

**ND INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 13, 2023**

PRESENT

Tina Bay
Kim Hruby
Matt Nelson
Sarah Carlson
Jill Staudinger
Mariah Hill
Brandi Pyle
Janakate Walker
Lisa Piche
Shannon Grave
Amy Casavant

Carolyn Kueber
Kelli Ulberg
Eric Gault
Michelle Ragan
Shantelle Petroff
Amanda Peterson
Jodi Hulm
Louise Greff
Karri Morris
Missi Baranko

STAFF

Jackie Adusumilli

Colette Perkins

GUESTS

Jessica Dargis
Danielle Hoff

TOPIC: FAMILY STORY

Andrea Huschka – Dickinson head start policy council chair. Became involved because had 2 children in head start. Son got in on a disability waiver. Abby in K went to head start. Andrew was firework from day 1. Had to be on bed rest for 5 weeks because of a hemorrhage. Pregnancy was stressful, 2 small kids, land husband in oil field. Birth went well but he had jaundice. After birth, he required more of Mom. Right Track screened and he was delayed in speech, fine motor skills, and emotional development. Referred to KIDS program and within 1 week of evaluation they had us in speech therapy throughs school district, referrals for audiology and ear nose throat. Good hearing and extremely sensitive hearing and used headphones in public. He had sleep apnea. Without early intervention and the KIDS program helping us, we would be further behind. Went in the

mornings to head start. Took them a year to get in to do a mental health screen at Badlands and got into ACC to do a full autism evaluation. He only met 6 of the 8 to be diagnosed with autism. 2 years of head start and Andrew wrote his name and drew a picture; increased verbal usage; strategies to use at home to help him emotionally. Aged out of head start and had to go to kindergarten. Had an IEP and accommodations. Team t school was helpful but felt we weren't getting the results we wanted. Concerning and violent behaviors and this was frequent and couldn't leave him alone with the baby. Hard to get the mental health services that we needed. Went into a 2nd year of kindergarten. Last half of 2nd year of kindergarten he bloomed and caught up on academic standards for kindergarten. But at home he still bolted out to street, aggressive with sister, and break things. Moved to a different school for 1st grade and behaviors still there and more frequent and more violent. Still doing OT, graduated from speech, and told this was the mom's problem. Remarried and husband said this isn't normal behavior. End of 1st grade, it was 6 months to get into a behavioral evaluation. End of summer and beginning of school year, ref for pediatric mental consult. Did the intake and initial evaluation with Badlands and waiting for them to come and do in-home evaluation. Referred to CHI psychiatric and take there now. He was admitted for 9 days. Dr said it was parent child conflict. Applied to a residential program but psychiatric that runs that runs the hospital one and removed all diagnoses. Applied to many agencies but no one could take him. Feb saw the behavioral psychiatrist. Andrew is in Dad's care and dropped from IEP and on 504. Now goes outside twice a day and sometimes helps the gym teacher. They provide him with several well checks during day, removed noise factors, and back in social skills class which they had dropped him from, OT an hour a week, regular check ins with school counselor, and goes to office sometimes for quite time. Referred to a neuropsychologist and he has depression. Went back to family court and he is in the custody with his father. Some days feel failed as a parent but also had to think of the 3 girls in the home. Our story isn't over, and we have a lot more to do and focus on the girls and their health and advocate for the care that Andrew needs. Need long term help for these very disturbing behaviors for these kids. If we hadn't done the Right Track screenings he wouldn't have been involved with the Kids Program. They taught us in the moment skills to use at home; things to do at the library; went to the park to see how he acted with kids, and it was very helpful. Don't know what I would have done without Head Start. It would have been nice to have someone in the home to see what things were happening.

