



Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services

First Steps

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Interagency Coordinated Council Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2023

10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. EDT

ICC Members in attendance: Cory Best-Co-chair, Jason Berty, Representative Ed Clere, Erica Deathe, Robyn Duffy, Mariann Frigo, Mark Guyer-Chair, Alexandra Hall, Lindsay Holley, Jennifer Owens, Tonia Carriger (Proxy for Courtney Penn), Megan Purcell, Ashley Walke (Proxy for Angie Vaughn), Stacy Williams, Deanna Woodruff

ICC members not in attendance: Laura Burklew, Rachael Foster, DJ Glander, Kristi Linson, Erica Miller, Tanya Merritt-Mulamba, Sarah Sailors

First Steps State Staff in attendance: Christina Common, David Brandon-Friedman, Katie Goodwell, Barbara Sanders, Marie-Therese Smith, Amy Torres, Connie Young

Welcome and Introductions

Mark Guyer, ICC Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10am and welcomed everyone. Family Story was done by Alexandra Hall, parent, and ICC member. She talked about her son who is a graduate of First Steps who received DT, OT, PT, and ST. He is now in kindergarten and doing great. Alexandra says he is a walking billboard of what the program can do for young children.

Approval of September 2023 minutes

Mark Guyer asked for a motion to approve the September meeting minutes. Megan Purcell made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as written. Alexandra Hall seconded the motion, and a vote was taken:

13 members approved and 2 members abstained. The motion was carried.

2024 Meeting Dates

Mark proposed a 4-meeting date schedule for 2024 based upon a recommendation from the Executive Committee. He asked members to react and provide feedback. He stated with only 4 meetings, ICC members would be strongly encouraged to attend all meetings in person, but the council will still offer a Zoom option for public attendance. There was discussion around school breaks interfering with members being able to attend in person. Attending all in person meetings might cause a burden on ICC members who must travel long distances. Some think we should stick with every other month option and continue to offer a hybrid option. Cory Best said that the Executive Committee thought all meetings being in person would encourage more council member engagement and rich conversation around issues and topic than what the hybrid option has provided over the past two years. Megan Purcell indicated that if the meeting schedule is changed the by-laws will need to be updated to reflect any changes. The Executive Committee discuss the



council's feedback at its December meeting and any proposed changes will be brought to a vote at the January meeting.

First Steps and IN EI Hub Update

Christina Commons, First Steps Director, gave an update on the program. She shared newly developed workforce dashboards comparing May 2022 to May 2023 and additional dashboard ideas her staff can create. She also discussed plans for 2024 and project priorities listing areas for ICC consideration as the council continues with sub-committees. See the attached Power Point.

Governor's Report

Copies of the 2023 Governor's Report were made available at the meeting and sent out via Zoom. It will be placed on the First Steps website.

ICC Executive Committee Elections

Mark Guyer opened the floor for ICC Executive Committee members. The council had two parents interested in being appointed to the committee. A vote was taken to elect the following:

Cory Best-Chair (State Agency)

DeAnna Woodruff-Vice Chair (Parent)

Jason Berty-Member at Large (Provider Agency)

Jennifer Owens-Member at Large (Provider Agency)

Alexandra Hall-Member at Large (Parent)

Erica Deathe-Member at Large (Parent)

Members voted and 13 members approved and 2 abstained.

Sub-Committee Summary

Advocacy:

Nothing was reported by the Advocacy Sub-Committee.

Fiscal:

Jason Berty gave the summary. The group talked about safety training for providers and rates review ahead of the 2025 budget year.

PD/ Child Assessment:

Megan Purcell gave the summary. She talked through a Power Point presentation (see attached) around the child assessment work this group has been doing over the past year. They recommend adopting the AEPS-3 and use the Hawaii Early Learning Profile (HELP) in the event the AEPS-3 is not sensitive enough for the child. The group also suggests the continuation to offer informed clinical opinion (ICO). Megan shared some concerns and additional questions the committee would like addressed before the January meeting. Megan is working on getting a meeting with the publisher scheduled.

Legislative Report

Representative Clere stated that there is nothing new to report. General Assembly is not in session so people can visit their legislators in the local districts. The ARC of IN and IN-ARF can help to make connections as needed.

ICC Member and Public Comment

Mark Guyer asked if there were any comments. Tonia Carriger stated that her office has released childcare expansion grants totaling \$8.7 million which will provide 1500 more slots for children.

There is also an Employee Sponsor Grant for \$25 million to create partnerships between employers, childcares and schools. No other comments were made. Christina Commons asked the council and public to thank Mark Guyer for his contributions to the ICC as Chair and member for the past three years. Everyone applauded Mark.

Adjourn

Mark Guyer asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Megan Purcell made a motion to adjourn, and Alexandra Hall seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is January 10, 2024.

Minutes were respectfully submitted by Janet Ballard, ICC Staff Support