

**Colorado EHDI
Early Intervention Task Force**

Meeting Notes

May 18, 2021

Attendees	
Name	Role/Agency
Heather Abraham	Facilitator/Notetaker
Marti Bleidt	President CO AG Bell; Teacher of the DHH for DPS; Part C EI provider; Parent of 2 children who are DHH
Arlene Stredler Brown	Facilitator/Notetaker
Lisa Cannon	Consultant for Educational Audiologists at CDE; Educational Audiologist for Denver Public Schools
Kelly Doolittle	CO-Hear Coordinator (Boulder, Broomfield)
Kelly Fernandez-Kroyer	Data Outreach Coordinator and Parent Guide, CO Hands & Voices; parent of a child with UHL
Kristin Gardzelewski	CO-Hear Coordinator (Jefferson County and I-70 Coordinator)
Brittany Goodside	Program Manager; Imagine! CCB (Boulder & Broomfield Counties)
Beth Little	EI Service Coordinator Program Manager; Developmental Pathways CCB
Elaine McCarty	Educational Audiologist St. Vrain Valley Schools; Part C Early Intervention Facilitator
Laura Merrill	EI Evaluation Manager, EI Colorado (Part C)
Jennifer Schryer	Educational Audiologist on W. Slope; Part C EI Facilitator

Tiffany Sharpe	Developmental Disabilities Resource Center (DDRC) - Physical Therapist
Lynn Wismann	CO-Hear Coordinator (Arapahoe & Douglas Cty - not Aurora)

Agenda Overview

<p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased understanding of Part C and Part B requirements regarding transition • Learning about model of support specific to children who are deaf and hard of hearing in one CCB • Identification of system recommendations for transition from Part C to Part B <p>Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grounding: Review work done at April task force meeting • Continued Analysis of Part C to B Transition Requirements • Presentation of model for transition used by Developmental Pathways

Agenda/Actions/Decisions

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action/Decision
Part C to Part B Transition	<p>In small groups, task force members were asked to review the definitions we explored last month and the transition process. Each group reported on a priority issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1: Who are the representatives from Part B and Part C at a child’s transition meeting? Can we identify a common denominator for all CCBs/AUs? For Part C, can the CO-Hear Coordinator serve as representatives? • Group 2: Reflected that both Part C and Part B have clear regulatory guidance. Individual procedures are guided at the local level by MOUs. (Every CCB has an MOU with the AUs in their areas.) These MOUs vary. The role of the task force is to try to design a standardized process for children who are DHH to assure a “seamless transition” (the wording in the law). Task force recommendations may influence who participates in the transition meeting for the AU. There was support for each family’s CO-Hear Coordinator and/or EI Facilitator to participate in the transition process on behalf of the CCB. 	Talk about FAMILY Assessment, timelines, utilization, and opportunity for use during transition.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 3: Propose professional development to clarify, for CCBs and AUs, what needs to be accomplished during the transition process. <p>CCBs are responsible for planning for the transition; then AUs get involved. AU representatives have not always been familiar with issues specific to DHH.</p> <p>Some stats were spontaneously shared by CO-Hear Coordinators about their current caseloads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arapahoe/Douglas: 42 with IFSP, 4 in process, 13 UHL Adams/Boulder/Broomfield: 45 with IFSP, 35 UHL Jefferson and Mountains: 30 with IFSP, 5 in process, 10 UHL (monitoring) Aurora/Denver: 48 with IFSP, 6 in process, 22 with UHL <p>The task force members continued to review the legal requirements for transition. When it comes to evaluation, these points were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For children actively involved in early intervention, the evaluation must be completed and an IEP (if eligible) must be in place by the child's 3rd birthday. For children not actively involved in early intervention, the AU has 60 days from the time the AU receives a signed consent, to complete an assessment. The FAMILY Assessment (Family Assessment of Multi-Disciplinary Interactional Learning for the Young Child) is available to all families. This is one option for assessment that will be discussed at a future EI Task Force meeting. CCBs use the Family Assessment (which is different than the FAMILY Assessment - all caps) Might we help to identify assessment options? AUs have responsibility for assessment and determining eligibility. Are they aware of the current CCB offerings (e.g., Family Assessment, FAMILY Assessment)? 	
<p>Transition Process used by Developmental Pathways (DP) CCB</p>	<p>Beth Little and Lynn Wismann shared the transition process used by Developmental Pathways for children with bilateral hearing loss.</p> <p>DP's referral system works closely with the CO-Hear Coordinator highlighting referrals for hearing loss and making sure CO-Hear Coordinator is involved if referral is not from the CO-Hear Coordinator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IFSPs completed in a timely manner. Service coordinator also makes sure CO-Hear Coordinator and facilitator are involved with development of IFSP Regulations specify that 2 years; 3 months is the start of the transition process (includes notifying AU) 	<p>Continue discussion about DP's process at July's EI Task Force meeting</p>

- At 2-0: Notify family about what they might want to have happen during the upcoming transition process.
- At 2-2; May have an informal discussion with family about the upcoming transition process.
- At 2-3: In an effort to have the AU ready to go (based on regulation), the transition planning starts in earnest. Attempt to have family, CO-Hear Coordinator Coordinator, Facilitator, CCB Service Coordinator, & AU (as much as possible) involved.
- CO-Hear Coordinator meets with the family and facilitator to discuss transition process

For children with UHL, the process is a little different and is still being created (as CO-Hear Coordinator Coordinators only assumed responsibility for children with UHL in April, 2020). The process, at this time, includes:

- An assessment before a child turns 3 years old to identify any concerns families have about preschool
- A CO-Hear Coordinator meets with family

DP has 46 service coordinators. Of the 46 service coordinators, 15 have received additional and ongoing field training from the CO-Hear Coordinator that provides them with additional information to help children with hearing and vision needs. These 15 service coordinators are considered “specialized” service coordinators. Each family is connected with the appropriate specialized service coordinator at intake and this person continues with the family through transition. The AU personnel are aware of these specialized service coordinators.

CO Hands & Voices has a comparison document. Task force members suggested reviewing it due to the fact that it was written in 2001. The document is linked here: [Supporting Families in Transition between Early Intervention and School Age Programs](#)

Checkout

One-word litmus test of the work we are doing in this task force includes: Supportive conversations leading to systematic change; thoughtful; cohesive; eye-opening; optimistic; informative; encouraged; collaborative; hopeful; coordinated

Next Meeting(s)

Meetings of the Intervention Task Force are on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 2:00-3:00.

DATE	TIME	AGENDA ITEMS
June 15, 2021	2:00 - 3:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finish sharing and discussing DP Model• Discuss assessment options during transition (e.g., FAMILY Assessment, Family Assessment, other AU assessments)• Review H&V document (2012) about transition
July 20, 2021	2:00 - 3:00	TBD

*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.*