



## ICC MEETING

Kentucky Early Intervention Services (KEIS) Interagency Coordination Council (ICC)  
Virtual Meeting

July 13, 2023

**ICC MEMBERS:** Elizabeth Schumacher, Scott Tomchek, Holly LaFavers, Judy Theriot, Andrea Bartholomew, Catherine Lowe, Anne Raispis.

**Guest:** Steve Brown, Owner ASCB, Laura Miller, Teresa Marie Garcia DI, Stephanie Huddle SLP, Audrey Butler OT, Jamie Grove KEDS, Kristy Dyer PT, Kerry Larson, Rachelle Kock SLP, Sara Vank SLP, Catlin Conley DI, Leigh Ann Roden SLP, Lisa Dean OT, Ann Miller SLP, Jennifer Cartwright, Sarah Young, Renea Sageser, Blake Clark, Beth Martin, Kelly Twehues.

**POE:** Mitzi Helton, Nancy Combs, Clorissa McConnell, Amanda Millay, Lauren Penrose, Amy Meadows, Hope Rice, Christy Jones, Barbara Sweeney, Johnna Canter, Angie Casey, Jessica Wood.

**SLA:** Paula Goff, Tammie Isenberg, Melissa Hardison, Valerie Marshall, Kelly Tharpe, Casey Turner, Christina Miller, Julie Sandifer, Colleen Meszaros, Karen McCracken, Savannah Propst, Monique Hollis, Keri Gregory, Kathy Long.

**SLA= State Lead Agency, POE= Point of Entry, U of L= University of Louisville, KDE= Kentucky Department of Education, DBHDID=Department for Behavior Health, Developmental, and Intellectual Disabilities, DMS= Department for Medicaid Services, KEDS= Kentucky Early Childhood Data System.**

**I. Call to Order/ Old Business:** Welcome and Member Roll Call

Review/Approval of April 2023 Minutes were not presented as we did not have a quorum. Reminder for the use of Chat and Public Comment

## II. Part C Report

The State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Plan (SPP/APR): US Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) issued a determination of "Needs Assistance" for the Kentucky Early Intervention Program (KEIS). The final scores were 93.75% on the compliance indicators and 50% on the results. The overall score was 71.88%. Discussion centered on possible reasons for the lower scores on the two outcomes. The Council recommended analyzing the child outcomes data to determine if there are POES who are outliers and why.

OSEP Differentiated Monitoring: The review emphasized Kentucky's compliance monitoring. Questions targeted specific regulatory items and the Kentucky process. The team shared that the communication system-wide was good, policies were good, and the data system was very good. Kentucky expects one finding on the transition to Part B. Evidence that the local education agencies received the list of potentially eligible toddlers still needs to be collected. One other issue, based on a comment made during a focus group, regarding the 45-day timeline (Indicator 7), may result in another finding. OSEP staff requested additional documentation for that indicator. The letter of findings will be issued in late summer/early fall.

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**Our Vision:** Healthier People, Healthier Communities.

**Our REACH Values:** Responsiveness   Equity   Accountability   Collaboration   Honesty





FFY23 Federal Grant Application: Kentucky received the FFY23 federal grant award on July 1. One comment was received during the public comment period concerning vision screening. Kentucky received \$7,063,818.

Equity/Child Find: This new activity ensures that all eligible infants, toddlers, and their families can access KEIS services. A workgroup needs to be convened once the Outreach Coordinator is hired. The next SPP (due 2/1/24) requires states to report an additional demographic element in Indicator 4, Family Outcomes, such as socioeconomic status, parents/guardians whose primary language is other than English and who have limited English proficiency, maternal education, geographic location, or other demographic characteristic approved by the input of the stakeholder group.

## II. KEIS Operations

DPH Staff: Nicole Florence joined the SLA as a Budget Specialist I on May 16. The SLA also has a Health Policy Specialist II position open. We are in the process of reviewing applications for that position and will be conducting interviews soon.

Point of Entry (POE) Determinations: Congratulations to the POEs! Once again, all POEs achieved the **Meets Requirements** for the SPP/APR Indicators. Determining Meets Requirements means that the district complies with the state targets. This may include correcting any identified non-compliance within one year of notification to the district. The district is not subject to any enforcement action by the state.

Critical Provider Shortages: The KIPDA Point of Entry (POE) has had eight (8) long-term service coordinator vacancies. As a state agency, the POE follows state personnel procedures that move very slowly. This culminated in a considerable backlog of referrals that could not be processed timely, resulting in a waiting list. Waiting lists are not permitted under federal law. Several activities are now in place to remedy the situation. The Bluegrass POE has hired four service coordinators who work in the KIPDA district. Additionally, the Bluegrass and Lincoln Trail service coordinators take up to 10 children to conduct intake meetings through the IFSP development and then hand over the case to KIPDA coordinators for ongoing work. The SLA will add four service coordinators to the U of L contract. These supports and slowly opening state positions should resolve the backlog. Children who waited and were subsequently determined eligible may receive compensatory services.

Waiting lists for early intervention services: Excluding the referral backlog in KIPDA, two hundred twenty-three (223) children have IFSP services but are waiting on a specific provider for a service. Most of these are families who want face-to-face but have accepted tele-intervention while waiting.

## Public Comment

Several people commented on the pay rate related to providers, as they provide services virtually or in person.

## Future Meeting Date:

- October 12, 2023 @ 10:00 a.m.
- January

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Chair Elizabeth Schumacher adjourned this meeting.

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