

Iowa Council for Early ACCESS

January 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Aaron Cronk called the Iowa Council for Early ACCESS to order at 9:37 am on January 15, 2021 on zoom. This meeting was held remotely due to COVID-19.

Council Members Present:

Rep. Mike Bergan, Jerrica Brink, Aaron Cronk, John Fuller, McKaylee Heuton, Ryan Hubbert, Annette Hyde, Marcus Johnson-Miller, Julie Jones, Eric Locke, Megan Lancaster, Stephen Mandler, Kym Stein, Kimberly Villotti, Tonya Weber, Johnathon Wunderlich
Joined for part of the meeting: Ryan Tomlinson, Jessie Marks, Karen Thompson, Julie Allison

Guests Present: Sonya Sellmeyer, Angela Rothfus, Julie Jetter, Darci Alt, Mae Hingtgen

Absent:

Emma Bouza, Lee Pool, Brook Rosenberg, Donal Welch

Staff Present: Kate Small, Melissa Schnurr, Tonya Krueger

II. Approval of Minutes

Marcus Johnson-Miller motioned to approve the minutes. Eric Locke seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

III. Committee Reports

Public Policy - Met Jan 15, discussed early mental health advocacy and maternal mental health across the state. Will look at more information on work from 1st Five and Early Childhood Iowa to see what is in place and how Early ACCESS can support efforts. Rep. Mike Bergan provided an overview on Part C funding in the state and encouraged individuals to reach out to federal legislators to generate support for increased funding.

Membership - Committee corresponded over e-mail. There will be 5 positions to fill at the end of this year. They plan to follow-up with members that have not been in attendance.

By-laws - Did not meet before the holidays. Plan to complete work via e-mail going forward and will provide an update at the next meeting.

Family engagement - connected by email and will be meeting an hour prior to the Council meeting in March

Dept of Ed. Updates - Kim Villotti shared the Department of Education updates: Monica Garner is new in the Head Start State Collaboration Office position; Cindy Weigel left the Dept of Ed at the end of 2020 and Dee Gethmann is interim IDEA Part C Coordinator; Application for IDEA Part C funds will be publicly posted in February - Council members will receive an email requesting their review.

IV. Family videos

Watched a video from [Green Hills AEA](#) and [Keystone AEA](#) about family guided routines based intervention (FGRBI). Reflective discussion followed: happy to see routines still being addressed even in a virtual visit; Annette shared that the providers at Keystone are divided into 3 year cohorts - at the beginning, using 20-30% of key indicators of FGRBI and by the end of the year of coaching, getting at least 80% of the key indicators; now people coming in are starting around 60% of key indicators because of the teaming that is happening - “a rare example of a true paradigm shift.”

V. Annual Performance Report - Early Childhood Outcomes

Kate Small provided an overview of data considerations for this year as well as Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO).

Data for indicator C3 (outcomes A, B and C) was reviewed. Discussion- Categories c and d seem very similar. What does data look like if categories c and d are combined? The federal requirement is to report these separately, but combining these may help understand the progress of Iowa children internally.

Narrowing (summary statement 1) and closing (summary statement 2) the developmental gap for outcomes A, B and C was reviewed.

Discussion- Is data available monthly/quarterly to look more closely at trends? Currently this data is looked at annually as there are several steps involved in the process. ACHIEVE data system will support the process of collecting and reviewing data as well as aspects of evaluation, assessment, outcomes, routines and progress monitoring.

VI. Children's Mental Health Update

Julie Jetter - DHS - Mental Health/Disability Services - share about children's behavioral health system with two regional CEOs (Mae Hingtgen; Darci Alt) - came out of Gov Reynold's Executive Order 2 on April 23, 2018. The system has a board with several responsibilities. Mental Health regions, each with responsibilities.

VII. PR/Marketing task team update

PR/Marketing work has continued with input from the task team provided through surveys. Two handout drafts have been developed with content reviewed by Whitney Smith representing AEA communications. At this time we are waiting for updated Early ACCESS colors and logo from graphic design, as well the layout and design of the proposed handouts.

Input from parent representatives on the task team was also requested to assist with the Early ACCESS parent portion of the Iowa Family Support Network website redesign. The website is in the process of being updated with the goal of releasing the updates sometime in February 2021.

VIII. Adjournment

Annette Hyde motioned to adjourn. Eric Locke seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.