

Pennyrile DEIC
December 9, 2005

Attending: Eileen Cameron, Rheanne Brummett, Heather Curtis, Robin Guynn, David Girdner, Melanie Carter, Charla Underwood, Janet Harper, Kathy Miller

Voting Members not present: April Dill, Angela Stewart, Traci Mansfield, Lori Strader

September Minutes: The minutes were approved with a correction of the December meeting as the 9th.

Provider Update: Rheanne shared that service gaps for PSCs, speech, physical therapy and DIs are impacting several counties. Katrina Russ, teacher for visually impaired, has ended her contract with First Steps, and Elaine Farris, ST, is no longer a provider. Focused Recruitment has been lifted, so new providers can be added to contracts for any county. The list of service gaps is still on the First Steps website, and new providers may want to serve those counties to build a caseload.

Point of Entry Report: Rheanne reported that in September there were 20 referrals, 8 initial IFSP meetings, 64 cases carried over from August, a month-end caseload of 62, and 34 cases exceeding the 45-day timeline. For October there were 25 referrals, 20 initial IFSP meetings, 64 cases carried over from September, a month-end caseload of 53 and 26 cases exceeding 45 days. In November there were 25 referrals, 9 initial IFSP meetings, 53 cases carried over, a month-end case load of 49 and 10 cases exceeding the 45 days. Referrals from DCBS have increased.

The State Performance Plan that was submitted to OSEP on how First Steps will improve over the next 6 years includes 100% of the children determined to be eligible for services having their initial IFSP in place by 45 days after the referral comes to the POE. The program currently is at 36% and this must improve to 100% this fiscal year or federal funds could be cut. This task will require everyone to meet deadlines and isn't just a Point of Entry concern. The SPP was sent by e-mail and is on the website.

Technical Assistance Team Report: Kathy shared that there was a primary evaluator teleconference on Wednesday, Dec. 7th. The next one will be April 26, 2006. Primary evaluators who missed the teleconference will have a make up session available; more details will be sent out. Dr. Jackie Sampers will be reviewing primary evaluator's reports and providing technical assistance to them.

Project INCREAS is for DIs or other providers wanting to obtain their IECE certification. The application deadline has been extended 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.

The ICC needs new members. It meets every other month in Frankfort and some meetings may be videoconferences. A list of membership duties was passed around.

Any assistive technology items or equipment needing to be returned to the WKATC in Owensboro can be brought to DEIC or PSC meetings.

The Delay Ranking Scale and DOCS screening tool that the POEs use will be revised in the near future.

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

Orientations for new providers will be at Bowling Green in January & March, and at Murray in February. On March 17, there will be a training for providers on sensory impairments either in Paducah or Hopkinsville. The KY School for the Deaf, the Deaf-Blind Project and Heuser Institute/Louisville Deaf Oral School are providing the training.

Old/New Business: After the September DEIC meeting, several members met to discuss ways to recruit new members. Lori Strader had talked to someone, and Janet Harper said that Carolyn Kistler, an audiologist, is interested. Others had not been successful in finding new members yet.

The CCC or Community Collaboration for Children has money for fatherhood initiatives, such as guest speakers and the PADD is the fiscal agent. Sandra Lane from DCBS is the chairperson of that group, so she could be contacted about possibilities for an event or as a guest speaker.

At the September meeting it was discussed and voted to spend \$500 on printing more DEIC brochures for public awareness. Before proceeding with that, Kathy had checked the budget housed at MSU and found that conference registration fees for April Dill and her daughter had come out of this year's budget instead of last year's which leaves \$665. It was discussed and voted to go ahead with the printing that was approved in September. It was also discussed that between now and the March DEIC meeting, everyone needs to come up with ways to spend the remaining \$165 so it isn't lost, and they will have to follow MSU expenditure guidelines.

Suggestions for guest speakers for next year were discussed from the September meeting.

Janet Harper has resigned as co-chair, which leaves a vacancy. Heather Curtis agreed to replace her and will invite Dr. Humbred from Fort Campbell as a guest speaker for March's meeting.

A discussion of dates for 2006 meetings and times resulted in the decision to move the DEIC meeting time from 9 AM to noon on the 2nd Friday of the month each quarter. Participants can bring lunch with them to the meetings.

2006 Meeting Dates: March 10, June 9, September 8, December 8 – all at Noon, PADD Office, 300 Hammond AVE, Hopkinsville

2006 PSC Meeting Dates: March 10, September 8, December 8 – all at 10 AM through the DEIC meetings, PADD Office, 300 Hammond AVE, Hopkinsville

The June PSC meeting will be June 2 in the Grand Rivers area to review the regional Interagency Transition Agreement with the Pennyrite & Purchase school representatives, Regional Training Center, and West KY Educational Coop.