

# EIC Meeting Minutes

**1/21/16**

Present were: Cheryl Gundrum, Terry Kennedy Mabel Koser, Shelley Dreyer, Jill Nelson, Sharon Harlacher, Jean Gray, Jennifer Lyden, Eric Bostick, Jessica Jenkins, Suzanne Jackson, Amy Swartz, Bridgette Vogelsong, Pam Mateserac, \_\_\_\_\_ Appel, and Amy Reed. Attending through the GotoMeeting were Chou Gabikiny and Roberta Kornfeld.

EIC Co chair Cheryl Gundrum began the meeting with introductions. The October meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. There is a correction to the agenda for today. The next EIC meeting will be held on April 28, 2016 from 10-12 at the CAIU.

**Old Business** – Cheryl reminded everyone that we want to continue to use the EIC as an advisory board.

Eric Bostick demonstrated the Padlet site to all and how to post information. We have two participants today through the GoToMeeting software.

**New Business** – Dr. Jim Coyle resigned as the Bureau of Early Intervention Services Director effective 1/14/16. We wish Dr. Coyle all the best in his new ventures. Emily Hackelman is the acting Bureau director until a new replacement is found.

**Family Survey Results** Cheryl compiled the 14-15 BEIS family survey results for the EIC. We reviewed them and looked at our strengths and challenges. It was noted that even for areas with challenges our EIC programs are still rated at or above the state average. We discussed the length of the survey, types of questions, and how we can get better satisfaction. Sharon Harlacher from York Adams EI said that their program sends its own survey to families, providers, and community partners. The results are still pending. Sharon will share the survey with the group. Amy Reed shared that Cumberland Perry EI does a service coordination satisfaction survey which is used as part of the service coordinator performance reviews.

## **Committee Discussions/Tasks**

**Membership** - Our LICC agreement is due by July 1. It defines the collaboration between the infant toddler programs, Head Start, Preschool EI, and Department of Health. We will need a new professional co-chair as of July 1. Chou Gabikiny will stay on as our parent co-chair for another year.

**Solutions Across Systems** - This committee discussed that we need to revisit a common message about transition with families. We are also going to discuss ways to get this common message out to infant toddler providers.

**Family and Professional Networking** – Jill Nelson reported that we will not be holding the Sleep training we had tentatively looked at for April 5. The committee is taking another look at parent training and

what is really helpful for families. Our last several trainings for families have had very low registration and been cancelled. We will look at ways to survey families on that information. Jill and Amy Swartz met with Lori Cartmill at the Capital Area Christian Church about our annual carnival. It is scheduled for June 6, 2016 from 5-8 pm. Our flyer will go out to families the last week of April. The church has agreed to do all food purchase, prep, set up, service, etc.

**Childfind** – Amy Swartz reported out that the committee discussed helping children who are experiencing homelessness. Jeanne Predmore from The Foundation for Enhancing Communities is doing screening in Dauphin county homeless Shelters. Nancy Weaver from Cumberland Cares for Children is doing the same in Cumberland county shelters.

**Children’s Social Emotional Committee** – Amy Reed shared that the committee met on 1/12/16 and discussed where we want to go. We had planned training for families on Performcare and Parent Child Interaction Therapy for the fall. Due to low attendance, this was cancelled. We would like to do the training again and aim it towards professionals. This training will be held on May 11, 2016 from 1-4 at the CAIU in Summerdale. The committee also would like to do a training series around trauma doing 2 trainings per year on different trauma topics. Our next committee meeting is scheduled for April 5, 2016 at 1:30pm at the CAIU in Summerdale. All are welcome to attend.

**Provider Representative-** Diane Lane was not available today but Bridgette Vogelsong discussed that Sovia Therapy had to develop a policy around infestations such as bedbugs and how we work with families in those situations. There was discussion and the counties do not have policies on this issue. Each provider typically comes up with their own policy. This is happening more and more often. Sharon Harlacher discussed how York Adams handles these. We also had a brief discussion around home visitor safety.

## **CSE/SICC Updates**

The last CSE meeting was cancelled. The next one will be held on 2/4/16 from 9-11:30 at PATTAN Harrisburg.

**SICC-** This meeting was held in State College in conjunction with the Early Childhood Conference. The meeting reviewed state EI data and discussed Keystone Stars reclassifications. The next meeting will be held on 2/4/16 from 12-3pm at PATTAN Harrisburg.

**Coaching Community of Practice** – This next session for infant toddler providers will be held on 1/25/16 from 5:30-7:30pm at the CAIU.

**My Bike** - Eric shared information about a non profit group that helps make accessible bikes for children with disabilities. He provided a handout. They are doing fittings at the CAIU. Bridgette commented that her daughter received a bike and is doing great with it. The group can also provide iPads as communication devices, and lightweight strollers. These two pieces are not yet available in our local area.

Jill shared a resource called Best Friend Dolls. The company makes dolls for children with special needs that look like them. If interested, the website is [fbfdolls.org](http://fbfdolls.org)

## **Agency Roundtable**

**Shippensburg Head Start** –Mabel shared that they got two more Pre K Counts classes at LeTort and South Middleton that will be opening on February 22. For Head Start 30% of the children have an IEP. It is expected that by the end of February that number will increase to 33-34%. Classrooms now have to go through Keystone Stars Star 4 program.

**Dauphin County EI** - Cheryl reported that they did a physician mailing in March of 2014. This has increased their child count significantly. She has been doing outreach to providers to increase capacity.

**Sovia Therapy** - Bridgette shared that they are looking to hold a Go Baby Go workshop which helps to modify power wheeled cars so that children can have independent mobility. A child's team registers and they leave at the end of the day with that car. Kelly Rice – Sovia owner is looking for ways to fund this since it is very expensive.

**UCP Family Support Services** – Suzanne shared that they had a movie night last week. Family bowling will be held on 2/20. There will be a family dance night in March and Sibshops also begin again in March for siblings ages 6-12. The newsletter should go out next week.

**Perry County Family Center** – Shelley shared that they have served over 400 children this year. They also took over the Perry County Children and Youth Christmas program this year and it went very well.

**York/Adams EI** – Sharon said their referrals have increased. Children are waiting for all services including special instruction. They typically get about 15 referrals from York NICU when they go there to do rounds.

**EIS** – Jessica shared that their director Kelley is on maternity leave right now.

**CMU** – Jill shared that their agency did the Toys for Tots program this year. They helped 250 families. They also worked with the Central PA Food Bank to do fundraising to give out about 260 food baskets. There will be an SC retreat on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Parent to Parent** – Pam stated they appreciate the referrals and are hoping to continue to get more and more.

**Cumberland Perry EI** – county has implemented a new pay for performance system for all staff including service coordinators. Referrals are coming in steadily but seeing more coming from the western part of the county.

**Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 11:45am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Reed