

Colorado EHDI Alliance Meeting

Date: April 16, 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 Augsburg, Marti Bleidt, Allison Cunningham, Maureen Cunningham, Jack Damico, Pat Greenway, Sara Kennedy, Shauna Moden, Cliff Moers, Ashley Renslow, Sara Robinson, and Christy Scott

Absent Members: Sarah Honigfeld, Amy Novotny, and Margaret Ruttenber

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

Task Force Representatives: Annette Landes and Kristin Sommerfeldt

Accommodations: ASL/English Interpreters: Julia Ostberg and Jordann Hoelzel

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of Meeting Minutes	Presenter: n/a	
Summary of Discussion: n/a		
Conclusion: March meeting minutes adopted unanimously without changes.		
Action Items: n/a	Persons Responsible: n/a	Deadline: n/a

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Agenda Item 2: Announcements		Presenters:	
Summary of Discussion: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. (Sara Kennedy): Colorado Hands & Voices and Children’s Hospital of Colorado received a partnership development grant from CCTSI (connected to NIH) related to late-identified babies. This partnership grant may lead to a future research project.2. (Sara Kennedy): Hands & Voices recently held a successful “Mom’s Night Inn”. Allison Cunningham participated.3. (Heather Abraham): Subgrant reports for those funded in our first fiscal year are due by April 30, 2021.4. (Arlene): We held a stakeholder meeting as part of the National EHDI meeting. More than 30 stakeholders attended this virtual meeting.			
Conclusion: n/a			
Action Items: n/a		Persons Responsible: n/a	
Deadline: n/a			

Agenda Item 3: HIDS Database Users		Presenter: Arlene (for Margaret Ruttenber)	
Summary of Discussion: There has been an increase in the number of users since March, 2021. There are now 122 users. They are distributed among these categories: (a) 55 screeners; (b) 13 midwives; (c) 41 audiologists (includes six educational audiologists); and (d) 13 early intervention personnel.			
Conclusion: n/a			
Action Items: Will continue to monitor users monthly		Persons Responsible: Arlene	
Deadline: Ongoing			

Agenda Item 4: 2019 Data Report		Presenter: Arlene Stredler Brown	
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Summary of Discussion: Reporting 2019 data to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is a huge accomplishment. With this in mind, the data is not complete as some children were not entered into the database in arrears.

Christy Scott provided clarification regarding Part C eligibility and why there is a percentage of children who are identified as DHH but are not eligible for Part C services. A number of children in this category have unilateral hearing loss (UHL). Children with UHL do not automatically qualify (aka; they are not categorically eligible), although they are referred and evaluated to determine if they meet eligibility requirements. To be eligible, these children need to demonstrate a delay of 33% in at least one developmental area. While a delay in communication/language may develop over time, most children do not exhibit this amount of delay at the time of identification. There is a new initiative, The Early Start program, that is being developed by Part C. This program, once funded and operating, is for children who do not qualify for Part C but present with risk factors. Children with UHL would meet this eligibility criteria. There will be continued information about the Early Start program, which will likely be brought to the Alliance at future meetings.

Colorado EHDI will work with CDPHE to determine the type of data that can be identified going forward, including: (a) determining if additional demographic information can be reported; (b) identification rates throughout the state (by region? by hospital/birthing facility?); and (c) degree of hearing loss.

There are several reasons explaining loss to follow-up (LTF) including: (a) families that decline services; (b) families who move out of state; and (c) families who do not respond to contacts about their child. These data points are in the CDC database and we plan to report this for 2020.

There is a concern about meeting 1-3-6 benchmarks. We have 69% of children Identified by 3 months; and 69% started early intervention by 6 months. We are striving for 1-3-6; while being aware of 1-2-3.

Conclusion: Continue to analyze 2019 data to support COEHDI initiatives; increase reporting fields for 2020

