**Colorado EHDI**

**COVID-19 Task Force**

**Meeting Notes**

January 25, 2021

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| **Attendees** |
| **Name** | **Role** |
| **Hannah Glick** | Facilitator |
| **Arlene Stredler Brown** | Notetaker |
| **Becky Awad**  | Audiologist, Children’s Hospital  |
| **Sarah Kennedy** | Co Hands & Voices |

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| **Agenda Overview** |
| 1. February Issue of Hearing Screening Monthly
2. New initiative and ideas to connect with, support, and educate Colorado midwives performing hearing screening
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| **Agenda Items, Discussion and Decisions** |
| **Agenda Items** | **Discussion** | **Action/Decision** |
| **February Issue of Hearing Screening Monthly** | Working topics for the February issue: * + 1. Engage people new to the COEHDI system
		2. Introduce people new to COEHDI during this grant round (Leanne Glenn, Hannah Glick, Arlene)
		3. Talk about the process from screening through EI – what is the process? Learn the bigger system and the value of their input at the screening level.

Discussion items: * Based on the group discussion, members decided that the newsletter should be no more than 2 pages (ideally 1 page) to hold the attention of busy professionals.
* Based on group discussion, we decided to emphasize point 3 from above, focusing on 1-3-6 and the process from screening through EI. We will also link to Hands & Voices Roadmaps to help support screening professionals in educating families and parents about 1-3-6 along their hearing journey.
* Based on group discussion, this issue will also remind professionals about HIDS data entry and points of contact, so they know they are supported if they have questions.
 | Hannah to revise 1st draft of February Issue of Hearing Screening Monthly to make it shorter and more focused on 1-3-6. Issue will be published mid-February.  |
| **Midwife Initiative**  | Discussion on how to learn about midwife needs: * Margaret shared contact of Jan Lepitino, a lead midwife in CO where we can begin to have conversations to identify midwife needs surrounding screening.
* Sarah Kennedy also shared contact for Carmen Lacket, another midwife in Colorado Springs who we could reach out to gather more information.
* CO Midwives Association may be another avenue to gather more information about midwives’ needs. EHDI has presented to them in the past.
* It is possible that the list of midwives from CDPHE may not be complete. There could be ~73 in the state. Would be wise to get an up-to-date list of midwife contacts in the state.

Discussion on historical (and likely current) issue of midwives not having screening equipment: * Midwives run their own businesses and may prefer their own equipment if possible. Per midwife report, many midwives are in need of equipment or have been historically. We need to investigate how many midwives still have equipment that was given out through EHDI several years ago when Vicki Thompson was the COEHDI director. *Future ideas: Could community grants help fund equipment and replacement tips/probes? If this is not possible, could other professionals (i.e. educational audiologists) in helping with screening for midwives who don’t have their own equipment?*

Discussion on midwife-specific issues/support topics surrounding COVID-19* Midwifery centers have been discharging children very quickly which may preclude a screen before discharge. We need to see what they are doing for screening if not done before discharge and reinforce screening by one month of age.
* Midwives associated with birthing centers may have different needs from midwives doing home births. We need to assess these differences in needs.
* Impact of COVID. Is there more interest in home births due to COVID? This would be something to find out from midwives, to see if demand for screening has increased for them if there are more home births.
 | Hannah to connect with midwives about their needs surrounding screening (e.g., equipment, collaboration with other facilities, support they want, etc). Hannah to report back at February meeting. Hannah to get complete list of midwives (the list from CDPHE may not be complete). DORA can possibly share their list. CDPHE may have a list (through Vital Statistics) as to counties with most births with a midwife. Hannah to report back at February meeting.  |
| **Summary and Impressions:*** Hearing Screening Monthly issues should focus on short and timely topics relevant to the audience. February issue will be all about 1-3-6. Hannah will work to revise February issue draft accordingly.
* We need to gather more information about supports that midwives need surrounding screening. Access to screening equipment has historically and likely still is an issue for some midwives, but there may be other issues and needs for support. Hannah will connect with Colorado midwives to gain more information and report back at the next meeting.
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| **Next Meeting(s)** **Meetings of the Screening Task Force are on the 4th Monday of each month from noon-1:00pm.**  |
| **DATE** | **TIME** | **AGENDA ITEMS** |
| February 22, 2021 | Noon-1:00pm | * Work on midwife initiative based on information gathered from midwives
* Brainstorm ideas for March issue of Hearing Screening Monthly
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*A note about accommodations: Beginning February 1, 2021, all Alliance meeting and task force meeting accommodations (e.g., American Sign Language interpreters, Cued Language Transliterators, and/or Spanish translators) must be requested at least 72 business hours or 3 business days in advance.* ***Requests may be made by contacting your task force facilitator****. We will also enable Zoom's Live Transcription feature for all meetings.*