



IOWA COUNCIL FOR EARLY ACCESS

January 27, 2023

9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Iowa Department of Education

Grimes State Office Building, B100 (basement)

400 E. 14th Street

Des Moines, IA 50319

[Agenda](#)

Iowa Council for Early ACCESS Call to Order: Annette Hyde called the Iowa Council for Early ACCESS (ICEA) to order at 9:33 a.m., January 27, 2023 with a quorum.

Council Members Present: Tonya Weber, Aaron Cronk, Lee Pool, Marguerite (Peg) Macek, Julie Jones, Jess Burger, Rozanne Warder, McKaylee Heuton, Kimberly Villotti, Eric Locke, Megan Lancaster, Marcus Johnson-Miller, Annette Hyde, Karen Thompson

Council Members Absent: John Fuller, Julie Alison, Sue Wittmack, Stephen Mandler, Michael Bergan, Emma Bouza, Jonathan Wunderlich

Early ACCESS Staff Present: Kate Small, Meghan Miller, Melissa Schnurr, Dee Gethmann, Tonya Krueger, Teri Mash

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Marcus Johnson-Miller to approve minutes and a second by Eric Locke for the Iowa Council for Early ACCESS (ICEA) meeting held November 18, 2022. Motion passed unanimously.

Bylaws: A motion was made by Rozanne Warder and seconded by Eric Locke to approve the updates to the bylaws. Motion passed unanimously.

Family Story: The ICEA member, Eric Locke shared his family story. His youngest daughter was diagnosed with Autism at the age of 2 ½ years old. She was referred to Early ACCESS after her 2 year well child check-up after connecting with the area education agency. They received tremendous support once she was in Early ACCESS in addition to private therapy. She was able to transition to preschool; however, there was a 6 week gap between Early ACCESS ending and preschool starting. The team continued to provide support to the family during this time.

Regulatory Reform order from the Governor (Thomas Mayes update): Goal to reduce words and prohibitions; moratorium on any new rules unless pre-approved by Governor's office. Over the next few years all rules will be reviewed. Goal is to reduce code and requirements to essentials. Look for additional flexibilities. Will be a repeal and replace - brand new Iowa code at the end of the four year process. Chapter 120 is Early ACCESS Rules and will be reviewed and replaced.

Differentiated Monitoring and Support (DMS) 2.0: Continued Learning for Committee: ICEA Council member, Kimberly Villotti, presented information on determinations.

APR Data Review: Kate Small, from the Early ACCESS State Team, presented the Annual Performance Report (APR) FFY 2022 for Indicator (C3) Early Childhood Outcomes.

Link to spanish breadth of three child outcomes: <https://ectacenter.org/~pdfs/eco/three-child-outcomes-breadth-sp.pdf>



Noted an increase in children that did not improve for Outcome A. Is there an increase in some diagnosis related to social-emotional development (communication, sensory, feeding/eating)? This is something to consider when reviewing the data.

The national comparison for summary statement 1 was reviewed. Iowa is below the national average. There is a suggestion to seek out similar states to see what they are doing that may also help Iowa improve child outcome results.

Family Survey Infographic: The handout is a good idea to help families understand why they are being asked to take the survey. One suggestion is to add more “Why” questions. The child outcomes graph may lead families to wonder what category their child is in. Members like that online you don’t have a scroll (like how short it is). Perhaps leave off child outcomes data and keep it more on the family survey and address the why questions from Texas. Tweak the title/subtitle to be more inclusive of the ECO data - families have a role/voice in EI. State team members will draft another version and then will seek input from additional families.

Family Survey: Kate Small, from the Early ACCESS State Team, presented family survey demographic variable options.

Consider the benefit of reporting a demographic that has a required response. The insurance question is not required. The question about English as their primary language is required but doesn’t have specific language indicating that is their primary language. Location could be broken down in categories based on the US Census Bureau classification including city, suburb, town and rural and is a required question. It may also allow for future data collection and tracking purposes.

Council members voted on which of the three variables they want to include to show representativeness.

A motion was made to use location based on district and US census definitions (urban, rural, remote, etc) as an added demographic to show representativeness of our data by Eric Locke and seconded by Karen Thompson. The motion was passed unanimously.

Professional Development update: Julie Jones and Jess Burger, ICEA Council, and Melissa Schnurr, Early ACCESS State Team, presented Child Development Professional Learning Package, Pivotal Skills Tool, and AEPS 3.0 training (birth to five).

The Child Development Professional Learning Package will use modules from other state programs, including MIECHV. AEA staff will complete the modules and earn certificates from the host site and then upload the certificate to AEA online to track professional learning.

Early ACCESS Signatory Agency Updates:

- **Child Health Specialty Clinics:** The family stories in the [Year in Review](#) highlight valuable connections and support for children provided by various programs including Early ACCESS.

ICEA Committees

Annette Hyde, ICEA Chair, brought forth the idea of reviewing and adjusting the established ICEA Committees. The executive committee discussed the purposes of the current, standing committees and the need to revise, retire, and establish new committees to have broader recommendations, conversations, and advise and assist in the implementation of Early ACCESS. A proposal was provided to the members in draft with an opportunity to discuss the changes to the ICEA Standing



Committees.

Continuous Improvement: The continuous improvement committee suggested monthly emails to provide information and follow-up on discussions in between meetings. This will be trialed during February, March and April.

Membership: There will be five openings on the council next year, 2 parents and 3 providers that work with children that may receive early intervention. If you have suggestions of potential applicants contact Kate. Kate will send fliers to Council members to share with people who might be interested in joining the Council.

Adjourn: Kimberly Villotti motioned to adjourn the ICEA meeting. Rozanne Warder seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35pm.