

# Colorado EHDl Alliance Meeting

Date: September 16, 2022

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

**Alliance & Core Team Members:** Sandy Bowen, Stephanie Carson, Allison Cunningham, Jami Fries, Leanne Glenn, Hannah Glick, Sarah Honigfeld, Beth Little, Shauna Moden, Cliff Moers, Ashley Renslow, and Christy Scott

**Absent Members:** Emily Augsburger, Marti Bleidt, Maureen Cunningham, Pat Greenway, Brian Herrmann, Sara Robinson, and Kristin Sommerfeldt

**COEHDl Staff Participants:** Heather Abraham and Arlene Stredler Brown

**Accommodations:** ASL/ English Interpreters: Leslie Blankis and Kirk Neuroth; and Zoom Live Captioning

<b>Agenda Item 1:</b> August Meeting Minutes		<b>Presenter:</b> All	
<b>Summary of Discussion:</b> August meeting minutes were unanimously approved without discussion.			
<b>Conclusion:</b> n/a			
<b>Action Items:</b> n/a		<b>Persons Responsible:</b> n/a	
		<b>Deadline:</b> n/a	

<b>Agenda Item 2:</b> Announcements		<b>Presenter:</b> All	
<b>Summary of Discussion:</b>			

## Colorado EHDI Alliance Meeting

Date: September 16, 2022

1. Early literacy events at CSDB (Ashley Renslow): There are many events scheduled in the Pikes Peak region. Contact Ashley for information.
2. Early Intervention Facilitator Workshop (Ashley Renslow): The upcoming training will include providers living in Wyoming.
3. Toddler Program for RMDS (Stephanie Carson): This upcoming event will be at Rock Creek Farm. Check the RMDS Facebook page or the RMDS website for information.
4. COEHDI Newsletter (Katie Cue): This COEHDI publication is now bimonthly. The September/October edition will be released soon. The next newsletter will cover November/December.
5. H&V *Roadmaps* (Jami Fries): The English version has been finalized. The Spanish version will be updated soon.
6. DHH Parent Guide (Jami Fries): Hands & Voices has a part-time position for a Parent Guide who is DHH and raising a DHH child.
7. Hands & Voices Gala (Jami Fries): The gala will be on October 8th this year.
8. OAE Equipment Distribution (Jami Fries): Hands & Voices has six units and they are ready to be distributed to midwives. A notice was sent to our list of midwives, but no one has requested a unit to date. A follow-up email will be sent to midwives who have requested an OAE unit in the past.
9. CDPHE Strategic Planning (Arlene & Leanne Glenn): Arlene reported that focus groups, a survey and two follow-up meetings have taken place. From this Input, the facilitator collected a list of issues and “commitments to action”. The screening part of our system includes ~20 issues; the diagnostic/identification part of our system has ~6 issues; and early intervention also has ~6 issues.

**Conclusion:** n/a

**Action Items:** n/a

**Persons Responsible:** n/a

**Deadline:** n/a

### Agenda Item 3: Task Force Updates

**Presenter:** Heather Abraham & Arlene Stredler Brown

The frequency of task force meetings has varied which reflects the varying needs of our system. Some topics are addressed via email when an interactive meeting is not needed.

**Screening Task Force:** This task force has met the most consistently with ~10 meetings during the past 12 months. In September, task force members were asked to prioritize the next round of COEHDl activities. The topics are:

- a) First priority: Engaging physician assistants (PAs) and nurse practitioners (NPs) in our EHDl system
- b) Second priority: Training for screeners with an attempt to standardize the type of training screeners are required to have
- c) Third priority: The use of scripts to report “pass”, “did not pass” and “missed” information with some consistency to families

It may be notable that the 2nd and 3rd priorities have been identified in the CDPHE Strategic Planning process.

Additional topics in the not-too-distant future may include: (a) the role of educational audiologists in the new Child Find system that is now the responsibility of El Colorado (Part C); and (b) the use of OAEs to screen children being evaluated by Child Find for Part C eligibility throughout the state.

A question was asked about training and/or the use of scripts when a hospital contracts with a third party (e.g., Pediatrix, Envision, HSA). Pediatrix & Envision do have a consistent training protocol for their hospitals. But, there are always hospital-specific issues that arise during Virtual Site Visits. Arlene will ask other EHDl Coordinators about what is occurring in their states.

**Diagnostic/Identification Task Force:** This task force has met periodically. Most recently, this task force influenced the development of the UHL Infographic which is now being translated into Spanish. Distribution will be forthcoming in the not-too-distant future. Our tele-audiology is moving along slowly.

