



Sunny Start Core Partner Meeting

Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 1:00 – 3:30

Location: Indiana State Department of Health, Rice Auditorium

List of Participants: Cathy Beard, Edward Bloom, Melanie Brizzi, Daniel Clendenning, Sheron Cochran, Anita Doctor, Audie Gilmer, Judy Ganser, Marion Greene, Emily Hancock, Ted Maple, Cheryl Miller, Kim Minniear, Mary Jo Paladino, Cathy Robinson (First Steps), Cheryl Shearer, Julia Tipton Hogan, Angela Tomlin, Andrea Wilkes

Staff: Maureen Greer, Toni Harpster

Summary of meeting:

Welcome & Introductions

Once introductions were complete, Andrea Wilkes reviewed the participant packet and announced that the following future Core Partner Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, January 22, 2008 from 1:00 – 3:00
- Tuesday, April 22, 2008 from 1:00 – 3:00
- Tuesday, July 22, 2008 from 1:00 – 3:00
- Tuesday, October 28, from 1:00 – 3:00

Core Partners were instructed to mark their calendars.

Developmental Calendar Update

Andrea Wilkes passed out a hard copy of the new Developmental Calendar to each meeting participant. Andrea explained that 27,000 copies were printed and they are in the final phases of getting the calendar posted on the Early Childhood Meeting Place.

Andrea indicated that ISDH is still in the process of planning how the calendar will be distributed in hopes of keeping costs to a minimum. Seven hundred have been distributed through the State Transition Team Summits, Four Hundred have gone to Healthy Families and 6,500 will be distributed to physicians and other medical professionals through the Newborn Screening Program. Andrea explained that they are looking into ways to get the calendar printed outside of the Health Department. They are currently investigating approaching hospitals and other vendors asking them to print and distribute the calendar in exchange for their logo being displayed on the cover. Andrea asked the group for suggestions on how to promote the calendar in both the printed and web based form. These suggestions included:

- Bus billboards
- R & R's (Childcare Resource and Referrals)
- Purdue Extension
- WIC Offices
- Riley Safety Store
- Center for Health Policy Newsletter
- Health Clinics (Anita Doctor to send Andrea information)

Indiana WINS Update (Attachment)

John Richard from the Indiana State Dept. of Health reported that the Indiana WINS is currently live at the Riley Children's Special Health Care Services intake office and also at the Riley Hoosier Healthwise office. Once the business process is finalized, they will begin to expand the scope to include WIC offices, MCH Clinics and more Hoosier Healthwise sites.

A test site has been created to allow folks to see the system. John encouraged the group to access the site at <http://wins.in.gov/cfusion/winsusertest/> and let John know your comments. John's e-mail is jrichard@isdh.in.gov.

John is also planning on conducting a capacity test of the system before it is released statewide. He may call on groups represented here to help with the test. More information on this will follow.

Paths to Quality (Attachments)

Melanie Brizzi explained that a great deal has been accomplished in regards to implementing the Paths to Quality, quality rating system in Indiana. Implementation of a rating system is still the trend nationally; Indiana will be the seventeenth state to do so.

In June, 2007, the Bureau of Child Care contracted with Purdue University to complete a review of the quality standards Paths to Quality. They looked at the results from the two pilot programs, and what research tells us about increasing the quality of child care and improving outcomes for children. The results of their first study indicate that Paths to Quality system has the potential for helping child care centers and in turn children. The evaluation will be ongoing for the next five years.

Melanie also reviewed the reward structure for child care providers as they move up from one level to another through the system. The state is committed to giving those providers who wish to improve their rating a fiscal incentive and has been able to identify and allocate an amount that will be sustainable.

Beginning in January 2008 and continuing through January of 2009 a statewide rollout and implementation of Paths to Quality will begin. A rollout schedule is attached.

Finally, the Bureau of Child Care has hired Sanders Marketing to help them create a brand, market the program and help them update their website. Melanie will let Toni Harpster know when the website is available so she can inform Sunny Start partners.

Healthy Families Indiana Credentialing

Audie Gilmer explained that Healthy Families Indiana is undergoing their third four year credentialing process. There are 120 standards that need to be met and the central office is reviewed along with thirty one of their fifty six sites. Their exit interview indicated that they will be ranked as a platinum program, exceeding expectations in many areas. They have been recognized for having innovative practices in the following areas:

- Think tank system
- Datatude (their computer system which is able to show outcomes)
- Training (E-learning along with 12 cds; people can learn in their office. These are ready to be released and will become public domain.)
- The Institutes (training institute offered on a bi-annual basis)
- Communication- List Serve

When the review is fully complete, there will be a celebration.

Zero to Three Application Update

The purpose of the grant is to strengthen child care providers with training to prevent child abuse. The grant would result in a three day onsite training for forty experienced trainers. This is a three year project; six states will receive awards. The application is due today; Audie will let the group know the outcome once she is notified.

Current Status of First Steps (Attachment)

Highlights from Cathy Robinson's update are as follows:

- In May of 2006, eligibility requirements were made more strict. This change has had the expected outcome of a 10% decrease in the number of children served.
- Using the A.E.P.S for determining eligibility which is a curriculum based assessment tool will help when implementing services
- The cost participation fee schedule increased in February of 2006. Access to insurance is included or a family can pay their full cost share
- Service Coordination has been restructured. All service coordinators work for the System Point of Entry
- First Steps is currently participating in an independent audit. The focus areas of the audit were developed by a stakeholder group, The Indiana Institute on Disability and Community is gathering the initial data.
- First Steps moved to the Bureau of Child Development Services
- Collaborating with the State Dept of Health – Newborn Screening to make sure children are referred to First Steps that are identified through the screening process
- Personnel training occurs through Pro-Kids; some service coordinator training is now on-line and Pro-Kids is developing modules for providers to eliminate the bi-annual provider forums.
- First Steps continues to work with Children's Special Health Care Services and are getting close to reimbursement.

Dr. Ganser asked about the chart stating that the low birth weight number seems very high; Cathy will look into this.

Discussion continued with Core Partners raising issues regarding provider retention. Some disciplines have falling numbers due to reimbursement issues, etc. At the last Interagency Coordinating Council meeting, this was discussed and an ad-hoc committee will be put together to look at this issue.

Sunny Start Evaluation

Daniel Clendenning from the Center for Health Policy gave a brief review of the latest report. One big change is that the state now has Medicaid Data which is age specific. This will provide better numbers compared to the estimates that had to be made in the past. Daniel also indicated that 7.9 % of children age six and under live below 200% of poverty and have no insurance, even though they are eligible for Hoosier Healthwise. For more highlights on Daniel's presentation, please see the attached Power Point as well as the Evaluation Report which is posted on the Sunny Start Website

which is www.sunstart.in.gov

Early Childhood Meeting Place Update (Attachment)

Cathy Beard explained that they are currently working on getting the developmental calendar posted. They are also trying to put the narrated Power Point on the website which explains the website and how to become a vendor. Marketing materials are in the process of being changed and they will continue to be distributed at conferences, etc.

Next Steps- committee members will

- ◆ Access the Indiana WINS test site and submit suggestions/questions to Toni (tmharpster@yahoo.com)
- ◆ Update calendar with new meeting dates

Next meeting – Tuesday, January 22nd.