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| **Council Meeting Minutes** |
| **Meeting** | Wyoming Early Intervention Council | **Date** | October 11, 2022 |
| **Chair/Facilitator** | Alisha Rone | **Time** | 8:00am |
| **Location** | Holiday Inn Express- Lander | **Scribe** | Janelle Smolinski |
| **Members****In Attendance** |

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| **Last** | **First** | **From** | **Represents** |
| Blaylock | Jenniffer | Other | Other |
| Caylor | Kim | WDH | Agency responsible for preschool |
| Davis | Jen | Governor’s Office | Other |
| Figenser | Jennifer | Parent Information Center | Other |
| Hibbard | Deb | DFS | Foster Care |
| Kugler | Mary | WY Child & Family | Head Start |
| Pedersen | Kelli | Parent Rep | Parent Rep |
| Pena | Shawna | Public Health | Other |
| Reyes | Amy | WDE | TANF |
| Rone | Alisha | CDC Casper | CDS/Providers |
| Smith | Deana | WDE | Agency responsible for preschool |
| Soule | Carleigh | Public Health | Other |
| Terrell | Natalie | Campbell County | Provider |
| Wagner | Helena | Head Start | Collaboration Office |

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| **Members Absent** | Jamie Beastrom, Shannon Cranmore, Jen Davis, James Bush, Sara Serelson, Brittany Thyarks, Kelley Shepp, Kara Willcox |
| **Guests** | Judy Juengel, Sarah Fitzgerald, Jamie Beastrom, Bradley Bakken, Janelle Smolinski |
| **Discussion Items** |
| **October 11, 2022****The meeting was called to order at 8:02 am by Alisha Rone**Reading of the mission by Alisha RoneReading of the charter by Bradley Bakken**Self- Introductions and Role of Guests and EIC Members and Updates****Alisha Rone:** Director of Region 9 CDC. Count is going to be up from last year. Audiologist seeing 30 + a month from across the state. Looking to build a dedicated audiology space over the next 5 years. CDC’s have not seen a funding increase over the last 5 years. Some are in dire straits. Working with two legislators (Tom Walters- Natrona, Mike Gierau out of Jackson) to go to joint appropriations next year to increase that amount. Request a three year rolling average instead of the Dec 1 number to better maintain staffing and budget. Region 9 has to raise $500,000- 1 million to continue services.**Jennifer Figenser:** Executive Director with PIC. Helps parents with children birth through 25 with disabilities. Let her know if you want on the newsletter list. **Sarah Fitzgerald:** From EHDI - here as a guest. Will present on the WEII group later in the meeting.**Helena Wagner:** Head Start Collaboration Office. Focus on working with school districts for collaboration improvement, WISER ID project for Head start and TANF recipients. Data collection for children moving though CDC, Kindergarten, through school. If we don’t have the data to go to legislature to give date backing us for improved services. **Amy Reyes:** Early Learning Specialist and TANF grant administration. Used to have 14 TANF sites now only have 12, two backed out in Sublette County. 29 on waiting list. Applied for Family Engagement Grant and received it- Natrona, Albany, and Laramie County. **Kim Caylor:** Early Intervention and Education Program Unit Manager. Will provide updates later in the agenda.**Judy Juengel:** Birth through 2 - Coordinates the council. Will provide updates later in the agenda. **Kelli Pederson**- parent of deaf child. Child received services at STRIDE.**Mary Kugler**- from the Head Start Association.**Jenniffer Blaylock**- interested party. Had children go through EI services.**Deana Smith**- Wyoming Department of Education- Professional Development of early intervention. WAVES trainings. In person and virtual. They are on the Wyoming informational site. Help support 619 Grant. Got money to EIEP for assessments. Works on kindergarten transitions. **Natalie Terrell**- Gillette preschool supervisor. Assist coordinator in all things. Wyoming inclusion model project. Doing coaching with one part c and two classroom teachers. Looking for Speech language pathologist. Starting to contact University.**Bradley Bakken**, Wyoming EHDI Program Late Onset Coordinator- EHDI help CDCs coordinator screenings. Jackie Nelson pediatrician on reservation, EI, Headstarts in Lander and Riverton, EHDI chapter champion. Wondering how to get TANF in Fremont County?**Carleigh Soule**- Public Health- Maternal and Child Health Unit – oversee newborn screening and genetics**Shawna Pena**- Public Health. Unit manager for rural health- community service health grant. Only one county has applied for CBG grant. Funding developed on poverty guidelines. Application out in early May if interested in additional funding. Working on school based health clinics. Mental and physical health. Great program in Gillette. Kids through parents. Minimal fees. Laramie has a mobile clinic concentrated on Jr. High kids. Loan repayment HRSA grant. $180,000 for PAs, Drs, nurses and dentists. Must take Medicaid patients. (Alisha, what about pediatricians?) Application not out yet. Must make a three year commitment to stay. If they leave they must repay. Goal to get doctors to come and stay. Natrona County Community Health- working with Kelly Wester. Is very interested in these. Reach out to her for collaborations. **Welcome to new members. -** Natalie Terrell, Jennifer Figenser, Jenniffer Blaylock, Deana Smith**Standing Updates** Standing Updates provided by: **Contracts and Data Specialist- Janelle Smolinski**- happy to announce New Data system Contract is under way. Providers are excited for the new system. Some have used it and really like it. Forms will look more like the state forms. Program should be much cleaner. Professional development funds given in the part c funds, ARPA funds in contracts. Starting to get ready for Dec 1 count.