

Purchase DEIC
December 2, 2005

Attending: Martin Amundson, Sharon Jones, Janet Stewart, Tracy Gibson, Penny Bouland, Tonya Shea, Gail Herndon, Kathy Salazar, Jan Solomon, Marcia Harbison, Sherry Holland, June Fortner, Scott Suttles, Allison Clark, Eileen Cameron, Vicki Wright, Amy Peal, Kathy Miller, April Shirley, Betty Deckard

Voting Members not present: Libby Bobo, Kay Perry, Lana Buchanan, Paula Humphreys, Denise Gilbert, Intrepid USA, Murray-Calloway Hospital, Jeanetta Berry

Minutes: The September minutes were approved.

Provider Update: Kathy Goatley, DI, has ended her contract with First Steps. There is an immediate need for OT services in Calloway County, and for a nutritionist or dietician in all counties. April Shirley, Betty Deckard, and Leigh Ann Siener completed the November module of PSC training and will be new independent PSCs. Jodi Kirk and Michelle Osborn are new speech therapists in the river and Calloway counties. Focused recruitment has been lifted, so new providers can be added to contracts for any counties. There are still certain disciplines and service gaps to be addressed, so new providers may want to serve those areas.

Point of Entry Report: During September there were 37 referrals, 16 initial IFSP meetings, 72 cases carried over from August, a month-end caseload of 60, and 16 cases exceeding the 45-day timeline. In October there were 48 referrals, 16 initial IFSP meetings, 70 cases carried over from September, a month-end caseload of 64, and 13 cases over 45 days. The November report hadn't been completed yet but will be available at the next DEIC meeting.

Technical Assistance Team Report: Any time there is a DEIC or PSC meeting, assistive technology items and equipment can be brought that need to be returned to the WKATC in Owensboro. The ICC needs new members; a list of their duties was passed around.

The State Performance Plan for the next 6 years was e-mailed to everyone and will be on the website. It gives details on ways First Steps has to improve to meet the federal timelines and performance requirements. One of the major emphases will be improving the percentage of initial IFSPs being in place by 45 days after referrals come to the POE. Currently the program is at 36% and must improve to 100% this year or federal funds could be cut. It's not just a concern for the POEs, but the primary evaluators, initial assessors, and everyone who has to meet deadlines to make this happen.

There will be a training on sensory impairments in western KY on March 17, either in Hopkinsville or Paducah. Several state agencies such as the KY School for the Deaf, KDE, the Deaf-Blind Project, and the Heuser Institute/Louisville Deaf Oral School are working together to provide this free training. More details will be sent later.

For DIs or other providers wanting to obtain their IECE certification, Project INCREAS has extended the application deadline to March 15, 2006. This pays for the tuition costs of classes and is a 2-year part time study track with 8 required courses and 3 100-hour practica. Details are on the First Steps website.

AAHBEI, or American Association of Home-Based Early Interventionists is a professional organization that may be of interest to providers. The website is www.aahbei.org.

Primary evaluators will have a teleconference Wednesday, Dec. 7th, in several locations, from 12:30 – 3 PM. The closest site is Marshall County Health Department in Benton. There will be another one on April 26, 2006.

Subcommittee Reports: The DEIC has \$1000 to spend before next June. It was discussed and voted on to have 500 copies of the Step By Step transition booklet printed. Eileen will get estimates and let the voting members know. The budget subcommittee members that are still receiving requests to use the monies left from the '03-'04 fiscal year are to report to the DEIC about disbursements.

Several members and the co-chairs' terms have expired or will be in January. The nominating subcommittee will need to be activated to fill vacancies. The by-laws will also need to be updated to reflect changes.

Old/New Business: It was discussed whether to continue with quarterly DEIC meetings or have a different schedule. Those in attendance voted to have bi-monthly meetings during 2006. The time will remain the same. It was also discussed and voted to use \$25 of the DEIC budget to put a room deposit down so that lunch or refreshments can be brought to the meetings in 2006.

The meeting dates will be on Fridays – January 27, March 31, May 19, July 28, September 22, and December 1. PSC Quarterly meetings will be March 31, September 22, and December 1, from 9 AM – noon preceding the DEIC meetings on those days. The June PSC meeting will be either June 2 or 9th in conjunction with the Pennyrile PSCs and school representatives to review the Interagency Transition Agreement.

Suggestions for guest speakers can be given to the co-chairs or the TA team members.

**Next Meeting is Friday, January 27, Noon
Graves County Public Library, 617 N 17th ST, Mayfield**

AGENDA

Introductions

Approval of December Minutes

Provider Update

Point of Entry Report

Technical Assistance Team Report

Subcommittee Reports

Old/New Business

Agenda Items for March 31 Meeting