

Meeting Notes

Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT)

Quarterly Meeting

June 21 & 22, 2011

10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. – Tallahassee, Florida

Members Present: Lorraine Allen, Laurie Blades, Jeanne Boggs, Judy Corso, Cynthia Fuller, Pat Grosz, Karen Hartz, Carole West for Bambi Lockman, Sharon Paul, Debbie Russo, Lynn Marie Firehammer for Phyllis Sloyer, Gail Underwood, and Marilyn Hibbard for Brittany Birken.

Members Absent: Katherine Dagenais

Members Absent with Notification: Jeannie Carr, Angela Finch, Johana Hatcher, and Lois Maroney

Non-members Present: Annalise Campisi, Paula Kendig, April Katine, Lou Ann Long, Brenda Ham, Kambria Haire, Lourdes Quintana, Vivien Treeharne, Penny Geiger, LaTasha Dullivan, Alisa Snow, Margaret Hooper, Lisa Smith, Renee Jenkins, Sally Golden-McCord, Janice Miller, Catherine Duncan, Pam Porter, Dawn Lynch, Hayley Smith, Carol Burch, David Johnson, Carol Roberts, Marie Gabbard, Donna Hudson, Patricia Herring, Tameka Footman, and Jane Wills.

Conference Call Attendees: Roni Bader-Tables, Kathy Wright, and Amanda Moore

Call to Order and Introductions: Judy Corso, Acting Chair for Roni Bader-Tables

Welcome and Introduction to all members and guests

FICCIT Business:

Review of agenda, program packet information, and committee meetings: Judy Corso

Approval Of Meeting Notes: Judy Corso, acting Vice Chair

Discussion: Judy Corso called for a vote to approve the notes from the April 2011 meeting.

Conclusion: Motion was made and passed to approve the April 2011 Meeting Notes.

Action	Person(s) Responsible	Date Due
Post April Meeting Notes to the web	Tameka Footman	ASAP

Update On Membership: Judy Corso

Discussion: No updates at this time.

Conclusion: Current membership list with appointment status has been posted on the website along with the addition of the committee members and their contact.

Status of Action Steps: Judy Corso

Discussion: Most action items completed, with a few pending and ongoing items that are currently being worked on. New actions will be discussed at individual committee meetings.

Conclusion: Updated Action Status report

Strategic Planning Discussion/Decision: Strategic Planning for the upcoming year was discussed with the council. In previous years the council has invited someone from NECTAC to facilitate the discussion. The council agreed that this would be a valuable use of the council's time for them to have this type of planning each year.

Revised Date for September FICCIT Meeting:

The new meeting dates will be September 13 and 14, 2011 in Melbourne, Florida.

Project Forum Meeting: Judy Corso & Sally Golden-McCord

Advocacy representation, Attorney's, OSEP, DOE, NECTAC, RRC System, NASTE and seven states throughout the US represented the Birth to Three population for a two day meeting which included lots of brainstorming. State and local level Early Steps Part C staff was present. There were different perspectives shared because of the LES's different groups attending. Meeting was very productive and interesting to see similar strengths and same concerns of what is not working. Frustration and concerns were geared on compliance timelines instead of whether the need(s) of the child and their families were met. A report will be distributed once it's finalized. Look for this publication in the NECTAC e-notes.

Nomination of New Officers: Judy Corso

Motion was made and passed for Patricia Grosz to be nominated for the position of Acting Chair for FICCIT.

Motion was made and passed for Karen Hartz and Cynthia Fuller to be nominated for the position of Acting Vice Chair for FICCIT.

Votes were taken and tallied and Patricia Grosz and Karen Hartz were appointed as the new Acting Chair and Vice Chair starting immediately.

Action	Person(s) Responsible	Date Due
Appoint Patricia Grosz as new Acting Chair for FICCIT	FICCIT Council	Complete
Appoint Karen Hartz as new Acting Vice Chair for FICCIT	FICCIT Council	Complete

PUBLIC COMMENT:

April Katine of the FDDC asked that PDAT help create the outline for content of credentialing modules for evaluator credentialing for early steps eligibility. The report on Disability Awareness RFP should be out in the next few months.

Overview of New Travel Forms and Policy: Lynn Marie Firehammer

Members were given an update on the recent changes concerning travel– written instructions attached at end of summary notes

State Office Update: -Lynn Marie Firehammer written report attached at the end of summary notes

Discussion: The expense of the conference calls for FICCIT meetings was discussed. It was decided to postpone the decision to discontinue the conference call for the September meeting until other avenues could be discussed. A motion was made and passed to check on alternate technologies to capture the meeting via electronic devices. There was also discussion about the feasibility of holding all future meetings in Tallahassee when the 2012 calendar is addressed by FICCIT members in September.

Action	Person(s) Responsible	Date Due
Check on technology capabilities for future FICCIT meeting in lieu of conference calls	Lynn Marie Firehammer and ESSO	ASAP

Recognition Award: Lynn Marie Firehammer recognized the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, represented by Margaret Hooper and Rose Costerand for their outstanding support of Early Steps.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council Screening Project: Alisa Snow gave a report on the background of the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council screening project, their current situation and future projects and goals including their task force findings – written report attached at end of summary notes.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Members in attendance: Pat Grosz, Acting Chair, Lynn Marie Firehammer, Lorraine Allen, Karen Hartz, Penny Geiger and Annalise Campisi for Judy Corso and Lorraine Allen

Summaries from each committee were presented to the executive committee– written report attached at end of summary notes

PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING: -

Members in attendance: Judy Corso, Chair, Pat Grosz. Annalise Campisi, Kaye Connelly, Carole West, Gail Underwood, Lourdes Quintana, Paula Kendig, Penny Geiger, Cynthia Fuller, Marilyn Hibbard and Debby Russo and Kathy Wright attended by phone

Report given by Annalise Campisi – written report attached at end of summary notes

Discussion: Leadership – Judy Corso will be moving and new leadership will be required for this committee. A recommendation was made to nominate Annalise Campisi as Chair and Penny Geiger as note taker. A request was made to allow a non-member to fill the Chair position and report to the Executive Committee. Cynthia Fuller suggested that they could be made an ad-hoc voting member instead of changing the Policy and Procedures which would be a refinement instead of an actual change in policy. Cynthia will draft something to that effect to be put to a vote at the September meeting. Motion was made and passed for Cynthia to work on a draft for the next FICCIT meeting.

Additional Discussion: Four Train-the-Trainer classes have been completed with very positive feedback. A recommendation was made to replace the current Orientation with the first

five Service Coordinator Apprenticeship modules and possibly some of the current Orientation Module material now being used.

The web-based Autism Navigator system of instruction that Dr. Amy Wetherby and Dr. Julianne Woods are currently working on, has been reviewed, and thus far, members have been pleased with the results.

Tools for Early Steps Teams (TEST) Project has been postponed. A review was called for to make sure that we are in compliance with Medicaid.

The performance of EW Byrant Associates was discussed, and it was determined that the end results are not up to standard. Their work was not fully developed and the end project did not match their requests. As a result, a motion was made to terminate any further use of EW Bryant Associates as a vendor for producing training materials.

ITDS enrollment – There are challenges with the process within the CMS Provider Management System. Applicants are receiving notice of missing information at day 40 with a 5-10 day turn around for information submission back to them.

ITDS courses ended 6/30 with 34 potential graduates There is a need to determine who's serving with LESs and who is not.

Conclusion: Three items required action.

Action	Person(s) Responsible	Date Due
Terminate use of EW Bryant and Associates in developing any future projects	ESSO	ASAP
Request to look at deliverables received by this vendor to determine if content is adequate to be enhanced by another vendor or completely overhauled	PDAT	ASAP
Write letter to Dr. Sloyer with cc to Brenda Tune and Mary Beth Vickers re time frames for provider processing time in CMS system	PDAT	ASAP
Draft a revision to the Policy and Procedures to allow Non-FICCIT Members to serve as Chair for FICCIT Committees	Cynthia Fuller	Sept meeting

OUTREACH AND COLLABORATION COMMITTEE: Lorraine Allen – written report attached at the end of the summary notes

Members in attendance: Laurie Blades, Jeanne Boggs, Karen Hartz, Sharon Paul, Jeanne Carr, Lynn Marie Firehammer, Catherine Duncan, Lou Ann Long, and Amanda Moore

Discussion: Save Early Steps Campaign: Volunteers from FICCIT were asked by the DD Council to volunteer to take over the social media (networking, Twitter, Facebook, etc) to publish testimonials and videos showing children being served. Jeanne Boggs volunteered to accept that responsibility. ESSO agreed to link the Early Steps Facebook to the FICCIT website. Council members may add their own personal links to the FICCIT site. Council members should send links to Tameka Footman by July 15 to forward to Lorraine Allen.

Distribution of the Annual Report:

The committee reviewed the format changes and its reduction to four pages with the removal of the Chair letter, funding page, state and regional contacts, and reworking of maps. A motion was made and passed to follow the same distribution process as last year. The committee chose 12 quotes with pictures from families instead of the family stories.

Committee Leadership: Laurie Blades agreed to serve as rotating chair for the next four meetings.

Action	Person(s) Responsible	Date Due
Collect testimonials and videos for the social media in order to make legislators and others aware of the Early Step program	Jeanne Boggs	ASAP
Link Early Steps Facebook page to FICCIT website	ESSO	ASAP
Send draft report to Tameka Footman for full Council review	Jeanne Boggs	July 22, 2011
Schedule conference call for edits and comments	Laurie Blades	August 10, 2011
Schedule conference call for final vote	Laurie Blades	August 31, 2011
Get quotes for printing	Catherine Duncan	August, 2011
Present final report for full committee	Committee	September Meeting
Prepare purchase order for printing	Catherine Duncan	After final vote
Follow same distribution plan as previous year	Committee	Upon publication

AGENCY UPDATES

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: Carole West - written report attached at the end of the summary notes

HOMELESS EDUCATION: Lorraine Allen – written report attached at the end of the summary notes

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE REGULATION: Cynthia Fuller – written report attached at the end of the summary notes

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: Laurie Blades and Debbie Russo - written reports attached at end of summary notes

AGENCY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: - No Representation

AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION: Gail Underwood – written report attached at end of summary notes

AGENCY FOR WORKFORCE INNOVATIONS: Marilyn Hibbard reported on changes in the Agency following the 2011 budget passage - written report at end of summary notes

STATE LEGISLATURE: No Representative

HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START: Karen Hartz – written report at end of summary notes

MEMBER UPDATES: Lynn Marie Firehammer announced a conference call with ECO (Early Child Outcome Center) later in the day and gave a recommendation for Batya Elbaum to assist PDAT in creating the Early Steps evaluator criteria. She also reminded members to acquaint themselves with the Sustainability Report included in the packet.

