

State Interagency Coordinating Council

May 22, 2023
2:30 PM-3:15 PM (Remote)

ICC Executive Committee Minutes

Cynthia Jackson
ICC Chair/Provider
Leona Adamczyk
ICC Vice
John Lamb
Dept. of Public Health
Tiffany Allain
Parent Representative
Donna Maitland-Ward
Dept. for Children and Families
Maris Pelkey
Creative Interventions, Provider
Elaine Balsley
Reachout, Provider
Nicole Cossette
Office of Early Childhood
Senator Ceci Maher
State Senator
Shonda Easley
Parent representative
Sharon Marie
Dept. of Aging & Disabilities Services
Ginny Mahoney
Dept. of Social Services
Anne Giordano
Education Connection, Provider
Louis Tallarita
SDE-Homeless Children
Renee Kleinman, pending
SDE-619
Julie Hall
SARAH Inc, Provider
Karen Pascale
Early Head Start
Ann Milanese, M.D.
American Academy of Pediatrics
Representative Liz Linehan
House of Representatives
Tammy Venenga
Dept. Of Developmental Services
Mary Beth Bruder
UCEDD
Lisa Opert
Parent Representative
Robb Dunn
Parent Representative
David Gonzalez-Rice
Parent representative
Lauren Black
Parent Representative
Jen Dowty, pending
Department of Insurance

ICC Members Present Via Zoom Remote Meeting: Cindy Jackson, Elaine Balsley, Donna Maitland-Ward, Anne Giordano, Shanda Easley, Nicole Cossette, Jen Dowty, Lisa Opert, Renee Kleinman, Sen. Maher, Maris Pelkey, Ginny Mahoney, Tammy Venega, Julie Hall

Introductions: Welcomed new members in process of formal appointment, Jen Dowty (Department of Insurance) and Renee Kleiman (Department of Education)

Agenda:

Recap of S.B.2 from current legislative session and impacts on Birth to Three from Cindy Jackson.

Discussion around increasing engagement and participation of parents at ICC meetings beyond the annual Family Focus event. Suggestion of having a standing agenda item of Family Topic. Lisa Opert shared that as a parent it would be helpful to better understand the data shared during the meetings, what it means and how it impacts the system as a whole. Lisa stated the need for more parents on ICC that are currently receiving supports from Birth to Three and questioned how to recruit those parents. Cindy Jackson raised idea of marketing campaign specific to the ICC: pamphlet for providers to share with current families. Other marketing idea suggested by Shanda Easley: video of parents on the ICC sharing their role as members and why other parents should join. Cindy Jackson and Elaine Balsley suggested returning to previous procedure of orientation to ICC for new members, as well as having luncheon for parents after the ICC meeting with the liaison where parents can ask questions and debrief following the ICC meeting. Cindy and Elaine suggested having video (5 min or so) including explanation of what the ICC is and does, as well as the parent perspective. Have it available on the website for providers to share with current families as way to encourage more parents to join the ICC. Another suggestion was having the public comment section of the meeting more inviting and open to families, similar to the annual Family Focus event. Lisa Opert suggested having a "win story" segment, where there's a link between what the ICC discusses and gives input on and the impact it has on the system and what change occurred because of it. Elaine suggested having CPAC report on trends of the calls they receive so that the different committees can take those topics back to discuss during breakouts.

Discussion around the need for co-chairs for different committees and the need for both parent and provider as co-chair. Legislative committee is looking for a co-chair to join Elaine Balsley. Julie Hall has been doing a lot of work for this committee and is willing to co-chair, if a parent is unable to commit. Shanda Easley volunteered to be the parent co-chair for this committee. It was decided that the Legislative Committee will have 3 co-chairs: Elaine, Shanda, and Julie. Lisa Opert raised the need for co-chair for the Education Outreach Committee. Maris Pelkey volunteered to be the provider representative co-chair for this committee. Personnel Development Committee has 2 co-chairs, both parent and provider representatives.

Discussion around the 30th celebration of Birth to Three System in CT. The celebration will be held September 19th at the CT Science Center in Hartford. The day will include a career fair for recruitment to Birth to Three, Office of Early Childhood staff meeting with Birth to Three focus, and celebration. The idea to open it up to parents for a block of time to bring their children to explore the science center as it will be reserved for the day anyway. Lisa Opert suggested having providers possibly join families there for a community visit option. Cindy also suggested maybe having an ICC table/booth at the fair where the video could be played and information could be shared on joining the ICC. The ICC's October meeting will be moved to September 19th for this event.

Discussion around meeting location going forward. Many places previously used are not opening to the public for meetings. Cindy asked members thoughts on ASD as location, which has been used past few meetings. Members voiced approval of ASD as location. Cindy stated she'd still prefer a more central location if possible, but Beacon Health is still closed to public meetings. June's meeting will be held at Office of Early Childhood, as ASD is unavailable due to graduation activities. ICC members will have their parking validated for the June meeting.

Next ICC Meeting (in person) at the Office of Early Childhood in Hartford, June 5, 2023.