## Colorado EHDl Alliance Meeting

Date: September 16, 2022

<p><b>Early Intervention Task Force:</b> Some topics have been completed (e.g., transition from Part C to Part B; review of qualifying and ongoing assessment). At the upcoming September meeting of this task force, we will review priorities that have been identified, but have not yet been addressed, and prioritize them.</p>		
<p><b>Family-to-Family Support Task Force:</b> This task force has been meeting quarterly for the past year. At a recent meeting, members reviewed a new video describing The Ascent Program. There is a plan for two versions of this video; a one-minute version that can be displayed on social media, and a 3- to 5-minute version.</p>		
<p><b>DHHD Adult to Family Support Task Force:</b> This task force meets quarterly. Members review system initiatives.</p>		
<p><b>Conclusion:</b> n/a</p>		
<p><b>Action Items:</b> Investigate other states' use of scripts to deliver screening results.</p>	<p><b>Persons Responsible:</b> Arlene</p>	<p><b>Deadline:</b> TBD</p>

<p><b>Agenda Item 4:</b> Frequency of Alliance Meetings</p>	<p><b>Presenter:</b> All</p>
<p>The frequency of Alliance meetings was the subject of discussion. Our current grant planned for monthly meetings for two years; at that time, the frequency of meetings would be reviewed. Based on a discussion of what COEHDI staff seek from Alliance members (e.g., advice on system enhancements, consensus on system changes) and what Alliance members want to know about COEHDI activities (e.g., issues discussed at task forces), a decision was made to continue to meet monthly and to cancel a meeting if there is not a sufficient amount of information to warrant a meeting.</p> <p>The structure of COEHDI's system brings issues to task forces; input from Alliance members is then solicited. That said, Alliance members can always identify issues they want to discuss even if they have not originated in a task force. Contact Arlene and/or Heather for guidance.</p> <p>Of note, task force members continue to represent "boots on the ground" and, as such, provide COEHDI and Alliance members with information about what is happening in the state. Alliance members can take this information to guide system enhancements. COEHDI staff rely on input from Alliance members; COEHDI staff do not want to be the only people making decisions on behalf of the EHDl system.</p>	

## Colorado EHDI Alliance Meeting

Date: September 16, 2022

There was a discussion about the respective roles of the CO Infant Hearing Advisory Committee (CIHAC) and the COEHDI Alliance. The CIHAC was created by statute to advise activities of the CDPHE. The CIHAC has the responsibility to advise CDPHE about the data system; notably, this is only a small piece of the entire EHDI system. Members of the CIHAC apply for membership. Leanne reported that there is a lack of representation of deaf and hard of hearing communities. Two CIHAC positions will open in February, 2023. Leanne asked if COEHDI and CDPHE can collaborate to secure more diverse representation on the CIHAC. The COEHDI Alliance has their pulse on all aspects of the EHDI system: screening, diagnostics/identification, early intervention, family-to-family support, and DHHDB adult support. That said, COEHDI is currently filling some gaps that are integral to screening which many identify as the responsibility of CDPHE. It seems we continue to be unclear about the roles of the CIHAC and the COEHDI Alliance.

Leanne stated that CDPHE is hoping to go to the legislature for additional funding to support more activities.

**Conclusion:** Decision to maintain monthly meetings of the Alliance and to cancel a meeting when deemed appropriate.

**Action Items:** Arlene is available to work with Leanne to broaden the diversity of CIHAC membership.

**Persons Responsible:** Leanne

**Deadline:** as needed

**Agenda Item 4:** Themes about EHDI Programs in Other States

**Facilitator:** Heather

Last month, members reflected on information Arlene shared about EHDI programs in ~9 other states. Alliance members met in small groups to discuss these topics. Then, Heather and Arlene reviewed themes based on the state profiles and the information shared by Alliance members. Many of the themes are specific to one part of the system; while some themes are more global.

## Colorado EHDl Alliance Meeting

Date: September 16, 2022

We held some discussion at the meeting today to clarify these themes. This discussion then led to an opportunity to prioritize issues and associated activities. <i>Please note that the prioritization process is not complete; we will be contacting all Alliance members, via email, to finalize this process.</i>		
<b>Conclusion:</b> Prioritization process will be completed via email before the next Alliance meeting		
<b>Action Items:</b> Complete prioritization process	<b>Persons Responsible:</b> Heather & Arlene	<b>Deadline:</b> before the next Alliance meeting

COEHDl Alliance meetings are currently held on the third Friday of each month. The October meeting coincides with the meeting of the Colorado Academy of Audiology (CAA). Since Arlene and Heather will be at CAA, watch your email for an update about the date for the next Alliance meeting.

### The next meeting date is TBD

*Accommodations: 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](mailto: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)).*