# Early Intervention Council

## Council Meeting Minutes

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| **Meeting** | Wyoming Early Intervention Council | **Date** | January 13, 2026 |
| **Chair/Facilitator** | Natalie Terrell | **Time** | 8:30 am |
| **Location** | Cheyenne, WY | **Scribe** | Danelle Emerson |

**Members In Attendance**

| Last | First | From | Represents |
|---|---|---|---|
| Caylor | Kim | BHD | EIEP |
| Shepp | Kelley | DOI | Department of Insurance |
| Neider | Nicole | DFS | Children's Trust Fund |
| Monson | Mindy | Head Start | Provider |
| Wagner | Helena | Heat Start | |
| Smith | Deana | WDE | Early Childhood |
| Larson | Darci | Executive Director | Region 2 |
| Terrell | Natalie | CDC - Children's Developmental Services of Campbell County | Region 13 |
| Beastom | Jamie | Weston County Children's Center | Region 3 |
| Thyarks | Brittney | DFS | |
| Biggs | Curtis | Senior Policy Advisor | Governor's Office |
| Rogers | Sara | WDH | |
| Glantz | Cari | WIND | Act Early (Ambassador) |
| Robinson | Denise | PHD | |
| Cranmore | Shannon | WDE | |
| Reyes | Amy | WDE | TANF/Council Chair |
| Brennan | Evie | Senator | Laramie County |
| Houchin | Laureena | PIC | |

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|---|---|
| **Members Absent** | Debra Hibbard, Carleigh Soule, Feliciana Turner, Shawna Pena |
| **Guests** | Jennifer Petri, Jolene Flores, Danelle Emerson, Ashley Provencio, Sarah Fitzgerald |

## Discussion Items

**January 13, 2026**

**8:30 am Call to Order: Chairperson**

**Reading of the Mission by Kim Caylor and Charter Summary (Expected Activities) by Jamie Beastrom**

**Self-introduction, role on EIC, and pertinent information from guests and EIC members: Chairperson**

**Roll call will include updates from members and agency information**

**Call for Additions to the Agenda**

**Self-Introductions and Updates**

**Amy Reyes: WDE**

- TANF is completely enrolled across the state except Park and Teton
- FRC ECE alignment. Bedtime Bash in Laramie County
- Partnership with Teton Science School
- Ready to Write PD on Friday
- Phonological Fridays

**Sara Rogers: HCF**

- Rural Health Transformation project - $205 million awarded for year 1. Potential of $1.025 billion over 5 years. January - will be submitting a revised budget to CMS. February-March- Developing requirements for RFAs and RFPs. April-June- Issue RFAs and RFPs, score, and award. July-September- Monitoring and reporting. A number of initiatives that will be worked on with reps from PHD, DHCF, and WDH Director's Office, including transportation coordination, centralized billing, and care coordination (some DHCF initiatives, specifically).
- RHT Website/WDH: https://health.wyo.gov/admin/rural-health-transformation-program/
- Email wyprovideroutreach@acentra.com for provider training on billing insurance's

**Kim Caylor: EIEP Unit Manager**

- Will provide updates later in the meeting

**Cari Glantz: Community Outreach Coordinator - Institute for Disabilities - UW ECHO**
WIND

- UW ECHO Programs will be starting for the spring series
  - Project SCOPE (Supporting Children of the OPioid Epidemic) in partnership with Cincinnati Children's Hospital
  - New ECHO in Rural Obstetrical Care starting January 22
- Act Early materials available for order

    - Looking to partner with more libraries across the state and integrate One Before Two materials
- Current Ambassador training for Charting the LifeCourse
- ECSE Ecosystem monthly meetings hosted by UW Professor in EC Education. Email Cari if you are interested in joining. cglantz@uwyo.edu
- Additional Information: UW ECHO Programs Overview

