

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes Draft
7.23.2021

Council Members present: Jana Broussard, Gina Easterly, Dana Hubbard, Leigh Anne Norman, Jill Hudson, Brittany Braun, Cindy Voelker, Theresa Nicholls, Ellis Arjmand, John Carter, and Natalie Delgado.

EHDI Team Members present: Terri Ibieta, Danielle Mercer, and Susannah Boudreaux

Guests present: Shane Bates, Jada Babcock, JaLissa Lee, Nicole Deleon, Vanessa Magnon, Jill Guidry, and Brenda Sharp.

Chair Dana Hubbard called meeting to order at 10:02am.

Review of Minutes: Motion to accept April 23, 2021 meeting minutes from Theresa Nicholls with a second from Jill Hudson. Meeting minutes were accepted.

EHDI Program Updates provided by Program Director Susannah Boudreaux. First update: In-Home Screening Pilot Project data share. Second update: EHDI Presentations to EarlySteps Regional and State Interagency Coordination Council meetings. Third update: EHDI Diagnostic Family Flyer review for Council feedback. Dr. John Carter inquired about adding CMV screening information to the flyer and Leigh Anne Norman shared information around a flyer she drafted for Willis Knighton to share with families of babies who will be tested for CMV. Dr. Ellis Arjmand also inquired about data relative to the geographic locations of families and the distance they have to travel to receive follow up hearing screening and/or diagnostic testing. Susannah Boudreaux stated that this information would be shared at the 4th Quarter Advisory Council meeting in October.

Parent Share: Jada Babcock, mother of a child who is deaf and also has a chromosome deletion, shared her experiences from newborn hearing screening to diagnosis and enrollment in early intervention services. She impressed upon the Council the importance of Providers listening to families and supporting family choices around communication and amplification and shared the importance of having a strong circle of support.

EarlySteps Presentation: Brenda Sharp, EarlySteps Program Manager, presented program information including qualifying for services, types of services available, and service delivery in the child's natural environment. Children who are D/HH qualify for services due to their medical diagnosis. Virtual services have been provided over the past year in light of the pandemic and benefits to this mode of service delivery have been noted. Discussion after the presentation included an inquiry about the ability to maintain virtual services to avail supports and resources to families of D/HH children regardless of family location.

Chair Dana Hubbard opened the floor for a motion to move agenda item #6 Late Identification Data and Trends by Danielle Mercer to the October Council meeting. Jill Hudson motioned to postpone with a second by Theresa Nicholls.

No New Business was submitted.

Community Updates: Jill Guidry with Hands & Voices shared an update on a recent Family Event at the Lafayette Children's Museum and also provided information about monthly virtual Parent Chats.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:37am with a motion by Leigh Anne Norman, seconded by Jana Broussard.