and Stephanie Roach, Utah Parent Center. Discussion of linking the Utah Parent Center website to the Baby Watch and Care About Childcare Website. The Utah Parent Center is the site for training, education, and empowering parents for the entire state of Utah serving families birth to 26 years old. Sample workshops include sessions on 504, IDEA, Rehab Act 1973, stress management, communication skills to have their child’s lives be more successful. All parent consultants are parents of children with disabilities. All work with other agencies including Utah Family Voices, Family to Family Network. Stephanie Roach is working on transition from public education into the work field/post education. A grant allows the Utah Parent Center to work directly with youth. See Annual Summary of Accomplishments handout. Website is has a lot of information (PDFs and videos). Gina Troop indicated that working with the Parent Center has changed not only her child’s life but also their family’s lives. She publically wants to thank the Utah Parent Center and to encourage people to direct families to them for help.
- V. **Membership** – Debbie Ballard again welcome new people to ICC. Membership subcommittee is working on identifying a new a legislative representative, an individual from Medicaid, and replacement of Kevin Morris and Debbie Justice to sit on ICC. Debbie and Kevin also represented Early Head Start through their agencies and this should be considered when identifying new members. Debbie Ballard discussed the retirement of Kevin Morris and Debbie Justice and their impact that they have had on Early Intervention in the State. “You can replace people but not knowledge”.

VI. Program/Agency Updates – Review of Y 15 & Plan for FY 16

Debbie Ballard/Jordan School District – The district and the Birth to Five Population is growing rapidly, currently 1700+ children between Part C and Part B. Expanding classroom in Part B. Public outreach, Halloween Carnival and Literacy Festival have been successful. Utah Parent Center has done presentation, staff has done parent trainings also. The staff does quarterly trainings to improve providing services to family. Video Training feedback has been successful.

Janet Wade/Easter Seals Goodwill - Provo Team approach of shadowing has been successful. New handouts have been development and shared with new developmental specialists and this has been successful with serving families and demonstrating a team approach to parents. There have been three parent night outs with daycare provided so parents can go out for the evening, and partnerships formed with other community agencies to participate in community activities monthly. These activities are in addition to the IFSP Services. Purpose is to get families to feel comfortable in their community. For older children, there is a camp in Salt Lake.

Gina Pola-Money/Utah Family Voices – Trainings for special needs funding, hands on care and facilitation, system changes (HB 199 – out for public comment). Also working with University of Utah to develop programs for undiagnosed disabilities. These children/families fall between the cracks. Also working with genetics. The portal is helping to try and give families a one-stop shop. New developmental assessment center will be opening and Utah Family Voices will be there three days a week to work directly with families. Congress has funded Utah Family Voices for another three years. The University of Utah is looking at a model for volunteers for respite for children with medical complexities.

Teresa Whiting/Bureau of Child Development – Currently hiring for two new positions; one will work on early childhood development (Carolyn Christensen). Another position will be for developmental screening and strengthening families throughout the entire state.

Michelle Summerhays/Weber Early Intervention – Literacy Program: Eight times a year families are able to participate, book reading, crafts, ideas for at home, free book. Families can also take home other books that have been donated. Families have found that access to public library story times has been difficult due their child's ability to participate successfully. This program gives children Books in a Bag. A bag of books (250 bags) are rotated to families.

Ginger West/Parent: Announced that a donation was made to honor Debbie Justice by building and naming an all-abilities park for her services and dedication to children and their families.

Cassie Selim/DCFS – working on filling a position that will work to empower families and strengthen them. Council from federal government came to look at the state's low rate of child fatalities in Utah from abuse. Currently working to help Utah look at targeting triggers of possible abuse, especially for children with disabilities. CPS referrals of children with supported cases of abuse/neglect will go to the Baby Watch program. Local programs will contact families and determine if the child qualifies for the program. Campaign to educate the public reporting children sexual abuse. There is a website to educate the public.

Jeff Ojeda/USOE – Three year federal funding for districts has closed and applications are going out and due July 1, 2015.

Linda DeGross/Parent – Currently student teaching in a resource support setting then will student teach in fourth grade in Alpine School District. Being in the field has broadened her understanding of the educational system.

Coreen Anderson/Central EI – Starting an Early Literacy Program and wants to improve 3:3 transition processes. A parent in the Richfield Center has started a parent support group. Expanding staff by one position.

