

ND INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL
Thursday, February 13, 2025
via Teams

PRESENT

Angela McSweyn
Jordan Anderson
Matt Nelson
Danielle Westerhausen
Jodi Hulm
Danielle Hoff
Jen Withers
Karri Morris

Jill Staudinger
Michelle Ragan
Louise Greff
Erick Gault
Missi Baranko
Carolyn Kueber
Emily Dolinar

STAFF:

Jackie Adusumilli
Colette Perkins

GUESTS:

Kayla Stastny
Zoey McCowan – Family Story
Nicole Maddock

TOPIC: WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson Jill Staudinger welcomed everyone to the meeting today./

TOPIC: OVERVIEW OF AGENDA

TOPIC: FAMILY STORY

Testing for special education in Sept and did not qualify. Jessica talked about the criteria to Zoey's husband about not meeting special education criteria.

Dr encouraged Zoey to reach out for early intervention.
Zoey wants to go back to school for an early childhood.

Better explanation would have been nice in delayed in 50% and what services do you want and not sure what services were available and what we needed; and the big packet of information was over whelming.

Carolyn shared the link for the early childhood conference and encouraged Zoey to attend.

TOPIC: APROVAL OF MINUTES

October 24, 2024, meeting minutes – A motion was made by Missi Baranko and seconded by Louise Greff to approve the October 24, 2024, ICC meeting minutes. Jackie sent a poll for voting members. Motion carried.

Dec 12, 2024, meeting minutes – A motion was made by Jodi Hulm and seconded by Jordan Anderson to approve the December 12, 2024, meeting minutes. Jackie sent a poll for voting members. Motion carried.

TOPIC: NEW BUSINESS

Office of Special Education Programs Differentiated Monitoring & Support 2.0 Review

OSEP was here the last week in Jan with 4 days of interviews around 4 specific areas – fiscal monitoring, data monitoring, general supervision, and dispute resolution. Virtual engagement for 4 days. At the end, they gave us 3 areas they are going to provide potential findings. 3 findings in fiscal – ensuring procedures implemented but that they are documented. Issuing around fiscal monitoring – we need to issue findings on those. Develop policies/procedures around dispute resolution around Part C. Timely notification of findings to local programs – pulling data to issuing letters to go from 120 days to 90 days.

We expressed frustration around stakeholder meetings and not clear information provided to them about accessing meetings and no information about the meetings.

Jill – provider meeting and the ICC meeting. Provider and DDPM meeting – the ladies asking the questions did not understand how ND systems were set up; they were confused on role of DDPM, and provider and we spent

time trying to explain this. Sometimes questions they asked didn't fit with our process. Would have been helpful if they had understood how we work in ND. Jackie stated that they spent time during the engagement explaining our system with visuals and power points.

They did to give individuals options for meeting days and times.

ICC – how we function was a committee and what we do at our meetings.

Jen – was asked not to attend a couple of meetings because of her working with DPI.

Process for receiving feedback for meetings? They will send an official letter of findings and sit the exact part of the law around compliance to remedy. Should be here around May and some states haven't received anything after a year of OSEP coming to their state. We have 1 year to correct any findings. We have started correction of work on findings/noncompliance. If we have corrected things, we can send our corrections, and they will note that it is a finding but note that it has been corrected. Is there a rating for states or just the findings. Every year we get our level of determination and will still receive that, and they will review our APR and sending level of determination in May. This process will be separate and will not impact our level of determination.

Part B experienced this 2 weeks ago, very intense and 4 days and came down on monitoring process no formal findings yet and submitted a lot of documentation. Monitoring process – over seeing every school district. We review files across districts, and they were confused on our process also and we provided clarification.

Annual Performance Report (APR) Submission
Submitted 10 days ago – Feb 3.

New indicator – indicator 12 – are general supervision system - monitoring of related requirements of Part C. we are required everything related to Part C – annual plans created and activated timely, quality of services is appropriate, etc. it asked for a summary of Indicator 1, 7, and 8 and put into 12 and any additional findings that we issued through the APR period. We reported on one finding on one program on timely annual completion.

With our visit, anticipate a larger number of findings on Indicator 12 for our next reporting period.

