

Colorado EHDI Alliance Meeting

Date: February 19, 2021

Meeting Called By: Colorado EHDI
Type of Meeting: Colorado EHDI Alliance
Facilitator: Heather Abraham
Notetaker: Arlene Stredler Brown
Zoom Facilitator: Katie Cue

Alliance & Core Team Members: Marin Adkisson, Emily Augsburger, Marti Bleidt, Allison Cunningham, Pat Greenway, Sarah Honigfeld, Sara Kennedy, Cliff Moers, Amy Novotny, Ashley Renslow, and Sara Robinson

Absent Members: Maureen Cunningham, Jack Damico, Geoff Goodside, Margaret Ruttenber, Christy Scott

Core Team Participants: Heather Abraham, Arlene Stredler Brown, and Katie Cue

Task Force Representatives: Emily Chamberlain and Kristin Sommerfeldt

Accommodations: Terri Tupps and Julie Ostberg (ASL/ English Interpreters); and Miriam Craner and Kellie Shier (Cued Language Transliterators)

Agenda Item 1: January Meeting Minutes		Presenter: Heather Abraham	
Summary of Discussion: Minutes approved			
Conclusion: n/a			
Action Items: n/a		Persons Responsible: n/a	Deadline: n/a

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Agenda Item 2: Announcements	Presenter: All
<p>Summary of Discussion:</p> <p><i>Ascent Program:</i> There have been two training sessions in the last month. The Ascent Program staff is working to identify candidates to participate in the program. They are also conducting background checks of participating DHH adults. Staff is also preparing information to send to parents so they may request a visit with a DHH adult.</p> <p><i>EHDI National Conference:</i> The conference is March 2-4. Over 40 people from Colorado have registered and expressed interest in attending a State stakeholders meeting. While we previously thought our Alliance meeting and task force meetings offer sufficient options for stakeholders to participate in our EHDI system, many of the people who signed up for the EHDI conference stakeholder meeting are not attending these monthly meetings. Therefore, the plans for a stakeholder meeting will move forward. This meeting will be held after the EHDI conference at a date to be determined.</p> <p><i>Subgrants:</i> Reports on Year 1 subgrants are due by April 30, 2021. The Alliance would like to hear a summary of the submitted reports.</p> <p><i>Alliance membership:</i> Current members are welcomed, and encouraged, to continue on the Alliance in Year 2. There are two changes. One new member has been invited; Shauna Moden, Consultant for DHH Services at the CO Dept. of Education. Cory Portnuff, representing the Colorado Academy of Audiology, is being replaced by Marin Adkisson. Welcome Marin!</p> <p><i>Accessibility and Accommodations:</i> Sometimes sign language interpreters have not been present at the start of a meeting (e.g., task force meeting). Heather Abraham reports there have been quite a few issues wherein interpreters and/or CART are scheduled but they may have the wrong Zoom link or not show up on time. COEHDI staff are already scheduled to meet with the Auxiliary Services Coordinator and scheduler at CCDHHDB to identify and remediate the problems we are encountering.</p> <p>When a needed accommodation is not present, these suggestions were discussed: (a) Sarah Honigfeld recommended cancelling the meeting; (b) Ashley Renslow offered to attempt interpreting as she is a fluent signer herself; (c) discuss how to proceed at each meeting when this is a problem; and (d) temporarily adjourn the</p>	

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<p>meeting for 15 minutes while attempts are made to locate, engage, and/or replace the scheduled interpreter. If an accommodation cannot be secured within fifteen minutes, the meeting will be cancelled.</p>		
<p>Conclusion: Regarding accommodations, this was agreed by consensus: The facilitator of a meeting using auxiliary services that did not join as scheduled would be postponed for up to 15 minutes while remediation and/or alternatives are sought. If auxiliary service provider(s) are not secured within 15 minutes, the meeting will be cancelled.</p>		
<p>Action Items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to work with State Auxiliary Services to secure reliable access to interpreters and other requested accommodations. 2. Plan a report on Year 1 Subgrants at the May, 2021 meeting 3. Ask current Alliance members if they plan to continue their participation in Year 2. 4. Schedule a Colorado Stakeholder Meeting after the EDHI National Meeting 	<p>Persons Responsible:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Heather and Cliff 2. Arlene & Heather 3. Arlene 4. Arlene 	<p>Deadline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing 2. May, 2021 3. March, 2021 4. ASAP