Betsy Sutherland/USOE – Effective Practices and Engagement Program will be started in Utah this year at the preschool level with technical assistance by ECTAC. New policy regarding inclusive preschools is out to education staff. This will be policy vs. just guidelines. School districts will be serving children with disabilities differently in the future to meet the policy's requirements. There is not a timeline but all districts will need to set goals to meet this policy. This may also affect the training of professionals to meet these requirements. No additional funding for improvement. Betsy Sutherland has seen some districts starting to make some positive changes. Also discussed services that are provided in a private school setting e.g. Carmen Pingree. Only in preschool can a service provider travel to private settings to provide special education services.

Karen Borg/USDB Blind PIP - Number of new referrals throughout the state this year – 225. In June there will be a program through the University of Utah specifically for Birth to Five with a vision endorsement from K-21. There will be minimal training for birth to five. The Orientation and Mobility specialist will work by SKYPE providers while they are doing home visits to help families access this service especially in the rural areas.

Paula Pitman/USDB (Hearing) PIP – Will have service 480 children in PIP Hearing this year. There is still focus on trying to identify children with progressive hearing losses that passed their newborn hearing screening. Parents no longer have to choose a methodology early on and can attend different groups to improve communication/language skills. Access to a listening therapist is now available to all children/families. Language Orientation Team (Two Deaf Adults) work to educate families using different language approach. Also Deaf Mentors work with families in the home and act as a guide in the Deaf Community. A Shared Reading Program for ASL is being used to promote reading. PIP Polar Express with UTA to meet Santa and interact with other families. Retreat for Staff at Snowbird is planned. Their camp for families will be held on June 5 & 6 ASL classes are being developed with the goal of getting these classes online.

Simon Bolivar/Child of Childcare Licensing: Make sure children's health and safety is protected by writing and enforcing rules; training of childcare providers, help parents with accurate childcare facilities to make better choices. Working with Workforce Services to add more child care facilities and for family, friends, and neighbors child care providers to be in compliance for health and safety. CCDF (block grant) changes now allow inspection and background checks to subsidized facilities/private individual. New provider workbook will be online. International Building Code common language is being defined to differentiate between child care and adult care.

Gina Troop/Parent: Also a foster parent. Knows how important Early Intervention is for children. When she visits with natural parents, it is clear they are not aware that their child may be delayed or where to get services. Early Intervention Services seem to fall under the radar when working with families with challenges.

Nichole Brown/Parent: Working with PEEP to organize a parent council and putting together a parent survey, and complying information to let new parents know what is available. Educating parents is the critical focus of the council.

Stephanie Roach/Parent & ICC Tri-Chair: At the Utah Parent Center when they save information on the family, they push a button 'Save a Family' and it reminds them of what they do and their purpose.

VII. Baby Watch Reports

- **NICU Update** by Lisa Davenport. Has been working with PCMC and the U of U NICU to encourage referrals out to Early Intervention programs throughout the state. Lisa has distributed pamphlets from many EI Programs and encourages all programs to send her their pamphlets; educating hospitals of the automatic qualifying diagnosis and to also make sure that any child can be referred. Hospitals are not tracking their referrals. June 2014 to end of April, 98 referrals from PCMC and about 60 families are now under an IFSP with seven pending. U of U in March and April made 19 referrals. Some local programs send providers directly to the hospital. At the last Grantee Meeting, Baby Watch mentioned how they can help link families for those programs that unable to travel to the hospital. Would also like to get into other hospitals along the Wasatch Front.
- **Autism Project Update** by Carma Mordecai. Has been working with other professionals and agencies for the early identification of autism. Utah is the lowest for identification for autism, but highest in children with autism. Survey sent out to EI, Public Schools, and medical professions. Seven *Utah Autism Early Response Workshops* will be held throughout Utah. The first workshop is this Friday, May 29, 2015. Any person can attend any of the trainings at no charge. Trainings will focus on universal screening of children, the MCHAT and how to talk to families. Also want to make people aware of people/agencies of professionals for follow-up and treatment.
- **CSPD Update** - Karen Borg has received input from Providers Consortium in April and reflected what the survey had provided.
See Power Point Presentation
- **Family Advocacy and Support Committee** - Esperanza Reyes and Nicole Brown. Family Advocacy Group and Support meetings one hour prior to ICC meetings and anyone is welcome to join. Also planning on having monthly meetings via SKYPE. The committee has set three goals: 1) information is given to families upon entering EI throughout the state 2) type of info online 3) materials to simplify Parent's Rights (reviewing what other state are doing and what it would look like in Utah). Also looking at video materials for families can see what it looks like. Nicole – Creating a 'Book Mark' with family rights and references.

VIII. Review of Future ICC Meetings:

2015	Sept 23 (ends at 2:00) Nov 18
2016	Jan 27 Mar 23 (ends at 2:00) May 25

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:

Janet Wade, for the ICC Tri-Chair

Mary James and Susan Ord