



State Interagency Coordinating Council for Tennessee's Early Intervention System

Jan. 21, 2014
9 p.m. – 12 p.m. (CT)

Meeting Minutes

ICC Members in Attendance:

Alicia Cone -TN Council on Developmental Disabilities
Robyn Ridgley-Middle Tennessee State University
Jacqueline Johnson-Department of Health
Karen Pryor-Health Sphere Wellness Center
Gary Smith-Department of Education
Joey Hassell-Department of Education
Jessica Beaver-Therapy and Learning Center
Kim Wingate-University of TN at Chattanooga
Deanna Bell-TN Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics
Louise Barnes-Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Catherine Knowles-Metro Schools
Kay Overbey-Department of Children's Services

ICC Guests in Attendance:

Linda Hartbarger-TEIS
Catherine Goodwin-TEIS
Jill Rigsby-TEIS
Mike Hinricher-TEIS
Sarah Hunt-Child Development Centers
Margaret Headrick- TEIS
Teresa Winnette-Child Development Centers
Amy Jenkins-Siskin Children's Institute
Pat Cooper- TEIS
Jill Rogers-LEAD
Jude White-Children's Cabinet
Anita Teague-Child Development Centers
Stephanie Phillips-Special Kids and Families
Michelle Fox-Foundations
Kara Adams-Family Voices
Elizabeth Hailey-TEIS
Karen Willis-TEIS
Juanita Kendrick-Project Memphis
Georgia Garrett-TEIS
Heather Higgins-First Steps
Ron Kwasigroh-Therapy and Learning Center
Susan Rollyson-TNAAP
Beverly Bell-TEIS
Terry Lewis-TEIS
Lise Earwood- TEIS
Shannon Pargin-TEIS
Rene Bard- TEIS
Lise Earwood-TEIS

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Joan Kennedy-TEIS
Melinda Dellert-TEIS
Claudia Weber-TEIS
Michelle Wyatt-Susan Gray School
Belinda Hotchkiss-Family Voices
Barbara Thomas-TEIS
Chase Davenport-Emory Valley Center

MEETING:

Opening/Welcome

SICC Chair Robyn Ridgley opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. The SICC members, lead agency staff, and guests introduced themselves and identified their respective agencies and roles.

Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes of October Meeting

There was a correction of member's names.

Public Input

Tennessee Children's Cabinet-Jude White, director

Jude shared a handout that outlined the School Readiness Model for Tennessee with Dr. Carol Brunson Day leading the work group to create the model. A DVD was created to document the transition from an early childhood setting to kindergarten.

It takes families, schools and communities working together to create success for both learning and development in the birth to age 5 span. To see the full model, visit kidcentraltn.com or download the mobile app. There is also a link on the TN.Gov homepage. If you would like to receive bi-monthly articles as a parent or professional just submit your email address. For parents it provides a list of services available to them within a 50 mile radius of their home and they can also build a profile of their child to bookmark information correlating to their child's age and gender.

Karen Pryor asked the question if on the website there is a check list of school readiness guide lines. Jude answered that currently no there is not since there is such a wide variance between school systems as to what their school readiness model looks like.

Agency and Program Reporting

Early Childhood IDEA Programs (ECIP) Update-Linda Hartbarger

Linda shared that there had been approval to hire 25 service coordinators in August but due to hiring freezes that was put on hold. Those positions can now be filled in waves across the state over the course of this year. Other positions due to be filled are data managers, receiving approval on Jan. 15 with the register closing today and administrative secretaries. Currently five TEIS offices are without administrative support.

Linda said that Joey Hassell, assistant commissioner has been supportive of TEIS and its efforts in securing approval for position filling and thanked him for helping to get this accomplished.

The ECIP accountant position has now been filled by Terry Lewis, who previously held the logistics/procurement job title for TEIS. Efforts are under way at this time for filling of that job title.

Submission for Federal funding is due by April 21. The Part C application will be posted on the website from Feb. 3-April 3 and is open to public comment for 60 days.

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Contracts & Authorization to Vendor-AV Agreements for FY 2014-15-Linda Hartbarger

Linda spoke about AV contracts in that they would go through a competitive bid process. Requirements for the bid process are posted on the website. A review committee will make sure all documents are complete. Early Intervention Resource Agencies (EIRA) will need to complete the applications which are due no later than Feb. 15 and submit them electronically to Eyerusalem Woldie in the Central Reimbursement Office (CRO). Partial applications will not be accepted and will need to be resubmitted if incomplete.

A question was raised if all transcripts would be needed and if so would they need to be originals or copies? Jill added that she would provide a response as soon as possible.

State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)-Catherine Goodwin

Catherine reviewed the state's draft Part C Annual Performance Report (APR) with ICC members and guests. The FFY 2012-13 report submission on Feb.3, 2013 is the last APR to be submitted for the federal reporting cycle of FFY 2005-13. A PowerPoint presentation was utilized to review the current status while also taking a view back to the state's information for the full federal reporting cycle. Graphs in the presentation provided a comparison to federal/state targets along with national averages for each APR indicator. The draft APR document was reviewed alongside the PowerPoint presentation. Handouts were given to Council members to assist with a better understanding of early childhood outcomes (Indicator 3) and the family survey (Indicator 4).

The new federal report cycle begins with FFY 2013-14 with the first APR submission due February 2015. Information has been shared with the Council since April 2013 when the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) first released news on the proposed reporting changes. To date, it is unclear as to when final information will be made available to states. Catherine reviewed what we currently know about the new federal reporting cycle along with work efforts presently underway in anticipation of the APR package.

The APR will be posted on the state's website in March after a period of clarification OSEP affords states to finalize the APR. The *Annual Report to the Public* will also be posted in March. This report compares Tennessee's Early Intervention Service Programs (EIS Programs) with Indicator performance measures along with a comparison to state targets. The nine EIS Programs in TN are the TEIS Point of Entry Offices.

ICC Business

ICC Representative Update

Present at today's meeting were three new ICC members: Dr. Karen Pryor, Dr. Deanna Bell and Jessica Beaver.

There are still nominees awaiting appointment in the Governor's office.

Member Agency/Program Updates

Dr. Bell shared that there would be an upcoming Care Coordination Summit on April 4-5, 2014 Scarritt-Bennett Center for physicians and early childhood professionals to attend. Registration would be available on the TN Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (TNAAP) website.

Louise Barnes shared that there would be a county level system of care.

Topic requests for next meeting

The State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) details regarding funding would like to be discussed. TEIS staff with priorities outlined.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

Next ICC Meeting

Tuesday, April 22, 2014

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