<p>Agenda Item 3: HIDS Update</p>	<p>Presenter: Arlene Stredler Brown (for Margaret Ruttenber)</p>
<p>Summary of Discussion:</p> <p>As of 2/28/21, there are 107 people signed up as HIDS users. Some, but not all, are entering data. (One possible explanation, mentioned by Allison Cunningham, is that only some people at Children’s Hospital who are HIDS users actually enter the data.) Users fall into these categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 46 screeners ● 8 midwives 	

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- 38 audiologists (34 are clinical audiologists; 4 are educational audiologists)
- 13 early intervention personnel

Providers are encouraged to prioritize entering 2021 data for children they currently see. Entering 2019 data is the next priority. Our 2019 statistics will be collected at the end of March and the aggregate data will be shared with CDC. Note, the data collected will not be entered into the national database.

Conclusion: n/a

Action Items: n/a

Persons Responsible: n/a

Deadline: n/a

Agenda Item 4: Screening Task Force

Presenter: Kristin Sommerfeldt

Summary of Discussion:

Increasing screening/rescreening and decreasing LTF: This task force has identified, and started work on, several ways to address these system issues including: (a) identify the activities of CDPHE's NBHS Coordinator; (b) enlist support from educational audiologists (who provide their service at no charge); (c) pursue midwives' participation in these activities (midwives will screen another midwife's caseload at a cost of ~\$15); (d) publish *The Newborn Hearing Screening Monthly*; (e) make stakeholders aware that Pediatrix can screen/rescreen a child in an outpatient setting (self-pay is ~\$90); (f) support PCPs access to newborn hearing screening (NBHS) results; and (g) offer technical assistance (Hannah Glick, AuD). Additional activities suggested at the task force, and/or at today's Alliance meeting, include: (a) establish regional EHDl meetings; (b) pursue the role that might be played by Hands & Voices Guides. A discussion about another suggestion, engaging CO-Hear Coordinators, had been clearly eliminated as an initiative according to Ashley Renslow (Early Education Consultant at CSDB).

Midwives: There are 15 midwives registered with DORA. Eight midwives are registered with HIDS. Not all midwives have equipment. Midwives would like brochures, in English and Spanish, to distribute to parents. Midwives have access to technical assistance from Hannah Glick. They have support as HIDS users from Leanne Glenn at CDPHE.

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Community meetings: To date, there are at least two regions holding community meetings. One is on the Western Slope. A CO-Hear Coordinator, Dee Woodard, has taken the lead to organize this meeting. At our Alliance meeting today, Allison Cunningham (Colorado Springs) mentioned that a regional meeting takes place in the El Paso area.

Conclusion:

1. The educational audiology initiative is moving forward. Heather Abraham and Arlene Stredler Brown have been invited by Lisa Cannon to attend the next educational audiology meeting to discuss screening, rescreening, and LTF activities. This meeting is scheduled for March 4th.
2. Maureen Cunningham reported (via email) that she has contacted the Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS) to pursue PCP access to NBHS data for the children they see in their practices.
3. The Screening Task Force March meeting will: (a) review current initiatives; (b) prioritize current initiatives/activities; and (c) prioritize other activities that are not yet actively underway.

Action Items: Monitor outcomes of current initiatives and prioritize them

Persons Responsible: Arlene Stredler Brown

Deadline: Ongoing

Agenda Item 5: Diagnostic/Identification and Transition to Early Intervention Task Force

Presenter: Emily Chamberlain

Summary of Discussion:

COEHDI website: The COEHDI website has had a lot of information added to the section on identification. Please continue to share materials you would like to see on our website.

Newsletter Distribution: The task force discussed ways to increase dissemination of our monthly newsletter to stakeholders (e.g., doctors, parents, early interventionists, and teachers of the DHH).