Sally Golden-McCord was asked to report on family survey and family outcomes. Sally reviewed history and new on-going processes which would allow for higher response.

MEETING ADJOURNED

FICCIT QUARTERLY MEETINGS 2011

September 13 & 14 Melbourne, FL

Florida Interagency
Coordinating Council for
Infants and Toddlers



Quarterly Report
June 21-22, 2011

**If we are facing in the right
direction, all we have to do
is keep on walking.**

-Buddhist Saying

Budget Update

- Early Steps escaped the line item veto process!
- Final state budget appropriations are \$768,444 more than FY 10-11
- Part C grant award \$72,859 more than FY 10-11
- Total increase \$841,303
- This brings us about even with 2009-10 funding (excluding ARRA)

**Developmental Disabilities Council
Early Steps Sustainability Project**

Sustainability Strategic Plan Implementation Committee meetings held 4/28, 5/20, 6/2, the following items were addressed:

- Comments from SIWG, FICCIT, and FCAIT reviewed, some items reassigned or marked completed
- Child Outcomes Leadership Team assignments reassigned to ESSO
- Some DD Council and SIWG action steps are cost prohibitive; status changed to "Not At This Time"

**Developmental Disabilities Council
Early Steps Sustainability Project**

- SIWG, FCAIT and DD Council will collaborate on fund raising action step which is critical to the future of Early Steps
- Committee reviewed and approved benchmarks, timelines and completion dates for their assigned strategies
- ESSO action steps will be reviewed at the July Early Steps Bureau Meeting

Invitation to Negotiate (ITN)

- All negotiation meetings have been held
- DOH Purchasing has set up the final Negotiation Team meeting on Monday, June 27, to determine awards
- Awards will be posted to the Vendor Bid site after the Negotiation Team meeting

Medicaid Provider Audits

- ESSO is tabulating the financial impact to Early Steps as a result of recoupments by Medicaid related to the Agency for Healthcare Administration's therapy provider audit process which went back to 2006 (and is 2006 correct)
- Providers are reporting that recoupments are seriously impacting their livelihood, some have closed their businesses and/or have quit practicing

Medicaid Provider Audits

- A small committee has developed a process for providers to submit recouped claims to the Local Early Steps and have them 'audited' for authenticity before sending them to ESSO to pay
- Committee members are:

Carol Burch	Melissa Bottege
Arnetta Givens	Harry Fogle
Ann Filloon	Althea Puzio
- Implementation of the process will hopefully begin July 1, 2011

Policy Unit

- ESSO reviewed/considered all public comments related to proposed policies and made necessary changes to the proposed policy handbook, operations guide and forms
- Changes primarily clarify policies in response to public comments received and conversations with Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)
- All comments received are posted on http://www.cms.kids.com/families/early_steps/public_participation.html

Policy Unit

- Final draft of policy revisions went to OSEP May 9, 2011 with the Annual Part C grant application
- October 1, 2011 is the tentative implementation date for revised policies, pending approval from OSEP
- Approved revised policies will be posted on the web and ESSO will schedule an orientation call to introduce the changes – tentatively in July or August

Policy Unit

- A complaint received by ESSO is currently under investigation alleging violations of IDEA related to eligibility determination and provision of written prior notice
- The final report, including findings, conclusions and any necessary corrective actions will be completed by July 2, 2011

Performance Improvement Unit

- Working with LESs who have uncorrected non-compliance to ensure timely correction (within 12 months of identification)
- Provided Focused Monitoring statewide regarding timely services to ensure performance gains last year have been maintained and promote use of new data element for tracking initiation of services
- Preparing for Quality Assurance Monitoring in August for review of FY 10-11 performance

Training Unit

The Training Unit update will be covered in the PDAT committee report

Travel Reimbursement

- Travel documentation **MUST** to be sent in no later than 5 days after last day of travel
- AVIS Rental cars under the State of Florida Contract **MUST** be used
- Use the Hybrid Car Matrix to determine the most economical type of car
- Mileage more than 100 miles per day in Private vehicle, requires POV vs Rental Car worksheet to prove most economical means of travel (IOP 56-37-11)
- Reimbursements are limited by DOH to amount of most economical means of travel (IOP 56-37-11)

Budget Update 2010-11

- The cost of the conference calls to date is \$1299.35
- Considering the ineffectiveness of hotel conference line capabilities for large meetings, the council may want to consider one of the following:
 - Discontinue conference line for full council
 - Discontinuing conference line for entire meeting

Budget Update 2010-11


Meeting	# of Phones	Total Cost including tax
Equipment		
Sep-10	2	\$212.85
Jan-11	2	\$279.50
Apr-11	2	\$277.50
Jun-11	2	\$279.50
Conference Call Line (usage fee)		
All dates (not yet charged to FICCT)	2 lines per meeting	\$250.00
TOTAL		\$1,299.35

Budget Update 2010-11

Purpose of Trip	Estimated Cost of Travel	Actual Expenditures
FICCT Meeting Sept 28-29 - Orlando	\$6,575.00	\$7,138.61
FICCT Meeting Jan 24-25 - Tallahassee	\$6,575.00	\$8,340.09
FICCT Meeting April 12-13 - Palm Beach	\$6,575.00	\$8,887.30
FICCT Meeting June 21-22 - Tallahassee	\$6,575.00	
Expenditures other than FICCT Quarterly Meetings	\$700.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$27,000.00	\$24,366.00
	BALANCE	\$2,634.00

**Don't aim for success if you want it;
just do what you love and believe in,
and it will come naturally.**

~David Frost




**Florida
Developmental
Disabilities
Council, Inc.**

Child Development Screening Initiative
Presentation to Florida Interagency Coordinating
Council on Infants and Toddlers
June 22, 2011

Background


- 2006 Children's Summit held
- 2007 Cabinet on Children & Youth created
- 2008 Cabinet approves goals/screenings
- 2009 Cabinet authorizes survey, analysis



Building blocks


FDDC project builds upon previous work for the Cabinet:

- 2009 The Policy Group report
 - Goal #1 – Create a system of standardized child screening tools, processes, and procedures
- Policy Group -- Plan of Action
 - Action Item #1 &2 – Review screening protocols in use; adopt recommended screening tools




Moving forward

- 2010 FDDC releases RFP to create statewide Task Force
- 2011 FDDC contracts with Snow Strategies
- 2012 Final report and recommendations




Current situation

Florida currently lacks a coordinated system for ensuring children are screened for developmental disabilities. Pediatricians, early intervention programs, schools and a plethora of other state and local entities use a variety of screening tools that may or may not fully identify developmental problems.



Project Goals

This project will create a statewide Task Force to develop recommendations and policy changes needed to implement a comprehensive statewide system for the developmental screening of children aged zero to five.




Steps to reach goal

Research other states

Identify screening/assessment tools in Florida

Identify screening/assessment protocols

Identify gaps in system




Steps to reach goal

Create a statewide Task Force

Present research to members

Develop recommendations

Establish a "menu" of screening tools




Research: other states

California: Stakeholder groups
California Statewide Screening Initiative

New Hampshire: Interagency cooperation
Watch Me Grow program

Tennessee: Physician-driven initiative
Screening Tools And Referral Training




Research: Florida tools

What do they identify?

Who do they identify?

Where are screenings done?

Who does them?




Research: protocols and gaps

Interviews with statewide entities

Inventory of tools used

Referral patterns for follow up




Gaps in screening system

Which children don't have access?

Do tools identify all developmental delays?

Are children being referred?

Is anyone following up with them?



Task Force

State Agencies
Early Childhood Experts
Health Care Providers
Universities
Education
Insurance Companies
Non-profits
Parents



Menu of screening tools

Why have a "menu"?



Initial findings

- ✓ Successful states have a menu
- ✓ They start small, then replicate
- ✓ They report their successes
- ✓ They offer a website



Stay informed

Information will be available soon:

www.snowstrategies.com

Research reports
Meeting notices
Minutes
Reports



Questions??

Sponsored by United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Developmental Disabilities and the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Prepared by Alisa Snow, President
Snow Strategies
Tallahassee, Fla.
alisa@snowstrategies.com



June 21, 2011

Report from FICCIT Executive Committee:

Attendance: FICCIT Members: Pat Grosz, Lorraine Allen, LynnMarie Firehammer, Karen Hartz
PDAT Members: Annalise Campisi, Penny Geiger

The committee reviewed the summary of work by PDAT and the Outreach and Collaboration Committees.

Annalise Campisi and Penny Geiger provided the summary of the work from PDAT. The Executive Committee concurred that the recommendation be brought by a FICCIT member regarding the PDAT committee request to allow a non-FICCIT member who attends and is active on PDAT serve as the Chairperson for the Committee. Pat will ask Carole West or Gail Connolly to provide the initial portion of the PDAT report with this recommendation and then Annalise Campisi (acting PDAT chair) and Penny Geiger (acting recording secretary) could provide the remainder of the PDAT report and recommendations.

Lorraine provided the summary of the Outreach and Collaboration committee report. The committee will be making recommendations regarding the Annual Report which will be reduced to four pages this year and will include parent quotes with links to the stories from many families served by Early Steps. Laurie Blades will be serving as the chair for the committee for the next three months.

LynnMarie provided a review of the OSEP determination for Florida which she will share during the state office report from ESSO in the morning.

The meeting was adjourned.

**FLORIDA INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL
FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS (FICCIT)**

Personnel Development and Training (PDAT) Committee

AGENDA

June 21, 2011 Meeting

Tallahassee, Florida

- 1:00 Welcome Introductions**
- 1:15 Committee Leadership**
- 1:30 Early Steps State Office (ESSO) Update**
- 2:45 Sustainability Plan Update and Planning**
- 4:30 Wrap-Up of Discussion**

FICCIT/PDAT UPDATES

June 21-22, 2011

Training Updates

Service Coordinator Apprenticeship Training

Six train-the-trainer workshops were scheduled during the month of June. We have completed 4 of the 6. The two remaining are in the south (Boynton Beach on June 21 and Miami on June 22). The other training sites included Orlando, Tampa, Chipley, and Jacksonville.

The goal for these workshops is to prepare service coordinator trainers and supervisors to implement the SC Apprenticeship Training. During these workshops, participants become familiar with the training format which includes: content topics, learning strategies, and assessment requirements. The Apprenticeship training units are intended to complement the observation and practical experience requirements during the 90-day apprenticeship period.