**Helena Wagner: Head Start (Head Start Collaboration Office) and WDE**

- ECE team + CACFP is implementing a collaborative gardening program with support from Nemours
- Literacy grant is in early rollout stages
    - Highly competitive
    - Focused on coaching and implementation models

**Deana Smith: WDE**

- **SAVE the DATE: August 3-4, 2026**
  TeacherCon26: https://edu.wyoming.gov/educators/conferences/teachercon26/
  Wyoming's second annual statewide educator conference will take place August 3-4 at the Best Western Casper Downtown in Casper. Building on the success of our inaugural event, TeacherCon26 brings together three specialized tracks under one roof: Special Education (SPED), Literacy, and Principal Leadership Academy (PLA). Join educators from across Wyoming for this comprehensive professional development experience presented by the Wyoming Department of Education.
- **WDE Teacher Training**
  Register for current training or review the recording and/or handouts for past training:
  Wyoming Instructional Network Current Trainings:
  https://wyominginstructionalnetwork.com/professional-development/currenttrainings/
- **ASCEND 307** is a multi-year initiative developed through a federal grant awarded to the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE). Its shared, collaborative purpose is to support students with disabilities in developing essential readiness skills for the next phase of life.
  Success will be measured by an increase in the percentage
  of students with disabilities who:
- Graduate from high school
- Demonstrate workplace and career readiness
- Secure competitive, integrated employment

  ASCEND 307 Program Information: https://edu.wyoming.gov/parents/special-education/ascend-307/

**Curtis Biggs** – Governor's Representative

- Wyoming's Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) award has been announced by CMS. In the coming months, rollout of how the award will impact various areas of healthcare, potentially impacting/serving areas of EIC involvement. Visit Department of Health's RHTP page for ongoing details.

- Rural Health Transformation Program: https://health.wyo.gov/admin/rural-health-transformation-program/

**Shannon Cranmore - WDE**

- WDE is doing somewhat of a program overhaul on the McKinney-Vento Program. Due to another program being monitored by USED last year, all of our federal programs are taking a closer look at our programs to ensure compliance. This includes updating grant applications, needs assessments, and policy and procedure documentation to ensure there is clear concise guidance being given to districts.
- Identified homeless student counts for 2024-25: State Total 2255, which is down from the previous year by about 160. We had quite a bit of homeless liaison turnover last year so that is most likely the cause of lower counts.

**Nicole Neider - Wyoming Children's Trust Fund**

- WCTF has hired Laura Fowler as a training consultant to enhance our capability to provide both in-person and virtual training across Wyoming. Our current offerings include:
  - ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences)
  - Protective Factors
  - Mandatory Supporter
  - Bridges Out of Poverty

We encourage you to contact us if there are additional training needs not currently listed, as we may be able to incorporate new topics.

- There are 18 Family Resource Centers located throughout Wyoming. To find the FRC closest to you, please visit the official list: https://pcawy.org/frc-list

**Mindy Monson**

- Good Morning, it took a bit, but we finally received our grant in the full amount so we should be good for the grant year. Fingers crossed. Wyoming is no longer considered Region 8 and we are now Region West. The Associations will continue to stay with the original Region 8 states even though the Region West states have changed.
- Region West is now Hawaii, California, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Washington, Alaska, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Migrant and Seasonal instead of the original Region 8 Wyoming, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Utah.

**Sarah Fitzgerald – EHDI**

- Wyoming EHDI continues to have federal funding through grants from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC grant funding is currently scheduled to end on June 30, 2026. A newborn hearing screening fee increase will go into effect in early 2026 in order to sustain and maintain newborn hearing screening and follow-up throughout the state.

- Wyoming EHDI continues to partner with the CDC of Natrona County to offer pediatric audiology services through CDC+ Audiology for children age birth through 21.
- Between October 2020 and December 2025, Wyoming EHDI, in partnership with the Early Language Outcomes (ĒLO) laboratory at the University of Colorado – Boulder and the Wyoming Early Intervention Initiative (WEII) for Families with Children who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH), has collected 250 language acquisition assessments for 88 individual children ages nine months through five years.