Transition from Identification to Early Intervention: The seven CO-Hear Coordinators are a valuable resource. As of April, 2020, they have assumed responsibility for transition of children with UHL (increasing caseloads by ~30%). The task force continues to review this part of the COEHDI system in order to identify gaps and ways to fill these gaps. More information has been requested. Arlene reported that a series of documents, from 2018 - 2020, that list recommendations for this part of the system have been shared with task force members. Requests for information have been made to two state agencies. Ashley Renslow would like an opportunity for the activities

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<p>of the CO-Hear Coordinators to be shared at a future task force meeting. A review of written documentation that has been collected to date will form the basis for the continued discussion at the March task force meeting.</p>		
<p>Conclusion: Arlene will reach out to stakeholders in six disciplines (e.g., audiologists, parents, ENTs) to identify ways to distribute our newsletter more widely. A conversation about the system supporting the transition from identification to early intervention, based on written documents that have been secured, will continue at the next task force meeting.</p>		
<p>Action Items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Newsletter dissemination 2. Continue discussion about the system of transition from identification to early intervention 	<p>Persons Responsible:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arlene 2. Identification and Transition Task Force 	<p>Deadline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ASAP 2. Ongoing

<p>Agenda Item 6: DHH Adult Task Force</p>		<p>Presenter: Sara Robinson</p>
<p>Summary of Discussion: <i>Accessibility:</i> The task force members had a discussion about accessibility (e.g., CART, ASL, CLT, etc.) during virtual meetings. <i>Ascent Program:</i> This DHH adult-to-family support program is set. The task force members continue to monitor the documents that are created. <i>Frequency of Meetings:</i> This task force has decided to meet quarterly going forward.</p>		
<p>Conclusion: n/a</p>		
<p>Action Items: n/a</p>	<p>Persons Responsible: n/a</p>	<p>Deadline: n/a</p>

<p>Agenda Item 7: Parent Task Force</p>	<p>Presenter: Emily Augsburger</p>
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Summary of Discussion:		
<i>Ascent Program:</i> Task force members are looking forward to the start of this program.		
<i>Parent Leadership:</i> Colorado EHDl is rigorously following HRSA's recommendations for broader representation of parents in our COEHDl system. Parents are currently represented on (almost) all task forces. This topic is one of four round table topics at the upcoming National EHDl meeting in March, 2021. Allison Cunningham and Emily Augsburgel elaborated on the need for direct supports to families during early intervention and throughout a child's school career.		
Conclusion: n/a		
Action Items: n/a	Persons Responsible: n/a	Deadline: n/a

Agenda Item 8: Early Intervention Task Force		Presenter: Heather Abraham
Summary of Discussion:		
The first meeting of this task force took place in February. Agenda topics included a review of our COEHDl governance structure, norms for collaboration, and a prioritization of topics for discussion at future meetings.		
Conclusion: n/a		
Action Items:	Persons Responsible:	Deadline: March task force meeting
Need to identify a task force representative to the Alliance meetings	Heather and Arlene	

Agenda Item 9: Closing		Presenter: Alliance Members
Summary of Discussion:		
Thank you for your comments about the complexities of the system. Your input and guidance is appreciated.		

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Alliance members' one-word description about our current work: exciting, inclusive (accommodations for people who are DHH and late-identified children), hopeful, informed, grateful (for the conversations and getting to know people), engagement, commitment, and unity		
Conclusion: n/a		
Action Items: n/a	Persons Responsible: n/a	Deadline: n/a

COEHDI Alliance meetings are held on the third Friday of each month.

The next meeting will be March 19, 2021, 10:00 – 11:30AM

*Note about accommodations: Beginning February 1, 2021, all Alliance meeting and task force meeting accommodations (e.g., American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters, Cued Language Transliteration, and/or Spanish translators) must be requested at least 72 business hours/3 business days in advance. **Requests may be made via your task force facilitator and/or at info@coehdi.org**. ASL interpreters will continue to be provided for all Alliance meetings. We will also enable Zoom's Live Transcription feature for all meetings. (Note, Live Transcription utilizes automatic voice-recognition and computer-generated captioning. As such, the accuracy cannot be guaranteed. It is not a substitute for the full functionality of Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART)).*