**Kim Caylor, Early Intervention and Education Program Unit Manager**Recently interviewed for Part B position have sent out an offer letter. Start date November 1st.3-5 program working on Child outcomes summary data BDI summary data administer at entry and exit. Working with Nikki Baldwin to crosswalk between BDI-2 and BDI-3 and the Wyoming Early Learning Standards.Regional program reps going to Lander for compliance agreement. Working through strategies to improve services. Pyramid Model was chosen for Part C. State leadership team to have collaboration across behavior based for families. Post COVID- needing additional support for kids and families. Three states spoke at conference and how positive it was. Working with same staff that we are working with. Networking with other states. **Call for Additions to Agenda Discussion and Approval of Minutes from July Meeting -** Alisha Rone requested a motion to approve the minutes. Mary Kugler seconded the motion. July 2022 minutes approved.  **Public Comment**- no public comment was received.**At Risk Discussion**- Judy JuengelDrug addicted births – If services could have been given earlier would that have benefited the child and family. Automatically move to services, changes would need to happen in statute. Judy – PowerPoint attached to minutesHelena – broader than addiction services. Can cover poverty prematurity alcohol, Amy – what is the clinical research social emotional services. Jen Davis is working on Data. Deana – Working with DFS? Yes, have two contacts not able to come today. Will work with Dr. Bush and Jen Davis. Judy - key people to move forward. State eligibility is different across states. Met with TA and was provided guidance. At risk qualifications varyUp to state to determine requirements.Deana – Are mental health challenges family related or environmental? Or child specific? Those are categories that are considered. How will this transfer to Part B? So kids don’t get dropped. If services are provided at birth, will they need Part B services? Can we continue to serve if still in need? Connect families for services early instead of waiting until child goes to school. Currently not all of these qualify.Wyoming would have to rewrite definition to include “at risk” Deana- Do you have other states language regarding “at risk”? Yes, we have it, it is on our next steps to compile it.Next steps? Alisha, subgroup and legislature in from the beginning. Judy, don’t want to do it alone, thankful for TA help. Anyone want to be on subgroup, Jenniffer, Natalie, Alisha, Amy, Kim, Jen Davis, find a legislator, Reach out to Sara Serelson with DFS to be on subgroup. Helena – Is it possible to do a pilot area? Judy will reach out to OSEP. Alisha – Is there a Grant? Shawna, ARPA funds possibly available. Judy, if it was a completely different grant, not Part C, would this be possible? Alisha I think we need to do both, Pilot and moving forward on adding “at risk”. Helena, even small amounts of data could improve ability to move forward in legislature. Deana – If a child needs services, even if not currently available in Wyoming we need to bring more services into Wyoming. 10:00 Break**10:15 Regional Provider Presentation- Child Development Services of Fremont County (Region 6)**Courtney Hill, new executive Director stated in May, taught Riverton public preschool. Started in Fremont County in 1975. Kristin Davis, Part C FSC, and Katie Stanton, Building Coordinator. Started in Region 7. Cover all of Fremont, except reservation. There was a change in leadership on November of last year. Lost all of leadership in region. However, Lander decided we were going to make it. It was hard to hire people during pandemic. We got to see the best of our team. Depended on each other. And the board rallied around us. Hired an interim, until we hired Courtney.  We have worked on our processes. Working together as a team. Three locations, one Lander, two in Riverton. But in new HR program and Fiscal program. New processes for evaluations and screenings.  Expansion, three new class rooms, infant and toddler room. Which is much needed in this region to fill need of closing daycares. Currently full to capacity. We had employees that could not find daycare for children. Gives employees hope to have somewhere to send children if they choose to have kids. Huge benefit for our employees. Retention and Recruitment for employees. We were told in the past that this wasn’t possible but now see the difference.  Alisha, How did you set it up with staff? We give a discount. Look at what it cost for daycare and gave employee discount. Drop in program for families that need daycare if schools are closed. WE are starting to see the classrooms meet the EIEP goals.  