

Interagency Coordinated Council Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2019
10:00-2:30

ICC Members present

Barb Blain, Christina Commons, Karen Carradine, Edward Clere, Sara Cummins, Mariann Frigo, Dorene Hoops, Tammy Maples, Jennifer Owens, Shirley Payne, Brittnee Smith, Claire Szpara, Jake Stein, Stacy Williams, Gina Woodward

State Agency personnel present:

Christina Commons, Maggie McCall, Meghan Smith, Sondra Tarter, Connie Young

Minutes	
Welcome and Introductions	Jake Stein
Approval of May, 2019 minutes	Jake Stein: Approved as written
First Steps Updates	<p>Christina Commons: First Steps has undergone many programmatic changes over the past few months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The 2020-2021 state appropriation bill that was approved during the last legislative session and went into effect on July 1 allocated \$6.6 in new funding <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1542 defined how FS was to use the new funding. The requirement applies to First Steps state appropriations exceeding \$11,339,063. See IC 12-12.7-2-22 for specific language. b. Infrastructure is currently a large undertaking. PCG (Public Consulting Group) has been identified as the new vendor for the Central Reimbursement Office. Currently under contract negotiation but work started July 1. It will address: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. System-wide case management ii. Improved billing iii. Improved provider enrollment iv. Uniform system for all personnel, not just SPOEs. v. Improved data analysis and collection, including increasing what data we actually gather to make better decisions moving forward c. Federal Part C grant funds will also help with infrastructure

2. SPOE contracts have also been amended based on the requirements in HEA 1542 / IC 12-12.7-2-22.
 - a. Additional \$2.66 million/year was allocated to these contracts
 - b. Allocation considerations included costs and numbers of families served
 - c. Additional funds to go to service coordinator compensation and to hire additional service coordinators
3. FS provider rates:
 - a. Additional \$3.3 million to support provider rates
 - b. Rate study informed the increase but the full 100% recommended was not possible.
 - c. Only off-site rates were increased.
 - d. There were three scenarios in the decision making process.
 - i. Increase any rate below the Medicaid rate to the Medicaid rate and adjust all other rates by a percent increase; or
 - ii. Equal percent increase for all rates; or
 - iii. Increase each rate to 70.85% of its rate study recommended rate
 - e. Decided to increase any rate below the Medicaid rate to the Medicaid rate and adjust all other rates by a percent increase.
 - i. Also looked at DT and SC being covered by Medicaid
 - f. Also adjusted evaluation and assessment rates to make them competitive with rates for ongoing services.
4. Questions re: timeline were answered
 - a. July 27th is the expected date for implementing the billing rate change. Anything billed before that will be retroactively compensated, but if there is any way to wait to the 27th it would be helpful. No one who would be financially disadvantaged should wait.
 - b. Has there been more conversation about decreasing the CPT codes? Further analysis will happen before that happens. All the old ones will stand until we have time to review and pare down the existing codes.
 - c. Use of family training and counseling code? Not finished assessing.
 - d. Negative impact on attendance at team meetings with rates not being raised is a possibility was mentioned by an audience member.
5. HEA 1216

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Families are presumed to have income not more than 250% of the federal poverty level if the family is receiving benefits under: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Medicaid ii. SNAP iii. TANF iv. WIC v. Any other program approved by the division b. Effective July 1, 2019. c. Will decrease the burden for financial data collection and confirmation. d. Rep. Clere asked about communication between agencies. Christina Commons responded that the agencies were working well together, but sometimes the technology has room for improvement e. The goal was that children will receive therapy more quickly with that log-jam of paperwork eliminated. 6. Family Cost Participation table was removed from Indiana Code. We are working to draft new rules. Current cost participation plan can be found in 470 IAC 3.1-12-7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Rep. Clere commented that we need to be vigilant about not causing families to be unable to participate as has happened in other agencies who require family cost participation 7. Child Progress report requirement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Effective July 3, reports are due minimally required by the 1st day of the 6th and 11th months. b. Some families may need more frequent reports for the IFSP process to work well. c. This will reduce the burden for state-wide agencies as well as individual providers. 8. First Steps conference was sold out at 500 participants 9. Part C Application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Received full approval for the first time since 2011 when IDEA was reauthorized.
Legislative Update	<p>Rep. Clere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ceremonial bill signing was fun...it was an opportunity to celebrate and to again demonstrate the commitment of this group to Gov. Holcomb and remind him of First Step's importance. 2. Involvement in the next budget session's (20-21) discussions is critical. We aren't done and we need to continue to advocate. It's important to do that when the legislative session is not in session...it gives you time to thank your legislators, to talk more

