

*COORDINATING COUNCIL ON EARLY CHILDHOOD
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
ANNUAL PLANNING RETREAT
SEPTEMBER 6, 2002
TOPEKA, KS*

<p><u>Members present:</u></p> <p>Sharon Hixson, Chair, Russell Child Development Center Doctor Dave Lindeman, Kansas University Center for Developmental Disabilities- Parsons Doctor Chet Johnson, University of Kansas Child Development Unit Carolyn Nelson, (representing Secretary Graeber) Carolyn Weinhold, (representing Secretary Schalansky) Marnie Campbell, (representing Commissioner Tompkins) Karla Kenton, Parent Member, Hays Ellen Mellard, Northeast Kansas Education Service Center Representative Ethel Peterson Senator Karin Brownlee Maria Martinez, Parent Member, Hays</p>	<p><u>Others present:</u></p> <p>Kathy Johnson, Shawnee County Interagency Coordinating Council Sally Henry, Clay, Wash., Marshall Interagency Coordinating Council Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer, Northwest Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council Ed Henry, Twin Valley Developmental Center Debbie Mai, Rainbows United Linda Kenney, Kansas Department of Health and Environment – Bureau of Children Young and Families Peggy Miksch, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Infant and Toddler Services Shona Sherraden, Russell Child Dev. Center Cayla Wasson, Sedgwick County Interagency Coordinating Council Kathy Boyd, Osage County Interagency Coordinating Council Dana Romary, Ottawa-Wellsville Interagency Coordinating Council Cecilia Rijfkogel, Russell Child Development Center Dena Bracciano, Douglas County Interagency Coordinating Council Deanna Berry, Russell Child Development Center Paco Price, Sedgwick County Interagency Coordinating Council Karen Coulter, Russell Child Development Center Susan Kunard, Johnson County Interagency Coordinating Council Duane Goossen, State Budget Director Doug Bowman, Coordinator Patty Miller, Staff</p>
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WELCOME

Sharon Hixson, told a story addressing the importance of children, comparing them to a farmer's seedweed that is valuable. We must protect our children for the future.

KANSAS FINANCES

Duane Goossen, State Budget Director, reported the fiscal year 2003 proposed budget was based on money available to us according to the consensus estimating process. He gave us an overview dated back to 1996. Duane Goossen passed out handouts that reflect the shape the State General Fund is in. The total budget in Kansas is about 9 billion dollars. Half of the State budget is from the State General Fund. Revenues are mostly raised from income and sales tax. The State General Fund receipts decreased sharply in Fiscal Year 2002. The ending balance for Fiscal Year 2002 in the State General Fund was 12 million dollars. The revenue estimate is 4 billion. There will not be enough money in this fiscal year to finance the budget that has been approved. Last month the Governor initiated an allotment proceeding. The beginning balance for the State General Fund in Fiscal Year 2004 will probably be zero. The approved budget for Fiscal Year 2003 will need to be cut. Without further revenue the next budget year will need to be cut in order to balance. There is no way to increase in any areas of the budget due to lack of revenues. A lot of states have raised taxes in various forms. The cigarette tax is a popular one to raise in states. Other states have experienced more dramatic budget cuts.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made. Each person spoke as to how the budget affects them.

COUNCIL ACTIVITY

Doug Bowman discussed the outcomes and tasks of the previous Strategic Plan. The group split into three separate small groups to generate issues on the strategic plan. As a result of the voting, the top issues for discussion were 1) advocacy, 2) how the role of the Interagency Coordinating Council could be strengthened, 3) developmental screening for newborns, 4) additional training, 5) strengthen role of parents, and 6) categorical aid.

