

# State Interagency Coordinating Council

**Cynthia Jackson**  
*ICC Chair/Provider*  
**Corrine Griffin**  
*ICC Vice Chair/Parent*  
**Angela Jimenez**  
*Dept. of Public Health*  
**Tiffanie Allain**  
*Parent*  
**Kim Nilson**  
*Dept. for Children and Families*  
**Michelle Rinaldi**  
*Parent*  
**Leona Adamczyk**  
*Parent*  
**Elaine Balsley**  
*ReachOut*  
**Alice Ridgway**  
*Office of Early Childhood*  
**Lauren Barbosa**  
*Parent*  
**Senator Mary Abrams**  
*State Senator*  
**Shanda Easley**  
*Parent*  
**Sharon Marie**  
*Dept. of Aging & Disabilities Services*  
**Ginny Mahoney**  
*Dept. of Social Services*  
**Anne Giordano**  
*Education Connection*  
**Carol Peltier**  
*American School for the Deaf*  
**Louis Tallarita**  
*SDE-Homeless Children*  
**Andrea Brinnell**  
*SDE-619*  
**Elisabeth Teller**  
*SARAH-Kidsteps*  
**Jennie Shea**  
*Early Head Start*  
**Myra Watnick**  
*Rehabilitation Associates, Inc.*  
**Carol Weitzman, M.D.**  
*American Academy of Pediatrics*  
**Representative Liz Linehan**  
*House of Representatives*  
**Robin Wood**  
*Dept. Of Developmental Services*  
**Betsy Howe**  
*UCCED*  
**Melissa Roberts**  
*Department of Insurance*

October 7, 2019  
9:00 AM – 12:00 p.m.

*BEACON Health Options*  
*500 Enterprise Drive, Rocky Hill*

## Minutes

ICC Members Present: Leona Adamczyk, Tiffanie Allain, Elaine Balsley, Andrea Brinnel, Corinne Griffin, Ginny Mahoney, Elisabeth Teller, Senator Mary Abrams, Michelle Rinaldi, Cindy Jackson, Sharon Marie, Anne George Puskar, Alice Ridgway, Louis Tallarita, Elisabeth Teller, Myra Watnick, Melissa Roberts

ICC Members Absent: Lauren Barbosa, Carol Peltier, Shanda Easley, Ann Gionet, Kim Nilson, Melissa Roberts, Nicole Villanueva, Dr. Carol Weitzman, Robin Wood, Liz Linehan

The meeting began at 9:20 AM.

### **Introductions:**

Cindy Jackson, ICC Chair, welcomed everyone to the State ICC meeting. Council members and members of the public introduced themselves.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **Announcements**

Elisabeth Teller reported that SARAH Kidsteps is in a new office in North Haven. BESB is now part of Aging and Disability Services/BESB. They are providing a training for Birth to Three and preschool October 16.

**Old Business:** Myra Watnick made a motion to approve the June minutes. Elisabeth Teller seconded the motion. The Motion passed unanimously. Part C annual report was sent to the governor and lieutenant governor. ICC members and OEC participated in Hearing Specialty Programs Workshop. There were 2 meetings and Alice will be meeting again with the HI programs.

### **New Business:**

Senator Abrams was welcomed to the ICC; council members expressed appreciation to have legislative input. ICC continues to need parents on the council. Parents need to have participated in Birth to Three and their child needs to be under the age of 12. OEC commissioner, Beth Bye, has introduced the Birth to Five Initiative. Four meetings are scheduled with recommendations by January 2020. Discussion about distribution of Part C annual report. Further discussion and report out after Legislative/Fiscal committee work.

### **Parent Support Grant Update**

Jane Hampton, Training Director of the Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center (CPAC) gave an update on referrals and also Family Connections Facebook page. CPAC continues to look for parent mentors if you know of any Birth to Three families that may be available for matching.

### **Census 2020 Presentation**

Catherine Marx, Partnership Specialist US Census Bureau provided presentation about the 2020 census with focus on process, need for accurate numbers for federal funding purposes, as well as explanation of safe guards that keep the data safe; census data cannot be used by any federal agency or court. Go to census.gov for more information.

### **Lead Agency Update/Fiscal Update**

Alice Ridgway, Part C Director-Office of Early Childhood (OEC)-Birth to Three System gave the lead agency update.

**Education and Outreach:** Alice provided Birth to Three Annual Report 2018. Data for FY 18-19 is being run now. Anna's position being interviewed. UConn and UCEDD awarded \$1 M OSEP grant over 5 years for EI/ECSE leadership development. OEC and CCMC to train ECEs to administer MCHAT-R.

**Personnel Development:** System of Payments and Insurance forms video posted. 15 programs and 2 MC groups receiving TA from Rush, Sheldon, and Linda. 5 Birth to Three programs trained and field testing DOTS (what children 0-5 should know and be able to do). CSDE and RESCs offering two free trainings. Part B and C focused on creating leadership competencies- Leadership Grant.

**Fiscal Enhancements:** Projecting a \$1,830,830 deficit for FY 19-20

For DHH providers still exploring "distance payments" and getting ready for Remote EI rate setting

Projections sent to OPM for FY 20-21 is a deficit of \$2,952,229

~The OEC projected increases in spending based on the following changes

- the monthly unit amount paid to programs was increased 11.5% based on the most recent average
- reimbursements for assistive technology devices (mostly hearing aids) for children not insured by Medicaid was increased 2% SFY 2020 estimated levels, and
- reimbursements for required interpretation costs was increased 2% over SFY 2019 levels

~Those increases in spending were offset by the following projected increases in revenue

- the projected Medicaid reimbursement percentage was increased to 59.85% from SFY 2019 which was 56%

- family cost participation receipts were increased 2.5% over 2020 estimated levels due to serving more families with eligible children, and
- commercial insurance payments to programs were increased 1.5% over 2020 estimated levels.
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Meeting with the Connecticut Association of Health Plans to bring the six members (Anthem, Aetna, Cigna, ConnectiCare, Harvard Pilgrim and United) up to speed for ongoing dialogs about what PCG is finding.

**Other:** RFP will be posted soon.

## **Committee Reports**

**Legislative/Fiscal Committee:** (Co-Chairs: Myra Watnick & Elaine Balsley) Elaine reported discussion with Senator Abrams who attended committee regarding how to best reach out to legislators and share Annual Report. Letter from this committee will be drafted and sent with Annual Report to Education/Appropriations and to the Children's committee. Tentative date for forum at legislative building in January with focus on 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Birth to Three.

**System Support/ Professional Development:** (Co-Chairs: Anne Giordano & Elisabeth Teller): Good feedback from programs re: insurance videos recently posted. Mini-training blogs will have to wait until there is more staff. How to support master coaches and programs in order for master coaches to maintain fidelity. Two programs (Children's Therapy and CREC) implementing DOTS find it easy to use

**Communications/Education/Outreach Committee:** (Co-Chairs: Corinne Griffin & Carol Peltier): Looking at ways to increase parent membership on the ICC- looking at the ways parents currently involved in ICC, brochure/flier highlighting parents as ICC members and what they bring to the table. Other social media platforms or family meet ups to connect families beyond phone/email/Facebook. Look at other state ICCs.

*NEXT State ICC MEETING: Monday, December 9, 2019 at BEACON, 500 Enterprise Drive-Suite 3D (Hartford Room), Rocky Hill, CT. Please RSVP to Chris.Beott@ct.gov*