	<p>extensively, to introduce them to families who have received services and to meet Providers and SPOE personnel. Will encounter more and more legislators to make connections. Use INARF to make those connections. Summer study committees are going on right now. One interim study addresses Medicaid spending for out-of-state services</p> <p>Katy Stafford-Cunningham (INARF) & Hanna Carlock (ARC of Indiana) can help with information or making connections for you. hcarlock@arcind.org katy@inarf.org</p> <p>Stacy Williams asked what type of data legislators might find useful.</p> <p>Rep. Clere responded that some are more interested in data than others, some are more interested in anecdotal so you need to determine what your legislator wants. Lead with anecdotal. Site visits are invaluable. Help them meet the acknowledged Service in Excellence staff person for a photo op. It would be incredibly helpful to find a family that would be willing to tell their story. Then segue to data side of it. Here's what we hope to do with the new funding and here's what we could do with increased funding. Find ways to highlight the program in the press, both the providers and the families. Try to share information with the state agency as well as local sources.</p> <p>Jake Stein commented that it was a good reminder for us to build an ongoing process of advocacy.</p> <p>Rep. Clere—The tendency of the legislature is to check a box and not think about it for the next year or two. It's important for them to know that this was just a first step, and now here's our goal for the future. It would be a good idea to send thank you notes to the legislators who supported the funding increase.</p>
Annual Report	<p>Jake Stein invited the council members to help form the report. Can do meetings in Indy or do distance conversations. We can use last year's as a template.</p> <p>Shirley Payne volunteered to help.</p> <p>Rep. Clere complimented the report from last year...format was tight and clear. One of the best parts that should be fleshed out is the return on investment section.</p>

	<p>Christina Commons mentioned that the Infant Toddler Coordinators are putting together a document on the impact of Early Intervention. She offered to reach out to the coordinators for information.</p> <p>This year's report should include a summary of HEA 1216</p>
Budget	<p>Jake Stein introduced the fact that we cannot afford to meet six times a year. Christina Commons stated that we have made significant changes in First Steps this past year and we simply cannot increase the ICC funding.</p> <p>Britt Smith suggested that we eliminate lunch.</p> <p>Rep. Clere strongly recommended that we find the funds.</p> <p>Christina Commons said that she would take it under advisement.</p> <p>Shorter meetings we can pay less in stipends.</p> <p>Rep. Clere advocated for lunch to keep meetings long and keep conversations going.</p>
Executive Committee	<p>Jake Stein asked that the ICC members start to think about the Executive Committee so that nominations could be made at the next meeting on September 11, and a vote taken at the November meeting. Terms will run on a calendar year.</p>
Committee Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue Recovery • Advocacy • Professional Development
Committee Reports	<p>Barb, Becky and Connie to send notes</p>
Public Comment	<p>A member of the audience asked what the status was on the missed appointment policy. Christina Commons has a draft policy on missed appointments for the committee who is working on it. It must be implemented in November per HEA 1216.</p>
Adjourn	<p>The meeting was not formally adjourned. As committees finished, participants disbanded.</p>

Next meeting:

Wednesday September 11, 2019

10:00-2:30

Choices Coordinated Care Solutions

7941 Castleway Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46250