Meeting with local employers to help them meet child care needs. The board had a change in duties, doing payroll, and buying groceries, stepped up. They needed a plan, doing a strategic plan, 1 year, 3 year, 5 year. State suggested asked to work with WLRC to use space. In order to get space, they offered spots for infant and toddler care. Working in to our plan. Two different building to be planned in future. Major expansion. Finding out what the community needs. 60 staff members in three buildings. 238 in both Part B and Part C, 150 B, 60 Part C.Part B in Lander- better pacesetter numbers. Three Part B in Lander, 1 Part C in Lander classroom. Helena – What are the differences in Lander and Riverton? Started Learning With Littles, work with liaisons throughout state. We had Paula in Lander doing the same thing in Lander that we were doing there. What we did was talk and build relationships prior to starting this job. 2019 trained staff of what to do in classroom, curriculum. Those relationships have helped with this turn around. Kristin’s new roll, two days a week. New programs, fun things with Laura foundation, grant for ADA equipment for local playgrounds. Working with different players in community dr. pastors, anyone that will listen to me talk about EI. Reminding that we have pace setters. And preschools for students. Need to build relationships with the people the refer students. Reaching out to open communication to let people in town know what we do. Private therapy groups to have them refer to our services. They are good groups, of service providers, however they do not meet the needs of the family. New providers need to be educated on what it is that we do. Turnover rate in town is high for providers. Shop a Doc – Region 9 invite doctors in to meet and greet parents Being seen and out there to get the word out. We work closely with DFS and PH.**Presentation from Region 14**Catherine Persson, Part C- loss of quite a few kids due to transitions. So of the struggles is contacting families and follow through. Hard to build trust. Families with limited resources, travel, phone, electricity we provide transportation if needed. We have talked to Region 6 regarding boundaries. What does your count look like? Alisha – a few years ago we had up to 40 now down to between 25-30 kids. Down because we were not getting referrals. Part B around 80-90. We have two preschools we provide bussing. We do outreach to preschools and pre-k facilities. Part C we do home visits. Gloria – Wanted to work with Part C to support not just the child but the entire family. Building trust between families and the CDC. Make sure families feel included and part of the CDC community.  What can we do to get more parent surveys from your regions? – Alisha Most effective way is to get it in person. Technology is an issue. May not have the technology needed? Most are done in paper. Better if we sometimes read the questions. Events might be a good place to distribute with raffle incentive.  Still struggling for staff. May have to combine rooms. Use of subs in some classrooms. Constructions limiting space.Pacesetter ratio – Kelli We find it difficult to meet that requirement. Have children on wait list. Can provide transportation to all students. Helps with communication, and a sense of reliability. Engagement with family is essential. Judy – going the extra mile for your region and the families, is exceptional. Not doing a canned approach. Trying to keep families connected to other resources in community. Alisha thank you for all the work you do. The families are lucky to have you. Your region has a great sense of family. Judy**SSIP Updates** Judy – State Systemic Improvement Program – Goal to improve social emotional (Attachment)Implementation of Pyramid Model birth – 3The contract to implement this in Wyoming. Nonprofit to continue after federal funding was dropped. Work with 36 state teams across the county. They provide support and TA to get state team, training, fidelity, scaling up to Part B, Head Start, TANF, preschoolBenefits – health and wellbeing of providers. Parents gain confidence working with their children.Improve strategies to help parent work with their children. Howthis  How does this look for regions that have been trained? Region 9 not using it even when trained. They have not put it in practice. CDCs will be retrained. Centers using it love it. Using it for home visits. PBIS – being used by school districts. Deana Amy – focus on all three Provider, Parents, and StudentHelena – Rob Corso from Pyramid Model Consortium is already doing pilot in Wyoming. He sent list of sites. We have not gotten into that yet. He may have comprehensive data for the programs he is working with head start. Not much home visiting piece. What about carry over in Part B? Alisha – It only makes sense to roll over into Part B. Which is why we are forming at team. KimAttach pyramid model image. **Compensation Survey**Judy provided a brief update and more to come later as the results are finalized.Shortages, reimbursement, salary, etc.We ask for this info annually to know the fiscal standings of our Regions. And for legislative request.Survey results will be sent out once completed. Alisha – university not able to graduate enough due to ASHA. Possible next EIC topic. **Update on Parent Survey**  Targets met in all aspects.Slight decline in responses but still almost half responded.Some regions up 6/some down 8.Graphic attached.Impressed by survey results- JudyOver 90% of families reported a positive attitude.  