**Jamie Beastrom – Region 3**

- Completed our December 1 count with 80 Part B children and 37 Part C children
- Region 3 and Weston County Children's Center continues to work toward Pyramid Module implementation. Region 3 staff has completed the EI modules, completed the coaching training and WCCC PK teachers with support from the PM Admin team are completing the PK modules.
- Setting up for Child Find screenings scheduled in February for Newcastle and Moorcroft

**Darci Larson – Executive Director, Region 2**

- Region 2 is settling into a year of change. We've been working through new branding and some schedule changes, and while there has been a lot of adjustment, things are starting to feel more settled.
- We continue to grow our work with the Pyramid Model, focusing on building consistent practices and supporting staff as they build confidence in this approach across Part C.
- One of our ongoing challenges has been staffing, specifically the difficulty in hiring an in-house SLP. Because of this, we've relied more on contracting within the community and have also incorporated TinyEYE to support services. We continue to actively look for an SLP to join our team.
- Overall, we're staying focused on serving children and families well while navigating these changes.

**Brittney Thyarks - DFS**

- Home Visiting; MIECHV- Updated the Needs Based Assessment and got approval to identify all 23 Wyoming Counties as at-risk which means that MIECHV dollars can be spent in all the counties. PAT expanded to Campbell and Carbon in 2025 and will be in Hot Springs and Platte in 2026.
- PoSC- completed 2 years of implementation with over 600 PoSC developed. Working to finalize 2025 data and can share out at a later date.

**Call for Additions to Agenda**

- No additions

**Discussion and Approval of Minutes from October Meeting**

Motion to approve – First - Mindy Monson  Seconded - Darci Larson

**Public Comment** - No public comment was received

**Part C Family Survey Results - Jolene Flores**

- PowerPoint Presentation shared

**Part C System of Payments (Private Insurance) - Jolene Flores**
- PowerPoint Presentation shared

**Part B Evaluation - Jennifer Petri**
- PowerPoint Presentation shared

**Break**

**FFY24 APR Review - Jolene Flores**
- PowerPoint Presentation shared

**DMS Update - Kim Caylor**
- PowerPoint Presentation shared

**Part C Targets Setting - Jolene Flores**
- PowerPoint Presentation shared

**Parent Participation EIC - Kim Caylor**
- PowerPoint Presentation shared

**C to B Transition - Kim Caylor**
- PowerPoint Presentation shared

**Informed Clinical Opinion - Kim Caylor**
- PowerPoint Presentation shared

**PD and SSIP Update - Jolene Flores**
- Cohort 2 Practitioner Coaches completed the Pyramid Model Practice-Based Coach Training 12/2025
- Pyramid Model EI Practices Training completed 12/2025
    - Upcoming Training/Events:
        - Data Coordinators Training
        - Positive Solutions for Families
        - Prevent/Teach/Reinforce for Families
        - National Training Institute on Effective Practices Annual Conference
- EIEP Leadership Summit 06/2026
- Trauma Informed Care Training 06/2026
- TeacherCon 2026

**EIC Saratoga hotel logistics - Jolene Flores**
- July 13, 2026, 1-4 pm - July 14, 2026, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm
- Saratoga Hot Springs Resort
  601 East Pic Pike Road, Saratoga, WY 82331

307-326-5261

- Group Code to receive state rate - SOWEIC.
- Members will need to call the resort to book their room. No option to book online.
- Cards will not be asked for when reservations are made, but one will need to be provided at check-in. If using a state card, ask if they have a credit card authorization form that can be completed.
- Guests can choose between a single bed located in the lodge or two queen beds located poolside.

**Agenda items for April meeting - Council Chair**

- Part C Grant Application
- Nomination for Council Co-chair
- Legislative Session

**Final comments/thoughts/reflections -**

- Motion to adjourn – Laureena Houtchin motioned, and the motion was seconded by Kim Caylor
- Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm