

**Colorado EHDI
Early Intervention Task Force**

Meeting Notes
March 21, 2023

Attendees	
Name	Role/Agency
Heather Abraham	COEHDI, Facilitator
Arlene Stredler Brown	COEHDI, Notetaker
Kelly Doolittle	CO-Hear Coordinator; Eastern Colorado Counties
Kelly Fernandez-Kroyer	CO Hands & Voices: Data Outreach Coordinator and Parent Guide Coordinator; Parent of a nine-year-old child with UHL
Jami Fries	Director, CO Hands & Voices
Kendall Machledt	EI Colorado, Quality Assurance Coordinator
Shauna Moden	CDE, Deaf Education Specialist
Dana Mork	AuD Student at CU-Boulder
Missy Oller	North Metro Local Early Intervention Program; Lead Service Coordinator and Lead for Evaluation Center
Ashley Reslow	Early Education Coordinator; CSDB
Allison Sedey	CU-SLHS; Assessment Coordinator for CSDB; Director of ODDACE

Agenda/Actions/Decisions		
Agenda Items	Discussion	Action/Decision

Discussion about Information shared with families

This topic seems to be coming to the surface in different meetings among stakeholders in CO and at the national EHDI conference. It was identified as a priority topic by task force members; however, it has not been addressed until now. Today's meeting is an opportunity "to create some space" for discussion about this topic.

Jami Fries commented that a lot of presentations at the national EHDI meeting suggested families are overwhelmed with resources. Jami is concerned that this could mistakenly be interpreted to lead to sharing less information with families. Rather, Jami suggests resources be cohesive, understandable and not duplicative (among programs/agencies).

Ashley Renslow similarly noted, from her experience at the national EHDI meeting, that professionals discussed the same topic that Jami mentioned above.

Task force members worked in small groups to answer questions about this topic. The questions, and associated comments, include:

Question 1: How is information being shared when a family finds out that their child has a hearing difference? Where are families getting information about their child's hearing difference? How are families learning about services & supports available to them?

- Group 1 Summary: Many resources are shared by different programs/agencies; each provides similar information to each family. We do want to keep wording and messaging consistent while defining *who* distributes the information. This could be a way to decrease family members' feelings of being overwhelmed.
- Group 2 Summary: For EI CO, families receive some resources based on where they live, which allows providers to make the resources that are shared specific to where the family lives. What families want/need is another way to prioritize what is shared. The group discussed ensuring that families are asked how they want to view the resources (e.g., paper, online, etc).
- Group 3 Summary: H&V and CSDB share separate information in separate packets according to the laterality of the child's hearing difference (e.g., unilateral, bilateral). Audiologists share information first; there is not much consistency among audiology programs about what is shared. Information shared by audiologists seems to be agency/program-dependent.

Question 2: Do we have enough information about *how families perceive* the resources being shared? If yes, who has that information? If not, what are some ways that we can identify parent perspectives?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Group 1 Summary: We likely do not know what parents think; we only get anecdotal stories. The amount of information being shared is likely too much; but we don't know this with any certainty. One way to collect information could be to distribute a survey, but one can only expect an approximate 20% response rate from a written survey. Another way to collect information might be to ask EI and H&V to query families ~3 months after the child has been identified with a hearing difference. Perhaps a person can conduct this as an interview with parents. (This could be done on a Google form that would automatically populate which makes for relatively easy analyses.) ● Group 2 Summary: It is likely that we don't know how families perceive the information they receive. If we do ask, there is currently no tracking method to summarize the information. There is potential to survey parents with a simple, quick link to collect information about families' perceptions. Another idea is for CDE to facilitate conversations with parents of preschoolers to learn, retrospectively, about their experiences in EI. ● Group 3 Summary: This group recommended we continue to be aware of Deaf+ children and their families. Should information be individualized for this population? We could consider posing some intentional questions at each child's 2nd IFSP meeting (~6 months after enrollment in EI). Might we pull together other organizations at the Denver EHDI national meeting? Perhaps COEHDI can apply for an instructional course. There is also a parent meeting at the national EHDI meeting to obtain input from families (in CO and in other states also). 	
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Next Meeting		
Meetings of the Intervention Task Force are on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 2:00-3:00.		
DATE	TIME	AGENDA ITEMS
April 18, 2022	2:00-3:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continuation of analysis of issues around sharing of resources with families

*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.*