

IELC: SPECIAL POPULATIONS COMMITTEE

MEETING REPORT

Date: November 18, 2010

In person Attendees: Donna Nylander (Valley View School District), Daniel Fitzgerald (DCFS), Olivia Roanhorst (The Ounce of Prevention Fund), Evelyn Green (Star Net), Dennice Ward Epstein (ECHO), Cherlynn Shelby (DCFS), Frances Elbert (DCFS), Karen Drill (Learning Point Associates), Deanna Durrica (Office of the Governor), Caroline McCoy (The Ounce of Prevention Fund), Sarah Rowland (The Ounce of Prevention Fund), Chris McGrath (Strengthening Families), Ashleigh Kirk (Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership), Anne Marie Grimberg (Heartland Alliance), Carie Bires (Heartland Alliance), Lauri Frichtl (Illinois Head Start Association), Mitch Kremer (NIU)

Phone Attendees: Kathy U-B (4C), Kathy Hollowich (StarNET), Rebecca (AOK), Chris McGrath (Strengthening Families), Vinni Hall (ISBE)

ACTION ITEMS

Agenda item: Approve Minutes

Notes Minutes Approved.

Next Steps None.

Agenda item: State Updates

Notes **Daniel:** Have spent the past month working on budget. Working under a maintenance budget. Plan is to have several budgets: maintenance, 5% cut, and 10% cut plans. Looking at needed services and outcomes to make decisions.

Donna : PreK for All webinar today. Donna read Chris Cook's statement—fiscal crisis is not ending. EC grants will be moving away from continuation process. Instead, all applicants will be required to complete a competitive grant for FY12. Only sites that have been previously funded have to re-apply. PreK for All and PreK at Risk will be one application. 11% (?) has to allocated to 0-3. Donna also shared that PNC banks are making a commitment to early childhood called Growing Up Great. They have an application on website. Will bring in 40 hours of volunteers + \$1000. Go to pncgrowupgreat.com

Next Steps None.

Agenda Item Workgroup Updates

Daniel reminds group that we are in the planning and analysis phase. Encourages participants to ask questions during the workgroup updates.

Child Welfare (Cherlynn): Cherlynn lists the members of the workgroup. Frames the discussion around improving student services. Identified a number areas in which it's difficult to track students and to provide continuity of services. Cherlynn walked the group through the matrix of data sources. Dennice asked about tracking special needs students—Andria says they are tracked until enrollment. Andria also stated that there may be overlap between children tracked in her program and those in school readiness. Intact families have not been emphasized a lot, but Andria indicated that they will be receiving screenings soon. Mitch stated that NIU tracks placement and educational settings, but indicated that there can be difficulty reporting it. He says this type of reporting is possible, even though the system is not yet set up to produce

those types of reports—the system needs to be modified to report it. Chris M. stated that there is coding on the case registration form to track this, but is not sure how accurate this information is. Daniel also mentioned that there needs to be an analysis of the information in NIU’s reports, which will provide a clearer picture of the current needs of DCFS children.

Juanona asked how information is captured in for 0-3 children who may also be receiving assessments/screenings in other ways (e.g., pediatrician, Early Intervention). Andria responded that kids who receive EI services are tracked and monitored by early childhood staff who are assigned to CFC. Children are identified through the Nomad database. For children who have been referred by a pediatrician, there may be a duplication of efforts. According to DCFS, developmental screening needs to happen within 30 days of referral. Andria indicated that many children come in who are already connected to EI programs. Andria stated that she has not seen a lot of referrals passed on through a pediatrician. Most children Andria sees have not been screened, and those that do come in from pediatricians are focused on milestones w/o social and emotional components. Andria looks for subtle signs of social and emotional delay. Juanona stated that pediatricians will be starting to receive more information through Cornerstone around making appropriate referrals, but have not had any training in this area. They now are getting reimbursement for the referrals. Now, about 80 percent of pediatricians in IL have had training on social and emotional screening.

Daniel asked about how DCFS can work with the pediatric community around data, tracking, and service delivery for families. Juanona says that there was a disconnect between EI and the medical home, and that there may be a similar process occurring with finding ways to work collaboratively with DCFS – particularly around educating both entities on what happens from each provider’s perspective.

Cherylnn stated that DCFS really wants an MOU with PreK and prevention providers.

Homeless (Carie and Ann Marie): Ann Marie discussed an interest in finding where the three populations intersect. Carie indicated that homelessness cuts across the other two workgroups, and may not need to be its own workgroup. Daniel says that we will begin working together both internally and then within the larger IELC. Would like to create linkages between EI and homeless children, and increase collaboration across entities and agencies. Mitch asks if Heartland is working with the DCFS provider database.

Cherlynn mentioned that there was a similar process with DCFS opening the door with Head Start.

Special needs: Dennice shared the process of identifying the 14 – day timeline and clarifying the regulation through attorneys. Mitch stated that this is a very important issue that they have had difficulty clarifying for parents and providers. Evelyn stated that there is a document on the ISBE website that can guide the process.

Juanona suggested presenting a continuum that allows schools to move forward with adhering to the 14- day timeline over time. For example, setting goals for where the school can be in one year, two years, three years, etc.

Next Steps

Agenda item: Workplan Development

Notes	
Next Steps	Workgroups will meet to identify objectives, action steps, and timelines.
Agenda item:	Upcoming Meetings
Notes	<p>Discussion around whether there will be anything to present at the February IELC meeting. Possibly the 14-day timeline memo.</p> <p>Meeting dates set for third Thursday in the following months (2:00 – 4:00 PM, LPA)</p> <p>January 20 March 17 May 19 July 21 September 15 November 17</p>
Next Steps	
Next Meeting	January 20, 2011, 2:00 PM, Learning Point Associates