

# Interagency Coordinating Council

February 26, 2007  
10 AM – 12:15 p.m.

CAFAP  
2189 Silas Deane Highway  
Rocky Hill, CT

## Minutes

**Laurel Ross, ICC Chair**  
ARC, Greenwich  
**Elayne Thomas ICC Vice Chair**  
Parent  
**Timothy Bowles**  
Dept. of Social Services  
**Anita Cella**  
Parent  
**Elizabeth Daly**  
Office of Protection and Advocacy  
**Dona Ditrio**  
New Opportunities Early Head Start  
**Rita Esposito**  
REACHOUT, Inc.  
**Linda Goodman**  
Dept. of Mental Retardation  
**Mark A. Greenstein, M.D.**  
Pediatrician  
**Clara Gutierrez**  
Parent  
**Jeanette Haines**  
BESB  
**Moira Herbert**  
Insurance Department  
**Cynthia Jackson**  
Children's Therapy Services  
**Robert LaCamera, M.D.**  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
**Joe McLaughlin**  
McLaughlin and Associates  
**Elise Minor**  
Parent  
**Kathleen Bradley, PhD**  
Dept. of Children and Families  
**Maria Synodi**  
State Dept. of Education  
**Louis Tallarita**  
SDE- Educ. for Homeless Children  
**Rep. Jack W. Thompson**  
CT legislator  
**Robin Tousey-Ayers**  
Dept. of Public Health  
**Melissa Van Buren, alternate**  
A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence  
**Myra Watnick**  
Rehabilitation Associates, Inc.  
**Diane Wixted**  
Commission on the Deaf and  
Hearing Impaired

ICC Members Present: Rita Esposito, Moira Herbert, Cindy Jackson, Dr. Robert LaCamera, Louis Tallarita, Elayne Thomas, Myra Watnick, Jeanette Haines, Robin Tousey-Ayers, Maria Synodi, Joe McLaughlin, Tim Bowles, Dr. Mark Greenstein, Lolli Ross, Linda Goodman, Elise Minor

ICC Members Absent:, Clara Gutierrez, Elizabeth Daly, Donna Ditrio, Anita Cella, Diane Wixted, Rep. Jack Thompson

The meeting began at 9:50 AM.

**Introductions:** Elayne Thomas, ICC Vice Chair, welcomed everyone to the State ICC meeting.

Rep. Jack Thompson discussed the Governor's Early Childhood Education Initiative and provided members with a handout from the Office of Fiscal Analysis with recommendations.

### **Approval of December Minutes**

Could not be approved because a quorum was not reached. This was not an official meeting because of the inclement weather.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Housekeeping**

1. Asked members to write quotes for website as to why they like serving on the ICC.

### ***Lead Agency Update***

Please refer to the Lead Agency Update posted on the B23 website.

<http://www.birth23.org/State%20Council/default.asp>

The Governor's proposed budget adds enough money to cover the rate increases that went into effect 1/1/07 and, adds back all preemies under 1000g (and 28 weeks gestation or less) and children with significant speech delays paired with biological risk factors. It also adds in children with mild or unilateral hearing loss. The total increase for next year is approximately \$2m over this year. Discussion ensued around parent fees. It was reported that some families paying less than \$20.00 are happy to pay whereas families paying fee's in excess of \$100.00 are more likely to cancel services. The Danbury LICC is strongly against parent fees. A new category "Developmental Specialist" will be added to personnel standards effective 07/01/07. Some members felt the title seemed vague.

The Early Childhood Cabinet is considering expanding the ICC in membership and broadening its role to meet their desire for a statewide infant-toddler interagency forum. Initial reaction at the last full cabinet meeting was not particularly supportive. The annual performance report and our revised state performance plan are now both on the website under "Quality Assurance".

The Federal Application was officially "published" on February 15, 2007 and is out for a 60-day comment period. Dispute Resolution activity was discussed for FY07.

Alice Ridgway presented programs data for the ICC to select the next programs to receive on-site inquiry visits. ICC members picked Reachout for transition-lowest % timely Transition Conference among Large Programs, CREC Soundbridge for child find- lowest % timely initial IFSP mtgs among Small Programs, Children's Therapy Services for service delivery-lowest % timely services among Medium Programs and STAR Rubino-Service Delivery - 100% among Small programs, Education Connection - Child Find - lowest % timely initial IFSP among Medium Programs

The Council took a break to pick up lunch.

### ***Family Support Network***

Jennifer Carroll, statewide coordinator of the CT Family Support Network (FSN), was able to give Molly Cole her update. March 1 there will be an event at the Office of Child Advocate. Also March 8 they are holding a Legislative meet and greet at the LOB-2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Atrium- email will follow.

### ***Reports and Announcements***

Diane Wixted from the Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired raised awareness about the hearing aid bills for children and adults that are currently going before the legislature.

Eileen McMurrer invited everyone to the "Ten Years and Counting" celebration at the Legislative Office Building on April 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00pm. Please mark your calendars and encourage families to come out and bring pictures.

Elayne Thomas announced that the ICC needs to recruit 3 parents and 1 senator chair.

The meeting ended at 12:15 PM

### ***NEXT SICC MEETING***

**Monday, April 9** at CAFAP, 2189 Silas Deane Highway, Rocky Hill, CT

Please RSVP to Anna Gorski at 860-418-8716 or via e-mail at: [anna.gorski@ct.gov](mailto:anna.gorski@ct.gov)

### ***FUTURE MEETING DATES:***

***April 9, 2007***

***June 11***

***August 13***

***October 15***

***December 10***

***Please plan to attend.***