TOPIC: NEW BUSINESS

Early Intervention Budget Overview

Dis on agenda planning, valuable to have an overview of part c of what goes into it. Tina and Jackie will share an overview and talked about it and share budget information for this time. 3 streams of funding and we talk about part c grant. Rec about \$2.4m every year. May be a slight increase this year. Largest funding piece is HCBS and it is \$35.2m and exp parent is \$260,000. DDPM/Service Coordinator piece is missing from this chart. \$35.2m is budgeted – and not actual spending at this time. Med is different than part c allocation. Med as long as state has funding to match and ser is approved, we keep drawing down the funds, but we do have caps on serving. The waiver is federal and state match program, every dollar spent a % comes from state and certain % from federal. Admin exp – keeping program operational – salary (Jackie), professional development, office supplies, and printing.

DD Direct Service Grants – pd to Infant Development providers pay points: home visit, evaluation and assessment, consultation, and IFSP development.

Rates for each are: Home Visits - \$148.60; Evaluation and Assessment - \$508; Consultation - \$308.96.

Provider rate inflation – right now they are talking 3% and 3% but DD has been asked to provide information and a lot of scenarios are being considered right now.

ICC

Mileage, lodging and meals for members in person ICC meetings
Stipends and childcare reimbursement for parent ICC members
Costs associated with renting space for in person ICC meetings

Contracts:

Technical assistance – this one is required. Help programs in a non-punitive way.

Right Track – required ‘child find’ activity under Part C regulations. Provide developmental screening and follow along services to families

Birth Review – required activity under Part C regulations. Provides funding for materials to send to new parents. There are 15 classified risk factors and spot on parent worksheet if you would like additional information if record screened for any of those risk factors. Do an automatic referral to Right Track. Numbers have decreased over the years from parents wanting information.

ICC look at if additional child find activities would be beneficial. This will be talked about at the June meeting.

Child Outcomes Tool – we contract with Brookes Publishing. AEPSi system is the online system for AEPS, and it is funded for all programs to access. Child is evaluated and AEPS is used, and information is entered into the AEPSi if eligible and meet requirements.

Experienced Parent – state development programs. Held at the program region and are state general funds. Peer to peer support for families enrolled in early intervention.

Audiologists – hearing screening is required of eval and assessment of part c regs. We cannot read the results of these screenings and we contract with audiologists to do this.

Budget Process - Part C grant application is reviewed and updated annually. Grant application is posted for 60 days and accepts public comment for 30 days. FFY 2023 application is currently accepting public comment until 4/21/2023.

Waiver Funds – funding from HCBS waiver is reviewed regularly. Budget projections are based on utilization. Inflationary increases are approved by the legislature. If spending more than we thought, dept can request funding from the emergency commission.

Professional Development System

Working on getting online professional development system up and running for early intervention.

Launch the beginning of march.

It is the state PeopleSoft system.

Not a state employee you can create an account on the system.

Have a new module on authentic assessment, getting people to go through and then provide feedback.

Jackie will send out instructions.

Will move PowerPoint trainings here also.

IFSP transition training is on there also.

Training is very interactive. You get to use your mouse to do check in to make sure you understand the information and there is a resource guide to expand on the training.

Will this tie into growing futures and get credit. Trying to figure out how to do this. Presenters are not registered in growing futures, but we can provide a transcript that they took this.

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Milestones

Need to get the group back together and talk more about this at the June meeting.

ICC Parent Membership

There was some concern about dividing parents into regions and causes us to not have enough parents on the Council. Bylaws don't say have to be from certain regions, says 24 and we have 22 so out of compliance for total members. Other parents that would be interested in serving. We need to add some more parents. If a parent is interested what are the steps to become a member. Confirm moving forward to recruit in general and if interested complete application on the boards and commission page. If we say we allow doubles from a region, Jackie will need to inform the Governor's Office. Do we want to have parameters about recruiting and then a motion to go ahead and move forward. We should pick the best candidates that are interested and what they can contribute to the group. Blend from urban and rural is important also. Council is saying yes let's open this up.

Motion was made by Lisa Piche and seconded by Matt Nelson that the Council open the parent membership up to whatever area of the state they reside in and not limit to a specific region. Motion carried. Questions can be sent to the Membership Committee. Jackie will email the Early Intervention Providers also.