Action Items: TBD

Persons Responsible: Arlene & Heather

Deadline: This data has been reported to CDC

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Agenda Item 5: Screening and Entry into Clinical Audiology Task Force		Presenter: Arlene Stredler Brown
<p>Summary of Discussion: NBHS Brochure: Midwives have asked for a NBHS brochure. While CDPHE has a brochure, their current one is about <i>all</i> newborn screenings. Midwives want a brochure specific to newborn <i>hearing</i> screening.</p> <p>Two recommendations came from the Screening Task Force to the Alliance for their endorsement. By unanimous vote, the Alliance members supported the writing of a brochure. The scope of the brochure will include midwives, but distribution will be broader (e.g., to include physicians, audiologists, etc).</p> <p>Technical Support, Training, and Education for Screeners: Colorado EHDI has contracted with Hannah Glick, an audiologist, who has been providing technical support, education and some training to screeners statewide. Her activities include how to conduct a newborn hearing screening appropriately and to remind users to calibrate and troubleshoot their equipment. Dr. Glick writes and COEHDI distributes the <i>Newborn Hearing Screening Monthly</i>. All of Dr. Glick's activities have been supported by the COVID Task Force and the Screening Task Force. After almost a year in her role, her name has been widely publicized and she is regularly contacted by screeners, screening coordinators and midwives. Hannah also receives requests about HIDS which are directed to Leanne Glenn at CDPHE. Continued funding for Dr. Glick's contract is planned for Year 2. Her role is continually reviewed and guided by members of the Screening Task Force.</p>		
Conclusion: The Alliance voted with 100% agreement to endorse the creation of a brochure by Colorado EHDI		
Action Items: Write brochure with established volunteer sub-committee	Persons Responsible: Arlene	Deadline: ASAP

Agenda Item 6: Diagnostic/Identification and Entry to Intervention Task Force	Presenter: Arlene Stredler Brown
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Summary of Discussion: This task force did not meet in April. Ongoing work continues on our tele-audiology initiative and securing documentation from El Colorado (Part C) describing the IDEA requirements for referral to and entry into Part C.		
There are no recommendations for the Alliance this month.		
Conclusion: n/a		
Action Items: n/a	Persons Responsible: n/a	Deadline: n/a

Agenda Item 7: Intervention Task Force	Presenter: Heather Abraham
Summary of Discussion: The current focus of this task force is the transition from Part C to Part B. Documentation has been obtained from the CO Dept. of Education and will be reviewed at the April task force meeting.	
There are no recommendations for the Alliance this month.	
An update on professional development: COEHDI offered, and recently completed, a training of 11 providers on “Cognitive Coaching”. This eight-day training aligns with family-centered best practices. The training took place over four months; in addition, each participant had a meta-coaching session with the trainer (Heather Abraham) one time each month. Participants have offered positive feedback and report changes in their coaching role with families. A question was asked about plans to document the outcomes of this training. Self-assessments are conducted by each participant; one before and one after the training to document and compare the characteristics of their coaching conversations. In addition, a post-training video is made and shared with the trainer. The task force members will discuss their perspective on training future cohorts and the opportunities to sustain this training. This approach will include input from Early Intervention Colorado (Part C) as they are the organization responsible for professional qualifications.	
Conclusion: n/a	

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Action Items: Work with the task force to consider continuation of Cognitive Coaching.	Persons Responsible: Heather and Arlene	Deadline: Ongoing
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Agenda Item 8: Family Task Force		Presenter: n/a
Summary of Discussion: This task force did not meet in April. There are no recommendations for the Alliance.		
Conclusion: n/a		
Action Items: n/a	Persons Responsible: n/a	Deadline: n/a

Agenda Item 9: DHH Task Force		Presenter: Heather Abraham
Summary of Discussion: This task force did not meet in April so there are no recommendations for the Alliance at this time.		
<p>Report on The Ascent Program: Heather summarized progress with this new program. Two trainings of 13 DHH adults have been conducted to date. Background checks of DHH adults are being conducted. To date, four families have requested a visit from a DHH adult. The families represent diversity in the age and characteristics of their children. The DHH adults also represent a diverse group by location, age and profession.</p> <p>There are plans underway to promote The Ascent Program using email, newsletters, and contacts with stakeholder organizations who see these children. Shauna Moden will add information about The Ascent Program to the May issue of the CDE DHH newsletter.</p>		
Conclusion: Continue to make people aware of The Ascent Program and how to access a DHH adult.		
Action Items: Send a note about The Ascent Program to Shauna Moden.	Persons Responsible: Heather	Deadline: Heather check with Shauna

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Agenda Item 10: Early Intervention Task Force		Presenter: Heather Abraham	
Summary of Discussion: This task force will meet on April 20, 2021 to continue education about state requirements for CCBs and Administrative Units (aka; school districts and BOCES) about the transition from Part C to Part B.			
There are no recommendations for The Alliance this month.			
Conclusion: n/a			
Action Items: n/a		Persons Responsible: n/a	Deadline: n/a

Agenda Item 11: Closing		Presenter: All	
Summary of Discussion: A one-word checkout on the work we are doing includes these “pearls”: information; believe (in each other, the system, and change in the system); impressed (with progress made); improvement based on data; continuing (to get information to make improvements); reflective (lots of information sharing and excited to see how the data reflect the status of our state); data; catch-up; busy; liminal; informed; rise (we have data to reach for); wholistic (taking data to drive path forward)			
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 May 21, 2021, 10:00 – 11:30AM

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*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)).*