

Iowa Council for Early ACCESS

November 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Emma Bouza called the Iowa Council for Early ACCESS to order at 10:15 a.m. on November 15, 2019 at the Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines IA and zoom.

Council Members Present: John Fuller, Marcus Johnson-Miller, Angie Hance, Johnathon Wunderlich (zoom), Ryan Tomlinson, Kori Hans, Donal Welch, Emma Bouza, Michael Bergan, Martha Draayer, Brook Rosenberg, Jessie Marks, Ryan Hubbert, McKaylee Heuton, Laurie Jeans, Eric Locke, Aaron Cronk, Annette Hyde (zoom)

Guests Present: Sonya Sellmeyer

Absent: Brittney Magsamen, Kimberly Villotti, Casey Abler, Julie Allison

Staff Present: Melissa Schnurr, Meghan Miller, Cindy Weigel, Teri Mash, Tonya Krueger, Kate Small

II. Approval of Minutes

Ryan Hubbert motioned to approve the September 2019 meeting minutes as written. Eric Locke seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

III. Family story

Sonya Sellmeyer shared her family's story of her daughter qualifying for Early ACCESS 19 years ago. Her daughter was born premature and her liver was injured during delivery. She needed surgery and was given a 1% chance to live. The NICU provided information on the Early ACCESS program and she received services in her home. This was very beneficial because the doctors advised them not to leave the house. Sonya tied her experience to our current mission statement in that Early ACCESS builds upon supports and resources in partnership with family members. Her Early ACCESS providers included all family members and even provided notes or ideas for their own relationships. Her daughter is currently thriving in: she is a stellar athlete and in college to be a social worker. They are advocates for blood donation and have even been representatives for Lifeserve blood donation.

IV. Annual Performance Report (APR) sharing

The state work team shared the latest APR data.

Indicators C5 and C6 (child find) spurred a lot of discussion about our current percentages served in comparison to other states. State staff shared that Iowa typically is below the national average of percent of children served. Also keep in mind that each state has different eligibility requirements. Iowa is in the "least restrictive" category. Council members would like to see the national comparisons and differences based on eligibility category. They would also like to see

comparisons for referral categories with other states (e.g., what percent of referrals come from families in other states). Within each AEA are referrals similar? Are there differences in referral sources depending on eligibility? Another question posed was: are we not finding children or why are they not eligible if we are finding children. They would like more information about the children not in Early ACCESS. What percent of referrals by source go on to IFSP (e.g. do a higher percentage of referrals from physicians go onto IFSPs vs referrals from childcare?). These additional data may help inform our child find and marketing process.

V. Committee Reports

By-Laws: Did not meet due to low attendance so no report.

Membership: Discussed members whose terms end in 2020; requested to have a print out of the membership bi-laws to refer to during the committee meetings; will plan to talk with members whose terms end in 2020 at the January 2020 meeting to find out if they plan to apply again or not

Family Engagement: Cindy provided an update on the Preschool Development Grant (PDG) proposal that Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) recently submitted. There is a position in the grant for a family engagement specialist. She asked if it would be OK to email the family members of the Council to get their input on the family engagement specialist position.

Public Policy: Discussed the possibility of shifting early intervention in Iowa to age 4; discussed the possibility of including information about early intervention in medical school and residency programs as well as continuing education for physicians (pediatricians and family practice physicians) - goal to target educating physicians via the AAP, AAFP, and association for ARNPs.

VI. Vote on the 2019-2020 Executive Committee Slate

The slate includes Aaron Cronk as vice chair, John Fuller as parent rep, and Martha Draayer as at-large rep; the slate was motioned for approval by Eric Locke and seconded by Jessie Marks. The slate was approved unanimously.

VII. Continue Annual Performance Report sharing

The state work team continued to share data from this year's APR.

Indicator C7 (Timely IFSP): This data looks like we are doing well in meeting the 45 day timeline for implementing an IFSP. A question was asked: what is region 1 doing to have such a good percent of timely meetings compared to other regions? The response was this is likely due to an established culture and expectation to meet the 45 day time. It may be interesting to compare data on children/regions who have a designated service coordinator vs. not having a dedicated service coordinator.

Indicator C4 (Family Outcomes): A proposed additional question for family survey - "Have you told others about Early ACCESS? If yes, who have you told?" OR "Would you recommend this service to others?"

Another potential addition to the survey is add a comment box under each question to offer additional feedback to explain why families rated the item.

Indicator C8 (Transition from Part C): Get the word out to Service Coordinators about connecting families to Family Educator Partnership (FEP) as they transition out of Early ACCESS - concern about the capacity of FEP (not enough for every family to have a rep from FEP), but provide as a resource.

Indicator C3 (Early Childhood Outcomes): This year's data includes children who exited Early ACCESS after only having been in for 6 months. The new data system will help integrate the Early Childhood Outcomes into the IFSP in hopes to improve the scores.

Overall, some data is preliminary, will share final data and will add notations or footnotes for when a major change occurred or likely influenced the data (i.e. survey methodology used, alignment of eligibility for Early ACCESS to Early ACCESS administrative rules).

VIII. Announcements and reflection

Nothing shared.

IX. Adjournment

Kori Hans motioned to adjourn. Ryan Hubbert seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:34pm.