



Eric Holcomb, Governor
State of Indiana

Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services

First Steps

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Interagency Coordinated Council Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2023

10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. EDT

ICC Members in attendance: Cory Best – Co-chair, Jason Berty, Laura Burklew, Representative Ed Clere, Erica Deathe, Robyn Duffy, Mariann Frigo, Charie Gibson, Alexandra Hall, Lindsay Holley, Jennifer Owens, Megan Purcell, Ashley Wake (Proxy for Angie Vaughn) , Stacy Williams, Deanna Woodruff

ICC members not in attendance: Mark Guyer – Chair, Rachael Foster, DJ Glander, Kristi Linson, Erica Miller, Tanya Merritt-Mulamba, Courtney Penn, Sarah Sailors

First Steps State Staff in attendance: Christina Common, David Brandon-Friedman, Katie Goodwell, Maggie McCall, Barbara Sanders, Marie-Therese Smith, Jessica Tomasino, Amy Torres, Connie Young

Welcome and Introductions

Cory Best, ICC Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:07am and welcomed everyone. No family story shared.

Approval of May 2023 minutes

Cory Best asked for a motion to approve the July meeting minutes. Megan Purcell made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as written. Mariann Frigo seconded the motion, and a vote was taken:

13 members approved and 1 member abstained. The motion was carried.

First Steps and IN EI Hub Update

Christina Commons, First Steps Director, gave an update on program capacity, funding structure, and State Fiscal Year 23 services costs. She shared that Jessica Tomasino, First Steps Assistant Director, was leaving the First Steps team at the end of September and thanked her for her service to the young children and families of Indiana. (See attached PowerPoint).

Sub-Committee Summary

Advocacy:

Representative Clere gave the summary. He stated that the group talked about finding a different reimbursement rate for providers serving rural areas of the state. One agency stated they are already doing this for their providers. The group also talked about the use of technology for recruitment and retention. How can we find a better way to match providers with what their



expertise is (i.e., feeding). Also how do we retain part time providers in the system? Can the EI Hub's parent portal be utilized to extend the work of the therapists?

Fiscal:

Jason Berty gave the summary. The group talked about provider recruitment and retention around compassion fatigue, provider self-care, and safety issues in the field of home visiting. The group tried to brainstorm ideas like Texas and North Carolina that would work in Indiana. The group also discussed a universal discharge criterion to be used around the state. Do we need to offer reflective supervision to give providers an outlet to help with burnout? What can we do to support providers?

PD/ Child Assessment:

Megan Purcell gave the summary. This group has narrowed down the child assessment tools. The front runners are AEPS-3 and Hawaii Early Learning Profile (HELP). A formal recommendation will be made to the ICC at the November meeting.

2023 Governor's Report

Christina stated that this report must be to the Governor's office on November 1, 2023. Janet Ballard, at the Early Childhood Center, is putting the report together this year.

2023 Executive Committee Nominations:

It was recommended that Cory Best become ICC Chair and make DeAnna Woodruff (parent) the ICC Vice-Chair. Both Erica Deathe and Alexandra Hall expressed interest in being on the Executive Board. A formal vote will take place at the November meeting.

Legislative Report

Representative Clere stated that the upcoming Governor's Report can be used for advocacy. 2023 was a budget year and passed a 2-year budget. Legislators are not in session but are working behind the scenes. To view any meetings, you can go to IGA.in.gov to stream any meetings of interest. This is a great time to connect with your local legislators. The ARC of IN and IN-ARF can help make connections.

ICC Member and Public Comment

Cory Best asked if there was any comments. Mariann Frigo, ICC member, announced that her agency just received a grant to offer hearing screens every three months in childcares in her area. No other comments were made.

Adjourn

Cory Best asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jennifer Owens made a motion to adjourn, and Megan Purcell seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is November 8, 2023.

Minutes were respectfully submitted by Janet Ballard, ICC Staff Support