The Autism Navigator

Amy Wetherby and Julianne Woods (FSU) are nearing completion on the development of this web-based system of instruction for early intervention providers.. Please refer to the Progress Report Update from Amy Wetherby that is included in your packet. The final version of this training will be completed by August 2011.

Tools for Early Steps Teams (TEST) Project

This project also continues to move forward and involves the development, validation, and evaluation of a professional toolkit that will support "teaming" within the Primary Service Provider approach. Development and validation of the toolkit has occurred through a collaborative and iterative process that involves local early intervention pilot teams, researchers, training coordinators, regional administrators, and families.

EW Bryant and Associates Training Contract

The deliverables for this contract are due June 30. Content for three of the five trainings is complete and is being converted into web-based format. The completed trainings include: *LES Administrator Orientation, Cultural Competency in Early Intervention, and Transition at Three*. We are still working on content and format for the IFSP Outcomes training. ESSO has determined that the ITDS online modules will not be updated by this vender.

Provider Recruiter Contract

Currently 13 of the 14 still filled. One position is part time because employee received a more permanent employment opportunity. Monthly conference calls have continued with the Recruiters and ESSO staff. The Program Manager is in process of surveying the LESs on Five Points performance during contract period to complete a monitoring report for services delivered during the period.

ITDS Virtual School Reimbursement Program

Jennifer Farineau replaced Julie Crosby as the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) Coordinator on March 21st. There have been a total of 30 students who have completed all 4 courses. Four students are currently enrolled this summer. There is total of 34 possible graduates. The final invoice, participant and expenditure reports are being prepared. The Program Manager is working on a monitoring report for service delivery during the contract period.

Autism Navigator™ for Early Intervention Providers

Progress Report Update 6/10/11

Florida Early Steps has contracted with the Florida State University to develop a web-based instructional system designed to increase the capacity of early intervention providers to appropriately serve children with or at risk for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) within a Part C system of service delivery. The following project activities have been initiated or accomplished since the invoice was approved by FSU on 11-5-10:

1) Outline of the content of 5 instructional units at the knowledge, application and mastery level

Deliverable 1a: We have developed a plan to establish an advisory committee to give systematic feedback on the content of the Autism Navigator. A file with this plan was attached to the 1/13/11 progress report. We have received approval for this plan from the Florida Early Steps, and are inviting members to be on the advisory committee.

Deliverable 1b: We have drafted an outline of the content and competencies for the 5 content units at the knowledge, skill and mastery level. A file with competencies was attached to the 1/31/11 progress report. We received input from the advisory committee and have revised the content and competencies. A file with the revised competencies is attached to this progress report. We have proceeded with development of the content units to meet the proposed competencies.

2) Editing of video clips for illustrations and case examples for the knowledge and skill application level for 5 instructional units.

Deliverable 2. We have hired professional staff for both the development of the content and programming of the interactive media. We have developed a secure password protected website to store and tag a library of edited videoclips that may be used in the Autism Navigator. We have edited over 1,000 video clips ranging from 30 seconds to 5 minutes. We have developed a database system to tag each video clip in multiple fields related to the content in each of the 5 content units. This tagging system allows staff to sort and select video clips by specific fields for efficient review and selection of video clips to be used in the web-based training tool. We will link to the final set of video clips selected for each content unit, and they will be available for review when each section of the website is posted for each of the content unit for the advisory committee to review.

3) Development of the design and navigational flow for the web site

Deliverable 3: We have formed a collaboration with the Florida Center for Interactive Media (FCIM www.fcim.org). FCIM will take a primary role in the development of the design and programming of the interactive web-based learning product. In collaboration with FCIM we have created a logo and are developing the landing page, registration page, and the organization of information inside the website for each content unit and tools available across all content units.

4) Purchase of the web server to host the Autism Navigator

Deliverable 4: We have purchased two computers with the processing and memory hardware system requirements to form a virtual dedicated server with redundancy to prevent system failure and the capability for flash video streaming. The server will host the Autism Navigator website and be located in the IT Department of the College of Medicine at FSU which has a backup generator in the case of power outage. This server will be set up and running by 6/30/11 to host the Autism Navigator site.

5) Demonstration of the Autism Navigator for review by the Advisory Committee

Deliverable 5: In collaboration with FCIM, we have developed a test site of the Autism Navigator that demonstrates Question 1 of Unit 1, which is posted at <http://test.fcim.org/autism/preview/>. The demo site illustrates the logo, branding, navigational features, and content for Question 1 of Unit 1 for input from the Advisory Committee. A PDF attached to this progress report presents a description of the navigational menu and tool bars and screen shots of the demo site.

6) Development of the alpha phase of the Autism Navigator website for review by the Advisory Committee

Deliverable 6: We are developing a website with the alpha phase of the Autism Navigator that contains the content of Units 1 to 5 for review by the Advisory Committee in advance of development of the beta version of the website. The alpha site will display a PDF with the slides, special instructions, and script and links to the embedded videos organized by each Question within each of the 5 Units. This site will provide the content of each Unit for review. Once the content is approved for each unit, FCIM will program that unit for the beta version of the Autism Navigator for usability testing. The weblink and password for the alpha phase of the Autism Navigator will be provided on 6/30/11, which will complete the deliverables for this contract. Development of the beta site will continue after 6/30/11 with funds from the other founding states. The **Florida Early Steps** members of the Advisory Committee will have continued access to the beta site to provide ongoing feedback in advance of beta testing.

Project TEST Update June 2011

Overview

The Tools for Early Steps Teams project (i.e., Project TEST) has focused on the development and validation of a professional development (PD) toolkit to support successful implementation of two key components of the primary service provider approach in early intervention service delivery: teaming and integrated service delivery. The project has been a collaborative partnership among faculty at the University of Florida (UF) College of Medicine, the UF College of Education, and leadership and teams of service coordinators and providers associated with the North Central Florida Early Steps Office.

Tool Kit Progress:

The Project Test toolkit is being developed so its content and processes align with Early Steps policies and procedures as enacted from intake through transition. Development and validation of the toolkit has occurred through a collaborative and iterative process that involves local early intervention pilot teams, researchers, training coordinators, regional administrators, and families. The toolkit is being designed to support implementation of a six-component model of early intervention service delivery. The six-component model and its associated practices are designed to support implementation of the PSP approach by emphasizing (a) team-based collaborations throughout all early intervention processes from intake through transition; (b) development and implementation of quality IFSPs that contain functional child and family goals; (c) integrated service delivery that support child learning within the context of daily activities and routines; and (d) coaching as a strategy to enhance the capacity of providers and families to provide integrated services in natural environments. Although the proposed project has focused on all six components of the model, we are using an iterative and job-embedded approach to develop and validate a toolkit that focuses on implementation of teaming and integrated service delivery as key components of a primary service provider approach.

Two teams of North Central Florida Early Steps service coordinators and providers have been identified. These teams have been meeting monthly with us to develop toolkit materials and processes and to validate the toolkit by implementing the adapted 6-component model with children and families from their caseloads. These teams have been helping us identify facilitators and barriers to implementation of toolkit practices in the context of the Early Steps program. Listed below, in bulleted format, is a detailed summary of project activities to date:

Identified and Obtained Commitment from Two Validation Teams

- Team 1
 - Rural team
 - Service Coordinator, Infant Toddler Development Specialist, Occupational Therapist

- Team 2
 - Alachua team
 - Service Coordinator, Infant Toddler Developmental Specialist, Speech-Language Pathologist

Provided Teams with Technology to Gather Video Exemplars and to Use for Validation and Teaming Activities

- Net book
- Flip camera

Trained Teams to Use Technology

Held Monthly Meetings with Teams for Half-Day Training and Validation Activities Related to 6-Component Model and Project Test Toolkit

- Examined existing materials, identified with teams what new materials were needed to implement 6-component model in context of Early Steps.
- Validated materials developed to support implementation for Project Test toolkit
- Completed review, training, and iterative validation activities for three model components.
 - Component 1: Making Initial Contact with Families
 - Developed structure for gathering information about families in context of the naturally occurring routines and activities.
 - Developed structure for gathering information about formal and informal supports available to the family.
 - Developed protocol for how to merge information derived from the Battelle Developmental Inventory and information about child/family routines to create functional outcomes, goals and strategies.
 - Component 2: Conducting Functional Assessments
 - Defined functional assessment.
 - Distinguished eligibility assessment from ongoing assessment.
 - Linked functional assessment to information gathering using the Battelle Developmental Inventory, information about child/family routines, and other information.
 - Discussed assessment tools currently being used and how data from these measures could be used as part of functional assessment.
 - Trained teams in use of functional assessment tools.
 - Teams validated assessment tools and processes.

- Explicit linkages were made to demonstrate how information flows from initial contacts, to functional assessment, to construction of functional outcomes, goals and strategies.
- **Component 3: Constructing Functional Outcomes**
 - Developed forms for constructing functional outcomes, goals and strategies.
 - Teams validated outcome-writing tools
 - Demonstrated how Project Test forms relate to IFSP pages F and J.
 - Provided examples of functional outcomes, goals and strategies.
 - Teams used Flip cameras to capture implementation of functional outcomes, goals and strategies with children/families that were subsequently reviewed and discussed during monthly training sessions.
- **Component 4: Integrated Services**
 - Developed the following tools
 - Decision Making Process for Developing Teams
 - Developed Coaching Protocol
 - Developed Practice Guidelines for Early Intervention Home Visits
- **Component 5: Monitor Progress**
 - Developing Checklists and tools to be used by Programs to monitor progress
- **Component 6: Smooth Transition**
 - Developing and testing tools to be used by program as well as team to monitor progre

Held Bi-Weekly (Every 2 Weeks) Meetings of Project Staff

- Outlined project activities and developed an implementation action plan
- Reviewed information from previous team meeting and planned for upcoming team meetings
- Used feedback from validation activities to revise Project Test toolkit materials and processes
- Examined timelines, progress, to date and adjustments to project activities (as appropriate)

TOOLKIT Contents:

- (a) tools for identifying child and family outcomes that are linked to child and family resources, priorities, concerns, and routines

- (b) tools to help providers understand how information from child assessment and family and child routines can be used to inform development of functional outcomes**
- (c) tools and checklists to support writing functional outcomes, goals, and strategies**
- (d) tools and checklists to help providers and service coordinators identify what, when, and how to support children and families with implementing functional outcomes within a team-based, integrated service delivery model**
- (e) video exemplars and case stories that illustrate key teaming and integrated service delivery practices associated with the 6-component model.**

PDAT
6-21-11

Call to order by Judy Corso
In attendance:

Committee Leadership:

Judy is moving and new leadership of the committee needed to be determined. A call for volunteers for filling the Chair position and a person to take the note taker role. The by-laws state that a council member must fill Chair position and participate on the Executive Committee.