Statewide survey – demographics on when referred, race, parent earnings, we are reaching all outcomes on outreach. Helena – are there open response? Yes, but only on region specific results. If you were unhappy, why? Alisha – we scored well on better able to handle emotions. Thought that was an interesting question for children under 3. Bradley- is white low compared to population? Under representing whites because we try to get everyone In part C reporting race and ethnicity is different. Time increased that survey is available. Are you okay with the survey as it is? Can we post it longer?Are you okay with same questions? Maybe reword emotional question? Alisha – is a one or two year old do the parents have better supports or strategies to respond to your child’s emotions. Are they age appropriate. Alisha – revamp just question 15Shawna – second. What is the intent of that questions? Is it on the parent or child? Judy to reword that question will work with EIEP and Data Driven**WEII Updates**Wyoming Early Intervention InitiativeQuality services to children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Current focus is Part C.1992 EHDI programs started in US1994 screening identified by 3 months. First new born in Wyoming screened in 19941999 legislation passed for universal newborn hearing screeningsWyoming Pediatric Audiology clinic2012 Wyoming children’s hearing aid Early intervention by 6 months of age.Some regions will always have hearing loss kids, some will only have one every few years.Collaborating Agencies and organizations – EIEP, Wyoming families for hands and voices, guide by your side, EHDI, Marian Downs Joint Committee on Infant Hearing – 12 goals released only one state meeting all requirements. Wyoming and Colorado working side by side for families and children with hearing loss. Susan Fisher helped start WEII, as a provider in both Wyoming and Colorado.Program is modeled after the CHIP program in Colorado. Resources through WEII will be provided to families with children diagnosed with hearing lossLaunched July 1 2022. Annette Landes, SLP is the WEII plus coordinatorFacilitators in each Region SLPS teacher of the deaf. WEII Plus facilitator manual, Scope and Sequence, Padlet, Wyoming family resource manual 19 WEII facilitators trained in 13 Regions up to now5 Initial Trainings given. Survey sent out and get from SarahTime is important to providers. Open ended question had high response rate, 6 positive commentODDACE (spell out) standard assessments. 99 assessments have been given on 47 children. Alisha – incorporate the information EHDI needs on new data system? Needing to document in multiple areas. Does not make sense to be reporting in so many places. Better support staff time. Bradley – we cannot speak to your excel sheets. EIEP has been looking to explore combining. We are not asking for separate Welligent case notes. Keep doing notes in Welligent in case the state askes even though we have told them they do not need to. Can information just be listed in Sped Advantage? Linkages would help. Bradley EHDI is more than just the relationship with EIEP. Bradley thinks we can get to place with this. We would need data sharing agreements. System changes make this difficult. WEII supplies resources so it should increase time unless you do not have experiences working in this area. The point of the resources is to give providers what they need. Our facilitator takes a day a week to work with WEII. She currently has 4 kids she is giving services. Judy, specific to Region 9. Might need to have private conversation. Thank you Sarah for all your WEII work. Alisha- we need to look at how this is feasible for Part B. **2:15pm Update on Part C Professional Development**Part of Grant requirements-AttachmentJennifer provided PWN trainingPart C meetings restarted monthlyECHO trainings NIKKI training on social emotional early learning standardsThese will be recorded. But would love providers to live when possible. Survey given in order to report.**Part C Current Issues in the Field**Lack of providers available. Data entry time and requirements. **Alternate date for April meeting** January meeting 1/11/2023 April meeting moved to 4/19/2023 8-3pm Agenda items? “At Risk”, compensation survey results, speech pathology cause, Bradley two vacancies for council, is it difficult for parents to travel and cover cost. Consider a stipend- Judy: They get reimbursed by state at state rate. Not every parent can cover cost up front. Participant costs are allowed under grant.**Final comments/thoughts/reflections** Natalie felt very effective all day. Carleigh a little help on acronyms and background information on topics.Deana this was wonderful, full wraparound picture. Thankful for what you do. Great that you cover all these different aspects. So much great work going on nice to know we can join forces. Shawna we have, in the past done, joint committee meetings with WAPSD from time to time. Great collaboration.Jenniffer nice to have a liaison that sit on both, Kim, Jennifer F. and Deana. Helena the people at the table bring a vast area of knowledge. Thank you.Motion to adjourn at 2:52pm- Shawna Pena. Seconded by Natalie Terrell. Motion passes.  |
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