Between now and October there will be teleconferences scheduled to discuss Interagency Coordinating Council Operations, Parent Involvement and Newborn Screenings. The Interagency Coordinating Council Operations team will consist of the following persons:

Doug Bowman
Maria Martinez
Sharon Hixson
Doctor Dave Lindeman
Ellen Mellard
Susan Kunard

The Parent Involvement team will consist of:

Doug Bowman
Peggy Miksch
Maria Martinez

Senator Karin Brownlee
Susan Kunard

The Newborn Screenings team consists of:

Doug Bowman
Doctor Chet Johnson
Karla Kenton
Carolyn Nelson
Peggy Miksch

DETAILED DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC TOPICS

Debbie Mai, Rainbows United, discussed advocacy as a high need. Under fiscal matters of the Strategic Plan, the document shows three of the five tasks relate to advocacy. There needs to be work done with funding: making efforts to go after additional money, reallocation of money. There are children that are still unidentified. We need to assist the local Interagency Coordinating Councils to focus and educate the county commissioners, legislators and policy makers of what the needs are for young children birth through age five and their families across the State of Kansas.

Ellen Mellard, Northeast Kansas Education Service Center, mentioned as a part of advocacy, we need to develop a statewide name for services, so that everyone understands who Infant Toddler is and what the providers do.

Kathy Johnson, Shawnee County Interagency Coordinating Council, mentioned as a part of advocacy, we need to promote the fact that both the Part C Infant-Toddler and Part B Preschool programs are mandated.

Carolyn Weinhold, Social and Rehabilitation Services, mentioned we need to use technology, such as list serv to discuss issues discussed by the legislature so that people can mobilize as soon as possible on specific bills and issues.

Ed Henry, Twin Valley Developmental Center, suggested parents who have succeeded in marketing their business to assist the Interagency Coordinating Council put together a marketing program.

Carolyn Weinhold, Social and Rehabilitation Services, mentioned they are having their third annual HeadStart advocacy training on November 22nd and 23rd in the Capitol building at Topeka. Doug Bowman will be the tour guide. Doug will do a session on issues affecting children with special needs. Other speakers will also be included to discuss issues. Maria Martinez, parent member, stated the parents, care givers and foster parents need to be given tools for advocacy.

The second issue was how to strengthen the role of the Interagency Coordinating Council. Doctor Dave Lindeman mentioned we need specific time lines and outcomes and to hold ourselves accountable. There was a lot of discussion on ways to make the meetings more effective.

The third issue is an examination of a system of developmental screening for newborns. Doug Bowman stated Kansas is in the process of fine tuning and implementing the newborn hearing screening process. Dena Bracciano, Douglas County Interagency Coordinating Council, stated the screening should include those children who have speech problems. Children are not being referred as soon as they could be. Sharon Hixson, Chair, stated foster children are not being referred at the Russell Child Development Center in the Garden City area. Doctor Chet Johnson discussed a process of screening all newborns at hospital discharge planning. This process would include high-risk criteria for children for automatic referral. A workgroup would need to discuss the criteria and fiscal impact.

FINE TUNE THE COUNCIL'S 2003 STRATEGIC PLAN

Doug Bowman stated there will be a group to work on language for a potential bill to change the law on developmental screenings. There will be another group on advocacy for both the Infant-Toddler and Preschool programs. The Infant-Toddler coordinators will meet later this month, and the Interagency Coordinating Council will suggest that they look at a new name for the Part C Infant-Toddler program. A recommendation to the State Interagency Coordinating Council will be made to split the funding committee and advocacy.

There was discussion to add to the Memorandum of Understanding "to assist the lead agency for the Part C Infant-Toddler program as well as the Part B Preschool program in responding to the Office of Special Education Programs requirements for corrective action."

The Strategic Plan will be revised and adopted by the full Council at subsequent Interagency Coordinating Council meetings. The input of those in attendance today was appreciated.

Doug Bowman stated there are currently two empty chairs to the State Interagency Coordinating Council that will be filled. We have submitted names to the Governor's office.

The next Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services meeting is Friday, October 4, 2002 in Topeka by Interactive Television.