Recommendation: Request Council amend the by-laws to allow a committee member to fill the Chair position and report to the Executive.

Penny Geiger was nominated and agreed to serve as note taker

Annalise _____ was nominated and agreed to serve as Chair of the PDAT committee

Early Steps State Office (ESSO) Update:

- **Staff update** – Hiring Freeze at DOH has been lifted and the Training Unit vacancy has been posted. A Performance Improvement Unit vacancy will be posted in the near future

- **SC Apprenticeship Training** –
 - 4 of 6 Trainings completed
 - Feedback has been positive from participants
 - Challenges for implementation noted by participants include:
 - Time commitment for lead service coordinators to learn the material and implement training
 - Taking the face to face training to the web-based format when training individuals instead of small
 - LESs who have completed the training and pilot have expressed creative ideas about how to include experienced service coordinator in providing training

Discussion:

The committee suggested that the training would be great for providers as well as a review for current service coordinators. Comments from committee members who have participated in the training indicated the training would be great for providers and for a review for current service coordinators. They felt the training developer listened well to the field for what content need to be included as well as creating engaging activities that fit different learning styles. The committee expressed a concern that the Orientation Modules content is outdated and has conflicting information with the Service Coordinator Apprenticeship Modules.

Recommendation: Replace current Orientation with the first 5 SC Apprenticeship modules looking to see if anything in the current OM needs to be added.

- **Autism Navigator**
 - Training deliverables will be received by June 30, 2011, but not in the web-based format
 - Deliverables were outlined in handout
 - Liza Smith has reviewed the demo and is pleased with the product
 - Videos have an introduction and focus set for provider and a commentary describing what was seen after the video has been reviewed

- **TEST**
 - Project has been postponed due to vendor death in the family
 - Deliverables will be received but not in web-based format until Aug

Discussion: Gail Underwood requested that the content in the kit regarding writing functional outcomes and measureable goals meet Medicaid requirements

Action: Liza will review content to see if modification need to be made

- **EW Bryant**
 - Three acceptable trainings will be received but will need to be enhanced in the future
 - Many challenges have been experienced with this vendor
 - Developing Functional IFSP Outcomes module was most challenging and will need much work to be useable
 - ITDS on-line modules will not be completed by this vendor
 - FSU who is completing other training deliverables will be approached to complete this training

Discussion: Many of the committee members have served on content advisory committees working with this vendor. The committee expressed concerns about this vendors ability to understand the content provided and to structure useable training for Early Steps. Much energy was put into writing and re-writing to end with three acceptable trainings and 2 unusable trainings. PDAT Members involved in working with this vendor are not comfortable being associated with end products delivered by this vendor.

Recommendation: EW Bryant and Associates not be utilized in developing future curriculum for Early Steps

Action: Lisa request that PDAT become involved in looking at the deliverables received by this vendor to determine if content is adequate to be enhanced by another vendor or if an entire training needs to completely overhauled. Early Steps would like to approach FSU / CPEIP about completing/ enhancing the deliverables.

- **Provider Recruiters:**
 - Contract coming to an end on June 30, 2011
- **ITDS Re-imburement project:**
 - Contract ending June 30, 2011
 - 30 completed all modules
 - 4 enrolled this summer
 - Possibly 34 graduates
 - ESSO is trying to track graduates and ensure participants in a pay back situation are followed up on

Discussion: Committee was interested in knowing how LESs will receive information about available course work each quarter.

Recommendation: Continue flyers re: coursework being offered distributed to LES

Discussion: ITDS enrollment is challenging. A candidate may complete the ITDS coursework and then have to wait up to 6 months to be enrolled. The Provider Management Systems policy noted timeline for processing applications is 60 to 90 days. If there are documents missing or an issue with the application, a notice is received by the applicant and LES about 45 days into the process. Often the applicant will have a week to two to submit the documentation prior to the application being terminated. The LES committee members noted that many applicants have been lost due to the length of time the enrollment process takes. ESSO has designated almost two full staff members to the enrollment unit.

Recommendation: Request the full Council write a letter to Brenda Tune, Mary Beth Bickers and copy Phyllis Sloyer regarding the lengthening time it is taking to get approvals. Request a decrease in the 60 to 90 day timeline for enrollment processing.

Discussion: Mentorship process revisions were submitted to ESSO a year ago. The recommendations are being reviewed by OSEP. Committee indicated the challenge of finding a like discipline mentor for a BCBA. The committee will wait to see what OSEP approves as the suggest changes would assist with the challenge of having to have like discipline mentors.

Sustainability Plan Update and Planning

Discussion: The Chair requested the committee review the suggested list of Sustainability activities (handout) to select specific areas the committee would agree to address, April with the DD Council suggested during the full Council meeting that the DD Council would like to work on developing evaluator credentials. Judy indicated she had gathered information from other states who are working on developing Evaluator credentials for Early Steps

Action: Committee will address 13, 13A, 23.3, 24.1.

Other Discussion Items:

A committee member was seeking information from ESSO to determine when a University Accreditation makes an ITDS candidate appropriate for enrollment. LESs are told they must determine if the college a candidate graduated from is accredited prior to sending the application for approval. The LES found that a candidate graduated from a university that CHEA indicates is accredited. However, the CHEA site lists a report about the college indicating that only certain schools within the university was accredited. Committee members also questioned whether a school within the college a candidate graduated could be accredited but not the whole university. Lastly, what accrediting bodies are approved by ESSO

Action: Carol West will determine a DOE contact to answer questions or gather the information and submit it to the committee.

Adjourned: 4:05 pm

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers

The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council contracted with the Ounce of Prevention Fund to facilitate a strategic planning process and develop a viable plan for the sustainability of the Early Steps program. This report is an excerpt from the result of that Strategic Plan and provides details about strategies that still need completion. These Strategies have been placed in order of priority to the sustainability of Early Steps. This report will function as a tool to monitor the progress of action steps needed to complete strategies.

Area of Impact: R-Revenue, CE-Cost Effectiveness, V-Visibility, T-Training

Strategy	Action Steps	Area of Impact	Start Date	End Date	Benchmark	COMMENTS
Strategy 2: Provide support for local creative partnerships for resource development, e.g. fund raising.						
2.8	Survey LES for their capacity in identifying family members of Early Steps-served children for their interest in being more active in communications, financial support, or other volunteer activities in support of Early Steps program services. If there are parents/grandparents and family members who express interest, a plan of action to engage them should be piloted in three-four locations.	V				These are requirements that should be the responsibility of the Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT) to develop recommendations to present to the ESSO. FICCIT agrees.
2.9	Develop a framework for an Early Steps Alumni Association to promote the success stories of children/youth and family members to leverage their authentic voices for the value of the services and the importance of community involvement in support activities.	V				These are requirements that should be the responsibility of the Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT) to develop recommendations to present to the ESSO. FICCIT agrees.
Strategy 13: Improve the enrollment process for the CMS provider group (Early Steps) and the LES.						
13.2	Look at app process, each step in the process and the required forms for each of the three entities involved; reduce duplication and meets all current requirements.	CE				FICCIT will refer to PDAT.
13.2a	Note: many current problems stem from issues with HP (the third party fiscal agent). LES/CMS provider enrollment must monitor application/enrollment issues and report issues to ESSO/AHCA so they are presented on the concerns list for resolution.	T				FICCIT will refer to PDAT.
Strategy 21: Develop the steps for and then implement strategies to develop an insurance mandate for Florida.						
21.2	Establish a strong research base for return on investment (ROI) on the importance of early intervention. Include the cost per child in Florida vs. other states, a determination of difference between current service models and ideal services (e.g. caseload and depth/extent of service access).	CE	9/1/2011	12/31/2011		This is low on the list of priorities as politically this is not a popular issue and a great deal of resources and effort will be required to make any progress. Could look into asking FICCIT to send out letters to Universities to have a student research this as their Doctoral Thesis.
21.3	With ROI research in hand, attract the support of business-sector allies to work cooperatively with insurance interests. For example, the corporate clients of a major insurer (e.g., Publix and Blue Cross/Blue Shield) can launch a pilot effort to cover Early Steps services for families. This pilot can be utilized as a communications vehicle that highlights cost-benefit as well as measures of family improvement.	V	9/1/2011	12/31/2011		This is low on the list of priorities as politically this is not a popular issue and a great deal of resources and effort will be required to make any progress. Could look into asking FICCIT to send out letters to Universities to have a student research.
21.4	After analysis of pilot data, use the results to further the development and implementation of steps needed to generate support for and passage of an insurance mandate for Florida's developmentally delayed children.	CE	9/1/2011	12/31/2011		This is low on the list of priorities as politically this is not a popular issue and a great deal of resources and effort will be required to make any progress. Could look into asking FICCIT to send out letters to Universities to have a student research.
Strategy 23: Improve the education and experience qualifications for providing EI services.						

23.1	Certified teachers for appropriate age range (early education) are already accepted. Work to educate field about recruiting from this pool.	T				Provider Recruiters. Consider interagency career ladder, PD, and recruitment efforts with AWI, DOE and CMS/ESSO. Pat recommended undergrad entry level however, committee found that undergrad would not qualify as a provider.
23.3	Consider improving the education and experience qualifications for providing EI services. Grandfather in existing staff once qualifications are increased.	T				FICCIT will refer to PDAT.
Strategy 24: Establish relationships with university training programs in the state to influence curriculum and provide practicum and internship opportunities with Early Steps and to train/inform for the TBSP approach.						
24.1	Develop contacts to plan/implement internships in all, if reasonable, LES locations.	T	PR			The Provider Recruiter in Western Panhandle has been working on creating internships for Speech and Language Pathologists. Could have him present at FICCIT to consider replication for other disciplines. Need informal poll of LESs to see if they are interested in having interns. Use internship to develop the next generation of Early Steps Providers. FICCIT to refer to PDAT.
24.2	Complete a cost analysis for intern recruiting and managing.	CE				These are requirements that should be the responsibility of FICCIT to develop recommendations to present to the ESSO. Need to identify costs to Early Steps to provide supervision of interns. Interns also expect to be paid and there is a need to identify what they will expect to earn. FICCIT will refer this to PDAT.
24.3	Offer internships that meet student needs and university requirements.	T				These are requirements that should be the responsibility of FICCIT to develop recommendations to present to the ESSO. FICCIT questioned undergrad entry but committee stated that undergrads are not qualified to provide ES services.
24.4	Partner with schools to have Early Steps included in rotation for all applicable students, e.g. pediatricians, family practice, RNs, ARNPs, social work, ITDSs, etc.	T				These are requirements that should be the responsibility of FICCIT to develop recommendations to present to the ESSO.
24.5	DOE/DOH will collaborate to provide schools with curriculum components that educate students on child development and the TBSP approach in addition to medical models.	T				These are requirements that should be the responsibility of FICCIT to develop recommendations to present to the ESSO. Undergrad would not qualify to provide services.
24.6	Develop and offer incentives to schools for partnerships.	T				FICCIT will refer to PDAT.
37.4	Partner with local colleges and universities to cross train students using a mentorship/internship program that allows them to be knowledgeable in many areas of need (Autism, Downs Syndrome, etc).	T				FICCIT will refer to PDAT.

FICCIT Outreach and Collaboration Committee
Meeting Notes
June 21, 2011

Committee Members Present: Lorraine Husum Allen, Laurie Blades, Jeanne Boggs, Karen Hartz, Marilyn Hibbard, Lou Ann Long, and Sharon Paul

Committee Members on Conference Call: Jeannie Carr, Amanda Moore, and Deborah Russo

Others Present: Catherine Duncan, Lynn Marie Firehammer, Holly Hohmeister, Monique Lebar, and Sue Loftis

1. Karen Hartz introduced Holly Hohmeister, Health Care and Prevention Program Manager, Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc. Holly spoke about the Save Early Steps campaign, designed to make legislators and others aware of Early Steps program and local programs. Campaign involved families, some celebrities like Mrs. Florida, and others. It also included testimonials and videos showing children being served. She asked FICCIT members to find volunteers for social media, networking, Twitter, facebook, etc. Jeanne Boggs offered to do it. It was agreed that the Early Steps facebook page would be linked to the FICCIT website and Lynn Marie will ensure that this information is in the ESSO memo.
2. Karen discussed the distribution plan of the Annual Report. She asked if there should be any changes to the distribution process. Jeanne Boggs asked if others would assist her in distributing to 31 Legislative members and staff. Karen will provide Lorraine with a list of distribution process to add to action plan. Below is the distribution list and number of copies to be distributed, for total of 600 copies.
 - 80 copies to DD Council
 - 150 copies to the Governor's Office and Legislature (with cover letters):
 - Governor, Lt. Governor, Chiefs of Staff, Advisor, and Office of the First Lady
 - House Appropriations Committee-Subcommittee on Health Care
 - House Education Committee
 - House Health and Human Services Committee-Access and Quality Subcommittees
 - Joint Legislative Budget Commission
 - House and Senate Leadership
 - Senate Budget Committee-Subcommittee Health & Human Services
 - Senate Children, Family and Elder Affairs Committee
 - 50 copies to FICCIT members and meeting attendees
 - 15 copies to families whose children were featured in the annual report (with thank you letter)
 - 10 copies to Tameka Davis for new FICCIT members to put in their new member packets
 - 175 copies for Catherine Duncan's office to distribute throughout CMS/DOH, to local Early Steps, and at Children's Week
 - Electronic copies to DCF Circuit Administrators and Community Care Based Partners
 - Electronic copies to Dependency Judges
 - 20 copies to distribute Florida Guardian Ad Litem
 - 20 copies to distribute to Florida Children's Movement
 - 80 copies for Florida Consortium of Advocates for Infants & Toddlers
3. Catherine Duncan provided family stories for the Annual Report. The Committee was asked to select three stories to include in the report. Committee agreed to use 12 quotes from the stories and 4 from the Early Steps facebook account, instead of full stories, and have pictures. It was recommended that a link be provided for the quotes, so readers could read the rest of the story.

"Our life was crazy and unorganized. Our life is still crazy at times, but we are getting a good schedule and routine down. Fischer has reached many milestones because of his care and services. He has learned to crawl, play, and eat from a spoon. He also has a wide range of vocabulary in ASL now."—The Brown Family

"Before Early Steps we did not know what to do with our son that had Down syndrome. With the services we have learned, how to work with Andrew so he can grow and learn to the best of his ability. It is hard to explain everything that we have learned from Early Steps. They have helped our family so much in all aspects of our family life."—Andrew's Story

"I became aware of our family resource specialist by way of phone contact. And the email list has kept us informed about playgroups and other available resources, in support of us during our Early Steps journey. Lea is at four-and-a-half-year-old level in language and physical development, although she is only three years old, and she will not need special education services."—Lea's Story

"Early Steps gave me and my family the ability to be members of our community. They gave us a voice for our child and now we are very involved in many other groups."—Gabriela's Story

"Antes de ingresar a ARC a través de Early Steps, mi vida era muy complicado y estaba bajo mucho stress y no prestaba mucho atención a las necesidades de mi hijo mayor, que no tiene discapacidad. Mi angelito ha progresado mucho con los servicios que recibe en ARC a través de Early Steps."—Grace's Story

"We are able to understand that our son has a developmental delay and we had to adapt to him--there was no changing him. We needed Early Steps to show us how to!"—Shelton's Story

"We know we can do it!!!"—The Royas Family

"Our son has now developed many of his basic skills. We can now see the importance of services for our child. Our stress level is much lower, and we look forward to a bright future."—The Diaz Family

"It was very hard trying to understand her wants and tantrums. We did not go many places because we did not know how she would act. She can now express her want through sign language. I am able to go out and not worry about what people think."—The Perkins Family

"We were lucky to have services from the beginning of Devon's life and thankful for the resources available to us."—Devon's Story

"Before we started services, our everyday lives were a mess. We thought that my son Eddie couldn't hear us. He wouldn't look at us and he was very violent. He had no way of communicating with us. Ever since he started with Early Steps, he has started to create a routine and he sits still in a chair for therapy services. He requests for things with hand gestures and his first phrase was "Thank you." He has met many milestones as well as developed better social skills."—Eddie's Story

"As a single mom with a daughter with special needs, I am now able to leave Madison with other family members to accomplish different tasks without the level of stress of bringing Madison with me so she doesn't cry all day. My family is able to understand Madison and her wants and needs without the level of stress we experienced about a year ago. Having a two-year old that cannot speak can be very difficult, but my family has coped with it and we are able to understand non-verbal communication."—Madison's Story

"My daughter Jessica started in the Jacksonville program at 5 months old. She has a diagnosis of CP and Epilepsy. She received PT OT and ST. She is now 3 and left the program in January walking, talking, and swallowing just like every other 3 year old. We weren't even sure if she would crawl and the therapists and coordinators at early steps had everything to do with her success. I can't imagine our little ones not having this program available to them. I am a true supporter of this exceptional and very needed benefit. If there is anything I can do to help save this program I will. Our family will be forever grateful to our Jacksonville early steps team. Thank you Early Steps."—Jessica's Story

"Hi. My name is Evan. People that I know very well would know that I used to go to therapy. I had speech because I was having trouble speaking. This worked out for me very successfully. I remember how I would type on the computer and would practice my sounds with my speech therapist. I will always remember her because now, not only can I speak clearly, but people understand me and I am able to perform on the stage. I also had physical therapy to teach me how to walk and ride my bike. Nicole Baisley (Miss Nicole) changed my life because I march in drum line and do everything well. She has changed me because if she did not help me, I wouldn't be able to do the things I do. This organization is for little kids, so if you care about kids with autism or special needs, please save Early Steps."—Evan's Story

"Our Sam was born three weeks early and spent two weeks in NICU. I can't imagine where we'd be without Early Steps. They taught us how to work with Sam everyday to help him gain language,

overcome his sensory issues and engage with others. I will never forget the time and sweat the therapists put into helping me cope with Sam's autism diagnosis and teach us that we as parents can make such a huge difference in achieving all his developmental milestones. Early Steps has to stay!"—Sam's Story

"My daughter was not talking by 18 months. She did not have any words. She began speech therapy through Early Steps and was caught up by age 3. She has not stopped talking since. She is now 10 years old and just won her first singing competition! Save Early Steps!"—The Hart Family

4. The Committee then reviewed the current Annual Report format and made suggestions for changes. Committee members agreed to shorten the length of report to four pages. Other recommendations included:
 - Page 1: Removing Chair's letter and state/regional contacts (last) page and replacing contact information with a web address and a 1-800 number on the front cover.
 - Pages 2-3: Using a butterfly trail graphic to show a timeline with photos and quotes, ending with a high school graduate picture and quote. The Committee needs to get a quote from high school student or parent of student.
 - Page 4: Removing funding trend data; keeping funding pie charts, but indicating which funding is state and which is federal; and changing map of Florida to show numbers of children served in each service area directly on map.

It was agreed to request of Council to follow same editing and voting process as last year.

Jeanne Boggs will take the lead in formatting the report. Jeanne will send draft report to Tameka Footman by July 22, 2011, to send to full Council to review. Full Council should review and comment by August 8, 2011. The Committee will have a conference call on August 10, 2011, to make decisions on edits and comments. Another conference call to vote on the final report will be held on August 31, 2011. Laurie Blades will set up the calls and send out reminder to committee members. Laurie Blades will set up the call and send out reminder to committee members. Catherine Duncan will get quotes for printing in August. The Committee will have final report for approval by full council at September meeting. Catherine will send report to printers as soon as the purchase order is approved.

5. Lorraine asked Committee to approve adding link to Florida Early Head Start on FICCIT's website. Committee agreed to do so. Lorraine mentioned that the webpage needs to be updated to reflect new officers and members and make changes to documents with former chair's name. Lorraine will take the lead on this.
6. The Committee then discussed the Action Steps in the Strategic Plan for Sustainability that pertained to FICCIT and the Committee. These Item Steps are
 - 2.8-Survey LES for the capacity in identifying family members of Early Steps-served children for their interest in being more active in communication, financial support, or other volunteer activities in support of Early Steps program. Services. If there are parents/grandparents and family member who express interest, a plan of action to engage them should be piloted in three-four locations.

Committee agreed to develop survey at next meeting.

- 2.9-Develop a framework for an Early Steps Alumni Association to promote the success stories of children/youth and family members to leverage their authentic voices for the value of the services and the importance of community involvement in support activities.

Committee agreed to incorporate an alumni component on the FICCIT facebook page.

- Lynn Marie noted that Items 21.2, 21.3, and 21.4 on return on investment did not pertain to FICCIT and that it was an error in the plan which should be removed.

7. Laurie Blades agreed to serve as rotating chair for July, August and September quarter.

Concluded around 4:14 p.m.

**Department of Education (DOE)
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEES)**

**Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT)
Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites
Tallahassee, Florida
June 21-22, 2011**

1. BEESS/FDOE/USDOE Staff Update

The Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEES) had the opportunity to host Dr. Melody Musgrove, Director of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, on April 8, 2011. The agenda for Dr. Musgrove's day in Tallahassee included a visit to Buck Lake Elementary School and the opportunity to meet with Commissioner Eric J. Smith and Chancellor Frances Haithcock. Presentations were made by BEES staff on Florida initiatives and Dr. Musgrove shared information informally with the staff and leaders.

On Saturday, April 30, 2011, Beacon College presented Bambi with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. She also delivered the commencement address to graduates. Join us in congratulating Dr. Bambi J. Lockman!

It is our pleasure to announce three new staff members who joined the Bureau staff on June 1, 2011.

- Karen Hallinan is the program specialist responsible for our school district programs serving prekindergarten children with disabilities. Prior to coming to the Bureau, Karen was the program coordinator in Levy County. She is a speech language pathologist by training and has worn "many hats" in the school district including prek coordinator. Please join us in welcoming Karen!
- Anne Glass is an Educational Program Director in the Instructional Support Services section (previously known in our Bureau as Program Development and Services). Anne was previously on staff at the Department of Health, Children's Medical Services, Early Steps, but worked for our Student Services Project for many years as the Medicaid consultant. Anne is also very experienced, having started her career as a prek and kindergarten teacher prior to transitioning to community health care. Please join us in welcoming Anne!
- Jenni Jenkins is the program specialist responsible for programs serving students with emotional behavioral disabilities (EBD). Jenni is an experienced (20 year veteran) Leon County teacher of students with EBD. During her teaching career at Montford Middle School, she earned the 2011 Teacher of the Year award. Please join us in welcoming Jenni!

4. Child Abuse Prevention Source Book for Florida School Personnel: A Tool for Reporting Abuse and Supporting the Child

The Department of Education worked in collaboration with the Department of Children and Families, the Florida Department of Health, local school district and law enforcement representatives and has released the following memorandum and document: *The Child Abuse Prevention Source Book for Florida School Personnel: A Tool for Reporting Abuse and Supporting the Child*. The memorandum may be viewed at:

<http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6022/dps-2011-33.pdf>

and the document may be viewed at:

<http://www.fldoe.org/ese/pdf/chiabuse.pdf>. For additional information or assistance regarding the content of this Source Book, please contact Gria Davison, School Social Work Consultant at (850) 245-7851 or gdavison@usf.edu.

5. CONNECT Module on Early Childhood Transitions

CONNECT: The Center to Mobilize Early Childhood Knowledge recently released a Spanish version of its Module on Early Childhood Transition. This module focuses on practices to help support children and families as they transition among programs in the early care and education system. To access *CONNECT Module 2 - Spanish Version*, go to

<http://community.fpg.unc.edu/connect-modules/esp/learners/module-2?enews=>.

CONNECT Modules are free, online, and designed using an evidence-based approach to professional development. Resources include video clips, activities, and handouts. The modules focus on teaching and intervening effectively with young children in a variety of early learning environments and inclusive settings and are designed to be embedded into existing professional development curricula. Please visit the website at <http://community.fpg.unc.edu/connect> for current Modules and resources available on Embedded Interventions, Transition, Communication for Collaboration, and Family Professional Partnership.

6. Summer Literacy Adventure

On May 9, 2011, Florida's First Lady Ann Scott, along with the Florida Department of Education and the Florida Department of State, launched the Summer Literacy Adventure as a way to encourage students to pledge to read and visit their local public libraries this summer. Florida students have the opportunity to participate in the Summer Literacy Adventure by visiting the Just Read, Florida! website at www.justreadflorida.com to take the pledge. Students who take the pledge may also utilize a free online tool to search for books based on their reading ability and interests. The DOE, through MetaMetrics, offers a unique resource called "Find a Book, Florida" at

8. Identification (ID) Cards for Children

Children aged five and up are eligible to get a State of Florida Identification Card. The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles sponsors the Florida Licensing on Wheels - also known as the FLOWmobile - that will come to a school so parents can sign up for the ID cards. The cost is only \$25 and parents must have their child's birth certificate and other important documents on hand. Visit <http://flhsmv.gov/offices/FLOW.htm> to request a FLOWmobile to come to a school event. For information on the documents required to obtain an ID card, visit <http://www.GatherGoGet.com>.

9. 2011 Summer Conference – One Goal: Building the Future Together, “Putting Families and Children First”

The 25th One Goal Summer Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Tampa, Florida on July 20-22, 2011. The conference will feature more than 90 workshops, informative keynote presentations, exhibits, and fun activities. The eight-page conference brochure and registration form are available on the conference website at

<http://www.onegoalsummerconference.org/OneGoalBrochure2011.pdf>.

In addition, the brochure includes information related to hotel, keynote speakers, special activities, and general conference information. Conference registration and hotel reservations may be completed online. **The registration fee of \$75 will be accepted through July 14, 2011.** Following July 14, 2011, the registration fee of \$100 will be accepted onsite. For additional information, please contact Frankie Allen, Conference Coordinator, at frankieallen_2000@yahoo.com or by phone at (850) 893-6270 or Carole West at carole.west@fldoe.org or by phone at (850) 245-0478.

10. The 8th Annual “Turn on the Light” Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

The one-day regional, 8th Annual “Turn on the Light” Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, brings together professionals in South Florida who are working with or on behalf of children for a full day of educational opportunities in workshop settings. The conference offers continuing education credits while creating public awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention, intervention, and advocacy. There will be six tracks with three workshops in each track. Nationally known speaker and author Darlene Ellison will be the keynote speaker this year. The conference will be held at the Palm Beach County Convention Center on **October 20, 2011**. For more information, please visit the Children’s Healing Institute website at www.childrenshealinginstitute.org/light or call Susan Santosus at (561) 585-1650.

**OIR Report – FICCIT Quarterly Meeting
 June, 2011
 PreExisting Condition Insurance Program (PCIP)
 Office of Insurance Regulation (Fuller)**

Update, Mini-Brief

- Early enrollment in PCIP programs has been much lower than HHS predictions
 - HHS predicted 375,000 in first year -- as of April 2011, enrollment was 21,000
 - FL residents enrolled in federal PCIP as of 04/01/2011 was 925
Source: <http://www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/pcip06102011a.html>
- Early low enrollment trends pegged to high cost, lack of information/outreach
- Recent changes to federal PCIP have included premium reductions, simplified eligibility (no insurer rejection required), and a one-time, \$100 fee paid to a referring insurance agent.
 - Note: Research indicates that 80% of persons with high-cost chronic conditions and are uninsured, have incomes under 400% of poverty (for an individual that's \$43,560 in 2010; and has implication for incoming exchanges in 2014).
 - Note: July FL PCIP premium decrease was 40% -- See current premium ranges effective July 1, 2011 below
- Out of pocket expense is high – in FL (see chart) deductibles range from \$1,000 to \$3,000; drug coverage has a separate (and additional deductible); co-pays for MD visits are \$25; \$4 to \$40 for prescriptions; and 20% of the costs of any other covered benefit received; out of pocket costs are capped at \$5,9950 per year;
- Costs (co-pays/co-insurance) can be higher for out-of-network services.

For Florida Enrollees

As of July 1, 2011 -- **Monthly** premiums for (FL) are:

Age	Standard Option	Extended Option	HSA Option
0 to 18	\$118	\$158	\$122
19 to 34	\$176	\$237	\$183
35 to 44	\$211	\$284	\$220
45 to 54	\$270	\$363	\$280
55+	\$376	\$505	\$390

In addition to your monthly premium, you will pay other costs.

- In 2011, you will pay a \$1,000 to \$3,000 deductible, which varies by your plan option, for covered medical benefits (except for preventive services) before the plan starts to pay.
- A plan option may have a separate drug deductible. After you pay the deductible, you will pay a \$25 copayment for doctor visits, \$4 to \$40 for most prescription drugs, and 20% of the costs of any other covered benefits you get.
- Your out-of-pocket costs cannot be more than \$5,950 per year.
- These costs may be higher, if you go outside the plan's network.

Source: 06/14/2011

http://finder.healthcare.gov/more_info/highrisk?age=3&audience=cond&disability=y&medical_condition=y&no_afford=y&nojs=n&situati on=need&state=FL

FICCIT
June 21, 2011
Homeless Education Report

Lorraine Allen reported that she was on the Agenda for the June 1, 2011 Early Steps Directors conference call. She provided an overview on the McKinney-Vento Act as it pertains to serving homeless infants, toddlers, and preschool children. Ms. Allen encouraged improved collaboration between state and local partners to ensure homeless infants and toddlers are identified and have access to programs for which they are eligible. After the call, she provided a link to the school district homeless liaisons' contact information to the Early Steps Office to send out to the Directors. Several participants contacted Ms. Allen after the call for additional information and resources.

Ms. Allen also mentioned that the Florida Homeless Education Program will have a homeless education track at the 2011 Southeast Institute on Homelessness & Supportive Housing: Building Strategic Partners Conference, to be held on October 27-28, 2011, at Clearwater Beach, Florida. The deadline for Call for Presentations is July 15, 2011. The link to the conference information is <http://southeastinstitute.com/>.

Additionally, Ms. Allen mentioned that the Florida Council on Homelessness had sent its Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature. The Report can be accessed at <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/homelessness/docs/2011CouncilReport.pdf>.

Live Webinar Event Invitation

Hosted by: Florida's Center for the Advancement of Child Welfare Practice

The Department of Children and Families invites you to participate in:
**"Implementing Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation --
Successful Partnerships for Financing"
A Live Webcast**

Date:
Tuesday, June 28, 2011
2:00pm – 3:30pm (Eastern)

[Click here to register](#)

Presenters: Mimi Graham & Celeste Putnam

This webcast is designed for stakeholders that are interested in developing Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Services in their communities. Participants should include practitioners from the fields of Early Care and Learning, Early Childhood Mental Health, Community Mental Health, Parent Groups, Special education for young children, community organizations such as United Way, Children's Services Boards, Medical Care, Early Intervention and others. The webinar will focus on funding strategies to implement successful Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation in Child Care Centers and will have an operational, "how to" orientation. Successful implementation of ECMHC requires understanding the multiple funding sources and how to collaborate with these funding sources

Before the event:

If you've done a web event with the center before, you're ready to go! Please register for this meeting.

If this is your first time watching one of our web events, you need to click here to download software before the event. When prompted, Click on Accept , Install and Join. Shouldn't take more than 3-4 minutes. "Internet Explorer 6 or higher required"

While you wait, make sure your speakers are turned on.

For Audio call in 888-808-6959 Confid: 4137241#

[Click here to register for this webcast or copy and paste this link into your browser:](#)

<https://www.livemeeting.com/lrs/8000362188/Registration.aspx?pageName=jrc9x0545rskdt24>
If you have technical questions or concerns please contact Center Support staff at centersupport@fmhi.usf.edu

WORKSHOP TRAINING SCHEDULE

Center for Child and Family Health – Trauma, Attachment and Reactive Attachment Disorder Training

Location	Dates	Points of Contact	Registration Website (will open 30 days prior to training date)
Jacksonville	June 22 – 23, 2011	Cindy_Vallely@dcf.state.fl.us	<i>For information only:</i> http://jax-attachmenttrauma.eventbrite.com Contact C. Vallely to register.
Ft. Myers	September 13 – 14, 2011	Claire_Rowell@dcf.state.fl.us April_May@dcf.state.fl.us	http://fortmyers-attachmenttrauma.eventbrite.com
Miami	October 12 – 13, 2011	Kate_Prendiville@dcf.state.fl.us	http://miami-attachmenttrauma.eventbrite.com
Gainesville	November 16 – 17, 2011	Lisa_Cue@dcf.state.fl.us	http://gainesville-attachmenttrauma.eventbrite.com
Pensacola	January 10 – 11, 2012	Susan_Sweeney@dcf.state.fl.us	http://pensacola-attachmenttrauma.eventbrite.com
Panama City	February 7 – 8, 2012	Ellen_Fitzgibbon@dcf.state.fl.us Rebecca_Siebert@dcf.state.fl.us	http://pc-attachmenttrauma.eventbrite.com

Updated 4/7/11.

Live Web Event Invitation

Hosted by: Florida's Center for the Advancement of Child Welfare Practice

The Department of Children and Families invites you to participate in:

"CANS - an Overview and Basic Framework" A Live Web Event

Date:
Friday, June 24, 2011
2:00pm – 3:00pm (Eastern)

[Click here](#) to register

About the Trainer: The CANS family of tools was developed by John S. Lyons, Ph.D., of the University of Ottawa, and many stakeholders across multiple states. Dr. Lyons has published more than 200 peer-reviewed articles and five books.

In this web event, you will hear about the general overview and basic framework for CANS, the purpose of the instrument, how the instrument can inform the Comprehensive Behavioral Health Assessment process, and what it tells us about children

Before the event:

If you've done a web event with the center before, you're ready to go! Please register for this training.

If this is your first time watching one of our web events, you need to click here to [download software](#) before the event. When prompted, Click on Accept , Install and Join. Shouldn't take more than 3-4 minutes. "Internet Explorer 6 or higher required"

AUDIO: For Audio call in 888-808-6959 Confid: 4137241#

[Click here](#) to register for this webcast or copy and paste this link into your browser:

<https://www.livemeeting.com/lrs/8000362188/Registration.aspx?pageName=v7cqvdrg3z74pfj8>

If you have technical questions or concerns please contact Center Support staff at centersupport@fmhi.usf.edu

Department of Children and Families (DCF)

Family Safety Program Office

FICCIT Report

June 21 & 22, 2011

❖ As reported at the last meeting, Dr. Michael James ("Jamie") Self was appointed to serve as the Director of Family Safety in March 2011. Effective May 4th, the Department has created an Office of Family and Community Services. Dr. Self is the Programs Administrator and has oversight over the following program areas:

- Child Welfare: Dee Richter, Program Director;
- Domestic Violence and Suicide Prevention: Trula Motta, Program Director;
- Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC): Stephen Pennypacker, Program Administrator;
- Child Care: Debby Russo, Program Director;
- Adult Protective Services: Robert Anderson, Program Director;
- Florida Abuse Hotline: Kim Barrett, Director; and,
- Homelessness: Tom Pierce, Program Director

The Office of Family and Community Services falls under the line of supervision of Assistant Secretary for Operations, Pete Digre.

❖ The Department of Children and Families "Camps for Champions (CFC)", in partnership with carefully selected foundations and other community partners, provides an opportunity for hundreds of children and young adults from Florida's foster care system to participate in a summer camp experience that might otherwise not have been possible. The wellness and leadership activities are created and led by nationally recognized role models, community partners and DCF staff who will help these young adults build self-esteem and confidence to succeed in life. Camps for Champions is an expansion of health, leadership, and wellness camps held in previous years for foster children by Tennessee Titan and former Florida State football All-American Myron Rolle and by the Dwight D. Howard Foundation. Volunteer mentors from various youth groups will assist during the camp. The camps will include tutoring, personal interactions, team-building skills and leadership opportunities. The camps are designed to be fun and educational and provide a stepping stone to the future. For more details about the camps, please visit our website at www.campsforchampions.com.

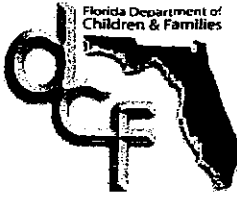
- ❖ In an effort to improve administrative operations, DCF reduced approximately \$48 million from the operating budget which translates into the reduction of nearly 500 positions statewide. The Child Welfare Office, formerly Family Safety Program Office will experience a reduction in workforce as of July 1.
- ❖ The Governor has received the following bills and has until June 28, 2011 to act on them.

SB 404 - Transition to Adulthood Services by Senator Wise (includes the College Preparatory Boarding School Pilot

SB 504 - Child Visitation by Senator Bogdanoff

HB 1247 - Parental Notice of Abortion by Representative Starge

SB 1366 - Child Welfare/Mental Health/Substance Abuse monitoring by Senator Storms



**State of Florida
Department of Children and Families**

Rick Scott
Governor

David E. Wilkins
Secretary

The Child Care Program of the Department of Children and Families will be sustaining the following staffing reductions:

- 11.5 FTEs from the field out of 130.5 for a remainder of 119.00 available to conduct and manage the day-to-day field operations to include onsite inspections, technical assistance and guidance, and training support.
- 3.5 FTEs from Central Office/Headquarters out of 8 to manage the rules and policies, the Gold Seal Quality Care Program, administrative actions, the child care training information center and other administrative and leadership functions.
- These cuts do not meet the dollar amount reduction required so we are seeking Legislative permission to offset the salary cuts by using other funding categories. We have submitted a budget amendment, however, with out approval for supplementing salary dollars with expense, contracted services and special category funding, the Child Care program will be required to cut an additional 10 staff, which will directly impact the field services to child care providers as well as functions at HQ.

2011 Legislation affecting child care:

- HB 139 Relating to Child Care Facilities - Revises criteria for child care facility, large family child care home, or family day care home to obtain & maintain designation as Gold Seal Quality Care provider; provides for certain household children to be included in calculations regarding capacity of licensed family day care homes & large family child care homes; provides conditions for supervision of household children on premises of family day care homes & large family child care homes; revises advertising requirements applicable to child care facilities.
- SB 1992 Background Screening - Background Screening - amends 394.4572, F.S.; provides that mental health personnel working in a facility licensed under ch. 395, F.S., who work on an intermittent basis for less than 15 hours per week of direct, face-to-face contact with patients are exempt from the fingerprinting and screening requirements; providing an exception; amends s. 409.1757, F.S.; adds law enforcement officers who have a good moral character to the list of professionals who are not required to be reprinted or rescreened; amends s. 430.0402, F.S.; includes volunteers within the definition of the term "direct service provider" for purposes of required background screening; exempting a volunteer who meets certain criteria and a clients relative or spouse from the screening requirement; exempts certain licensed professionals and persons screened as a licensure requirement from further screening under certain circumstances; requires direct service providers working as of a certain date to be screened within a specified period; provides a phase-in for screening direct service providers; requires that employers of direct service providers and certain other individuals be rescreened every 5 years unless fingerprints are retained electronically by the Department of Law Enforcement; removes an offense from the list of disqualifying offenses for purposes of background screening; amending s. 435.04, F.S.; requires vendors who

1317 Winewood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

submit fingerprints on behalf of employers to meet specified criteria; requires that fingerprints be retained for any person screened by a certain date; amends s. 435.06, F.S.; authorizes an employer to hire an employee to a position that otherwise requires background screening before the completion of the screening process for the purpose of training the employee; prohibits the employee from having direct contact with vulnerable persons until the screening process is complete; amends s. 435.07, F.S.; provides that personnel of a qualified entity as defined in ch. 943, F.S., may apply for an exemption from screening; amends s. 408.809, F.S.; eliminates a rule that requires the Agency for Health Care Administration to stagger rescreening schedules; provides a rescreening schedule; amending s. 464.203, F.S.; requires the Board of Nursing to waive background screening requirements for certain certified nursing assistants; requires the establishment of a statewide interagency workgroup relating to statewide background screening procedures and information sharing; provides for membership; requires the workgroup to submit a report to the Legislature by a specified date; sets forth the topics that, at a minimum, the workgroup must address in its work plan; provides an effective date.

- SB 2120 Relating to K-12 Education Funding - Authorizes the Department of Revenue to provide certain information regarding the gross receipts tax to the State Board of Education, the Division of Bond Finance, and the Office of Economic and Demographic Research. Requires that, for purposes of servicing public education capital outlay bonds, the State Board of Education disregard the effects on the gross receipts tax revenues collected during a tax period of a refund resulting from a specified settlement agreement, etc. For the VPK program, raises to 20 the number of students for the maximum class size and for each class composed of 12 or more students an additional instructor is required.
- SB 2156 Relating to Governmental Reorganization - Transfers the functions and trust funds of the Agency for Workforce Innovation to other agencies. Transfers the Office of Early Learning Services to the Department of Education. Transfers the Office of Unemployment Compensation to Jobs Florida. Transfers the Office of Workforce Services to Jobs Florida. Transfers the functions and trust funds of the Department of Community Affairs to other agencies. Transfers the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to Jobs Florida, etc.

Food Hygiene Inspections - the Child Care Program office will be assuming the food hygiene inspection duties beginning July 1 with the conclusion of the Employee Interchange Agreement with the Department of Health. Child Care licensing staff are currently taking 45 hours of online training on food hygiene provided by the Food and Drug Administration. Additionally the will be shadowing DOH food inspectors throughout the summer. We are currently seeking permission from the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Regulatory Reform in the Governor's Office to move forward with our food hygiene rules. If all goes well staff should be trained and a rule in place by early October.