Legislative Update

Tina – not a lot of decisions on the appropriation for the dept. waiting to hear on the inflationary increase for providers. HB 1035 to create a cross disability waiver – a council created to assist with the development of a waiver and level of care redesign of the waiver, passed through committee and defeated on floor but put language into the dept budget. 2276 family paid caregiver – dept to create service in waivers to pay parents of children to provide services for those children that have extra ordering needs and senate side it went out and house put that cross disability in 2276 and added a component of a family paid caregiver. This

pushed the timeline back by a couple of years. Conf committee is meeting and discussing on what to do. Looks like it is now scheduled for Monday morning

2335 – started out to address FAS, took language from cross disability and is in House Human Services.

DD budget – not a lot of discussion on caseload numbers.

Bill that Sarah worked on has been passed and signed.

Public health side has been passed and signed. Receive additional funding for domestic violence support.

ICC Member Updates

Tina – the DD Waiver is out for public comment. Public health emergency expires May 11. Hosting a meeting on April 27 to cover things with the flexibility. Talk about some other changes in the Waiver also. This summer we will start working on our Waiver Renewal.

Danielle – put out requests for proposals for funding opportunity for the upcoming biennium. Go towards children and special health care needs – systems development – care coordination, medical home, transition service, multidisciplinary support organizations.

West River Conference of Social Welfare June 8 and 9 in Medora. Topics on mental health, leading through kindness, narcotics from Dickinson police, home visits with community safety Russ Korzeniewski. Shantelle will put this in the chat.

Lisa – subsidizes for private adoption, supporting and care for kin for kids needing out of home safety plan, and foster care licensing unit and thanking Cory for all his work on legislation.

Jackie – Sarah and Jackie accepted for presentation for DEC conf and presenting on family outcomes in MN. Jill presenting on professional development. Matt presenting on Family committee.

DPI – engage every family conference and Carolyn put in the chat on May 2 at the Gateway Science Building.

Sarah – vision service family weekend – education, Fri and Sat, and grown into a wonderful opportunity for families. They provide childcare service for children with vision and siblings. Created a partnership with DD Council and no cost for families. Friendship Park – last stages of creating a massive inclusive playground in Dickinson to develop friendships. Involved with ND Assistive and she shared something. Beckett uses a robot machine – Trexo - that helps with walking, posture improve, strength improves, and hoping advocacy with ND Assistive how adaptive equipment and tech can transform kids and with Dept to look at funding streams along with private insurance.

Childcare Assistance Program

Within childcare assistance program that supports parents and pay for childcare. Space to allow payment increased by 10% if child has a disability. Help families to apply for assistance and child has a special health care need. Family call eligibility worker and submit IFSP or ISP and helps offset challenges of childcare providers. They are working on a flier. If families are told this is not available, have them contact Missi as she wants to track and then provide information. Missi will put a link for the application for members in the chat. If gives the childcare provider a 10% increase. We could have this as a topic as a future meeting.

TOPIC: STANDING NDICC AGENDA ITEMS

Committee Reports

Family Survey Subcommittee – reviewed the minutes. Eric and Sarah met. Great success with Family surveys on how it is distributed and responses. Recommendations/thoughts – pass on to lead agency and discuss – Microsoft form is distributed and continue to add accessibility, accessible navigating tools like Google to pull things up in the native language to see what Microsoft offers; known language can be requested through paper also. Data point - % of online responses vs paper responses. Distributed with support – home visitor provides a code on a card, send a text with link and don't lose a sheet of paper; follow up piece for discussion – way to pull examples fidelity across the state on how we are following up with the family, did you do the survey, how is follow up done. A screen that says “thanks you already did this” to help reduce any duplication. Spreadsheet providers receive is very cumbersome and very big; some how to reduce and directions of not having to page through to find kids. Survey given to families with 3 months of service and what is done with kids you have existed – they are mailed a paper copy. Jill – some columns filled out and thought is this important to document and some felt redundant and look at what we really need

data wise and streamline. Amy – present to PIEPs the importance of the survey and the family completing it.

Adjourn

Public information?? Talk about in June