OSEP will review and open in April for clarification, we will respond back and generally in May we receive determination on the APR.

This will be discussed at our next EI meeting with providers and DDRPAs.

Part C Grant Application

No information yet. We have been assured by technical assistance providers who work closely with the federal government that Part C is not being removed nor funding removed. Funding will remain flat from the previous year. We continue to monitor to see if there is anything that is changing but technical assistance partners and infant toddler association and that there is no intent to remove funding, Part C funding, from states. We need the Application for posting for the 60-day comment period.

Legislative Update

Jackie reviewed the handout sent to members “DD Legislative Bill Summary – 2025 Session” DD is tracking over 100 bills and being tracked by DD staff. Jackie reviewed this handout with the members.

HB 1012 – Inflation increase for providers is 1.5% for each year of the next biennium. This will affect our pay points and committee asked to raise to 3% and 3%. If you want, you can contact members to support the 3%. Jackie put an attachment in the chat if members wanted to contact the committee members.

SB 2308 – discusses the removal of some committee and/or councils. Early childhood council was removed. The Governor’s Office was informed that the ICC is mandated.

HB 1049 – Licensure requirements of speech language therapists. Licensure of SLP assistant – when additional licensure we want to be aware of what this looks like and for our personnel requirements.

SB 2146 – passed through Senate and on the House side. OT, compact, allow individuals licensed in ND to provide services in another state that is part of the compact. Interested in this to potentially allow services to be provided to a family. This would be virtually.

HB 1067 – medical assistance benefits, Medicaid waivers –

- 1) Looking at children on 1915c Medicaid waivers – ability to remove any social security survivors benefits or court ordered child support. Want to remove this to benefit families.
- 2) Medically fragile waiver and children's autism waiver – increasing this through age 20.

Jodi Hulm – SB 2190 – adds ABA for adults with autism.

Jen Withers – SB 2030 – part of housing and finance budget bill; asking for funds to study homelessness across the state. Our pre-k numbers are increasing. Part of the study and money for safe and affordable housing for families in need.

Missi Baranko – quite a few bills around childcare and licensing – big interest in the legislative body to find ways to meet the needs of families paying high amounts for childcare and also meeting the needs of providers.

Jackie gave an overview to members on how to access bills on the ND Legislative Assembly website.

Parent Stipend

½ day vs whole day.

Oct 2023 – changed from \$60 to \$120. Still doing a blended meeting ½ and full day at times. Do we want to have dis about adapting amt for parent stipend for full day vs half days.

ICC Priorities Update

Increasing public awareness

Parent compensation

Defining roles and updating standard operating procedures.

John talked about breaking into committee groups at an ICC meeting instead of scheduling outside of the ICC. Question re: public awareness of

there is nothing for the group to do and add to another group – at the next meeting there might be dis for the public awareness group. There was agreement that we should have the groups meet during a regular ICC meeting.

TOPIC: STANDING NDICC AGENDA ITEMS

ICC Member Update

Early childhood conference – April 11 & 12. 233 registrations received and hoping for 400. 22 vendors and geared towards early childhood and they have 4 sponsors; 3 keynote speakers; and break out speakers. Registration is \$30 for both days and 1 day is \$20. Repeat sessions – both days are very different and with the volume of speakers, there are no repeat sessions.

Early Childhood Day at the Capitol – good group of people dedicated to early childhood attend. Compared to previous year felt more like legislators were more interested. There was a lot of people attending and great discussions. Fun to

ICC Committee Reports

Ex committee – no report

Family Survey – Sarah Carlson – ask the Committee to meet; not necessary unless they want to make any changes. Stay with the same process as last year and members stated yes.

Tele-intervention – from stat perspective not necessary and any policy changes we would bring to the whole group. Change would be at the next Waiver submission and not sure when that is.

Operating Procedures – everyone is welcome to join this group. John emailed him last week and said let's set up a meeting. Matt will ask Jackie to send out an email for the next meeting to the entire group.

Michelle – quick documents, families are potential immigrants and asking us to do if they are approached by ISC. Missi will put a link in the chat for members for resources and what to share with families and other resources to reach out to. Red Card link was put in the chat and is a good resource.

Jill thanked everyone for their attendance.

The next meeting is April 10, 2025, virtually.