**FLORIDA INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR INFANTS AND
TODDLERS
AHCA/MEDICAID REPORT
June 21-22, 2011**

- **Current Medicaid Enrollment:**
 - Medicaid enrollment continues to increase. There are over 3 million enrolled recipients.
 - Florida Medicaid currently has approximately 107,000 enrolled fee-for-service providers, 18 HMOs and 6 PSNs.
- **Targeted Case Management Handbook** – The Child Health Services Targeted Case Management Handbook is beginning to move through the in-house review as a proposed rule. The handbook is now being scheduled for the effective date of October 1, 2011(subject to change).
- **Medicaid Therapy Forum** – A quarterly Medicaid Therapy Forum was held in Tallahassee on June 24, 2011, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. The emphasis will be on HMOs and on the prior authorization for therapy services, effective November 1, 2011. (Agenda attached)
- **Medicaid Utilization Management** - eQ Health Solutions was selected to provide the Comprehensive Medicaid Utilization Management (prior authorization) program, which implemented Home Health and In-patient services June 2011, and will implement NICU on August 1st and therapy and PPEC on November 1, 2011.
- **Medicaid Statewide Managed Care** - House Bill 7107, relating to Medicaid Managed Care, was passed by the Florida Legislature on May 6, 2011. The bill outlines a comprehensive expansion of managed care for most Medicaid recipients throughout Florida. The bill directs the Agency for Health Care Administration to apply for and implement state plan amendments and waivers of applicable federal laws and regulations necessary to implement the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Program. By August 1, 2011, the Agency is required to submit any state plan amendments, new waiver requests or requests for extensions or expansions for existing waivers needed to implement the program. The Agency held public meetings to provide opportunity for public comment and to ensure that residents, providers and Medicaid recipients in each of the 11 Agency regions have the chance to provide input before the August 1 submission deadline. The plan is in the process of development and there is nothing available at this time to review. The link to the presentation that was given at these meetings is:
http://www.fdhc.state.fl.us/Medicaid/statewide_mc/pdf/FINAL_Outreach_June2011_ForAUDIENCE.pdf

FLORIDA MEDICAID

A Division of the Agency for Health Care Administration

Better Health Care for all Floridians

Medicaid Therapy Services Forum

June 24, 2011

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, Building 3
Conference Room A
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Introduction

- Welcome

Therapy Services program updates

- System Edits
- Policy for treating recipients with Medicare coverage
- Third Party Liability claims being processed by our third party vendor, ACS
- School therapy billing practices

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs)

- Q & A with HMO Program Administrator Laura Rumph

Utilization Management Program Update

- Findings of the retrospective records review

Plan of Care and Treatment Forms

- New Plan of Care and Treatment Forms

10 Minute Break

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Evaluation Training

- AAC evaluation training by the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Analyst, Dan Gabric, and DME Therapist Consultant, Carole Jo Hardiman

Quality Improvement Organization Contract

- Tips on preparing for the prior authorization of therapy services beginning November 1, 2011

Wrap-up

- Topics for future Therapy Services forums
- Forum Feedback
- Questionnaire

Additional Instructions:

- Do not forget to sign up for the Medicaid Interested Parties e-mail listing.
- Please fill out the Medicaid Forum Feedback Sheet.
- If possible, please leave us your business card.

Thank you for attending!



ELIS Provider Bulletin

Office of Early Learning

What is ELIS?

The Early Learning Information System (ELIS) Project was established to build a new statewide computer information system.

ELIS will be used by AWI and the Early Learning Coalitions to operate and manage the delivery of School Readiness (SR) and Voluntary Pre-kindergarten (VPK) services in Florida.

New Technology

ELIS will replace a twenty year old application that has reached the end of its useful service life. As you can imagine, there has been a great deal of advancement in computer technology in the last twenty years - including the creation of the Internet.

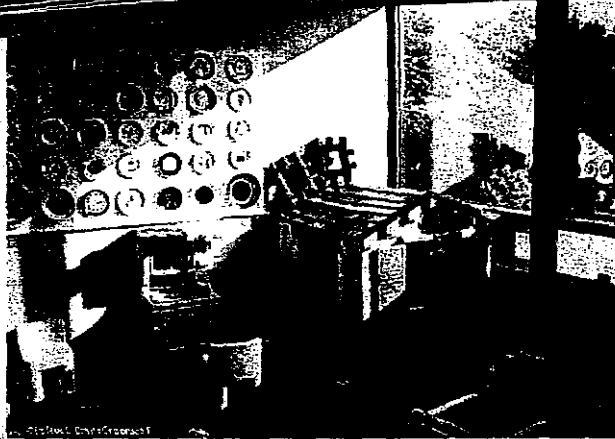
ELIS will manage, store and share Early Learning Program information with authorized users throughout the state.

Something for Everyone

Parents, guardians, providers, and partner agencies will all be able to log on and use ELIS from any computer connected to the Internet.

The ability to complete work online and to retrieve information using ELIS will be greater than ever before.

This bulletin is devoted to highlighting the kinds of things child care providers will be able to see and do while using the ELIS Provider Portal.



The ELIS Provider Portal

What is it?

A portal is a doorway or entrance. The ELIS Provider Portal is the entrance that child care providers will go through to access ELIS online.

Through this portal providers will be able to see their own ELIS data and complete many tasks that, today, must be done over the phone, by mail, or in person.

If you are thinking of the words "24 x 7" and "self-service" and "paperless" you are on the right track.

No special software or network equipment will be required. If you are already using the Internet for anything, then you already have what you need to start using ELIS online.

Getting to the ELIS Provider Portal will be easy. Once you are there, simply register and set up your user ID and password.



Using the Provider Portal is Optional

Providers can continue to conduct business with their ELC the same way they do now, however, using the ELIS Provider Portal will be faster, easier, and more accurate.

In this issue

What is the Early Learning Information System (ELIS)?

The ELIS Provider Portal: What is it?

Using the Provider Portal Is Optional

How ELIS Will Change Things Providers Care About

More Things You Can Do On the ELIS Provider Portal

What is Next for the ELIS Project?

How ELIS will Improve Things that Providers Care About

Attendance

Providers will be able to submit their child attendance data online - at any time.

ELIS will validate that the entries are complete and correct.

This will simply eliminate many categories of attendance errors, such as posting attendance before or after the child's eligibility date or on days when the Provider calendar shows their child care center is closed.

For convenience, attendance can be entered online daily and then submitted to the ELC for payment all at once on the appropriate date.

ELC attendance management staff will be able to review and approve attendance on-screen in a fraction of the time it now takes them to review paper attendance forms and manually key in their results.

Of course, faster review and approval means faster payments.

Policies, statutes, guidelines, user manuals, job aids, and all manner of useful **documentation** will all be available online through the ELIS Provider Portal.

More Things You Can Do On the ELIS Provider Portal

Providers will be able to use the ELIS Provider Portal to complete their **VPK Forms** online. They will even be able to upload and attach documents to the forms.

ELIS will verify that all required fields contain valid information. Then the Providers will be able submit the forms to the ELC electronically.

ELIS will route the **VPK Forms** to the right ELC staff members who will review them and complete the process - all without having to reenter the data:

The Provider's calendar will be automatically updated using information already collected from the electronic VPK forms.

The ELIS Provider Portal will establish and present each provider with a **mail-box** link to general announcements from their ELC and specific messages concerning their business, such as; a new child enrollment and slot management information.



Child care providers will be able to keep their **Childcare Resource and Referral (CCR&R) profile** current by updating it directly through the portal - as often as they wish.

CCR&R Profile information contains all the things a parent needs to know before selecting a provider. These include such things as:

- Days and Hours of Operation
- Ages of children served
- Curriculum provided
- Instructor / child ratios
- Programs supported
- Special needs services
- Contact information

No longer will an opportunity to serve another child will be missed due to an out-of-date profile.



One of the most exciting features of the ELIS Provider Portal is the easy access to a wealth of information about the **children being served**.

Providers can examine an individual child's attendance records.

Schedule, progress, and results of child screening services will be available, along with any casework required for follow-up.

Likewise child assessments - pre and post - will be scheduled and reviewed using the portal.

Records of child inclusion services will be accessible online.

For more information contact
Cherilynn.Rivers@flaawi.com



More valuable information means greater efficiency, lower costs, and better service for Florida's children

ELIS supports a broad array of management and performance information, including the following **notifications**:

- New child enrollments
- Notice of Parents who are coming due for eligibility redetermination
- Child transfers - parent, guardian, or provider
- Quality monitoring activities - schedules, instructions and results
- Auditing activities - who, when and results
- Complaints processed by the ELC
- Notifications of child disenrollment
- Changes in co-pay rates and dates
- Opportunities to participate in scheduled training and workshops
- Links to other useful web pages
- Broadcast announcements from ELCs to their providers

As you can see, the ELIS Provider Portal will give ready access to an enormous amount of information needed by Child Care Providers.



What is Next For the ELIS Project?

The design of ELIS continues through the summer of 2011. Then will come building, testing and then roll-out.

Watch for more details about what ELIS means to Providers during the next 24 months.

Head Start FICCIT Report June 2011

Updates from the Head Start State Collaboration Office:

1. HSSCO is developing its five-year refunding application to include, with respect for services for Infants and Toddlers:

- Supporting partnerships to identify and enroll children with special needs in Early Head Start and expand services to infants and toddlers with disabilities in natural settings;
- Facilitate Head Start/Early Head Start/Migrant Head Start grantee participation in suitable and effective transition practices from Part C, IDEA to Part B, IDEA; serve on FL Transition Project committee;
- Support Early Head Start representative to the Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT) by providing information and assistance;
- Promote involvement of Head Start programs in the Florida Association for Infant Mental Health;
- Develop partnerships at the state and local level to leverage existing sources of Mental Health services;
- Invite Early Head Start/Home Visiting grantees to develop strategies to coordinate services, share training and create a Home Visiting credential with other Home Visiting providers;
- Support Early Childhood Hearing Outreach (ECHO) Initiative;
- Facilitate Early Head Start participation in Infant/Toddler Network and develop partnerships for model classrooms

2. It appears that the EHS expansion slots are going to be carried over at least through FY12, so there will continue to be extra Infant & Toddler slots and services in Early Head Start.

3. HSSCO is continuing to serve on the Expanding Opportunities Workgroup where we are working on Core Competencies for other professionals like PTs and OTs that work with young children.

6/21/11

Public Comment

- April Kantine - FDDC - ASK that
- PDAT help create the outline for content of credentialling ~~modules~~ modules for evaluator credentialling for Early Steps eligibility.
 - We heard you about Disability Awareness RFP - Should be out in next few months.