



Date: September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Time: 10:00am to 12:00 pm

Location: Spokane Regional Health District

1101 W College Ave

Room 140-Auditorium

## Meeting Minutes

### 1. Welcome

- Introductions: Please share your name and organization: In attendance:
  - Executive Members:
    - Staisha Brazington – Parent Representative & Co-Chair
    - Kristina Smith – Parent Representative & Co-Chair
    - Katy Chapman – ESD 101
    - Donnett Neu -DDA
    - McKenzie Best – CCS HS/EHS
    - Sarah Bunney – Joya Child and Family Development
    - Denise Magee – Spokane County Developmental Disabilities Division
    - Dianne Saggau-Children FIRST excused
    - Michelle LaMotte-Stepping Stones excused
  - General Audience:
    - Amber Collins – Center for Pediatric Therapy (CPT)
    - Echo Fryett – Center for Pediatric Therapy (CPT)
    - Jon Walter – Youthful Horizons Therapy
    - Teresa Jensen – Fairchild Air Force Base-Community Guest
    - Julie German-Murrey – Rosalie Murrey Memorial Foundation, Presenter
    - SRHD Staff: Sarah Thayer, Eileen Duenas-Reyes, Tara Harelson, Kristen Lester, Hasina Ghulam-Sarwar, Edie Higby and Karen Finkle

### 2. Review of March 2024 and June 2024 CICC meeting minutes (if quorum met)

- Quorum met
- Reviewed minutes from June of 2024 meeting, since quorum was not met at that time. Staisha asked if there were any questions, concerns, changes or additions to be made. A motion was made to approve minutes.

### 3. Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) Updates

- **Tara Harelson provided an update on ACORN.**
  - There is no update on when ACORN will launch. The state will be providing transition training services. Tara will follow up and send out information when she receives it. Four CLA's met with the state and requested they provide a concrete deadline with time prior to that for everyone to be prepared.
- **Kristen Lester, CYSHCN - provided an update which included resources for families with disabilities.**

- Introduction and presentation of a flyer for “Join the Conversation!” which is included in the agenda packet. These will be held in western WA in Renton and are free to attend. They may make zoom an option. Let Kristin know if you would like more information.

(Echo let Sarah know that the speaker, Julie German-Murrey, had this meeting down for 12pm not 10am. She can be here by 11am. Sarah will go on to the next part of the agenda to adjust.)

- Kristen presented and discussed “Family Support Conference” event which is included in the agenda packet. This conference will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am until 3:30pm. They are aiming for 100 attendees. The ARC and the schools are sending the information out to their families. The conference will include a resource room, a genius bar and speakers.

(Echo let Sarah know that the speaker, Julie German-Murrey, offered to zoom in since she has a 30-minute drive. Sarah said that we can wait for her to present live.)

- DCYF ESIT Parent Institute for Engagement (PIE)
  - Sarah Thayer presented on Parent Institute for Engagement (PIE) has an opening for a parent. PIE is a 12-month leadership program for parents and caregiver of children who have received services through ESIT. The program will build and strengthen your skills and support you to become stronger leaders, advocates, public speakers and active members in your state.
  - PIE application for Cohort 7 is due by Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> and those selected will be notified by the week of 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Parent representatives who have completed the course have said they learned a lot.
  - After presentation of PIE and discussion ensued.
  - Follow up with Sarah for any further questions.

#### 4. Community Program Updates

- **Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) – Update provided by Donett Neu**
  - The IQ requirement will be removed on October 7<sup>th</sup>, which is exciting. Other changes include the ability to make a child under four reflected as a permanent condition. This will save families headaches since they won’t have to reapply at the age of four. Another adaptive test will be included.
    - Staisha asked if there will be a list of what qualifies children with a permanent condition? Donnett answered yes. It is a big list that they are adding to all the time.
    - Kristen asked if personal care hours would be affected? Donnett answered, not if eligible.
    - Kristen asked if they have a permanent condition will they still need an adaptive test? Donnett answered yes.
    - Staisha asked if she could send the list of adaptive testing you accept to providers? Donnett answered yes, it can be sent out.
    - Amber asked if there is a need to reapply on the ICAP every year? Donnett answered no, they accept the score at eligibility. Amber also asked if the waiver is good until 20 years old? Donnett answered yes. The only time a waiver is taken off, is if it is not being used. This will allow someone else to take that spot. DDA may check in with families if waivers are not being used.
    - Staisha asked if there is a separate eligibility for long term care? Donnett answered that the case manager will review if families are still financially eligible for long term care.
      - Staisha stated that there is a lot of confusion. They tried to cancel her son. She had to call and reapply.

- **Spokane Public Schools (SPS)**
  - No updates and not present
- **Education Service District 101 (ESD 101) provided by Katy Chapman.**
  - Tri County and Lincoln County will now be served via ESD 101 ESIT program. We were contracting for these counties, now we have hired our own team. She thanked Echo for her amazing help and support. We have hired a PT and an OT with amazing backgrounds. We will start serving kids in the next few weeks in their catchment areas. A flyer is available. You can send those families in their counties our way, to FRC Cindy. They have been piecing this together since January and everything is falling into place.
  - Question was asked if you could see kids in Spokane if they qualified in another county? Katy answered yes, absolutely. Children enrolled with ESD 101 ESIT services who receive care via childcare in Spokane could receive EI services. Children who reside in Spokane County must receive EI services from SRHD ESIT program.
- **Community College of Spokane Head Start/Early Head Start (CCS HS/EHS) provided by Mckenzie Best**
  - Noted that the meeting minutes from June were approved, but content does not match CCS, possibly shifted from another provider. Eileen said we would look into it.
  - Added a new component and hired Kelsie Barany for mental health services. She will work with staff wellness as well as connect families to mental health services.
- **Akin formerly Children’s Home Society of WA (CHSW)**
  - No updates and not present.
- **Safe Baby Court**
  - No updates and not present.
- **Spokane County Community Services Department provided by Denise Magee.**
  - Denise has been working on and with the Family Support Conference and is excited for it to come to fruition

## 5. Other Business/Public Input (All Attendees)

- Kristen Lester, CYSHCN shared that Seattle Children’s Hospital has a WA mental health referral service for children and teens which can be used here in Spokane also. They can help find providers for families. There is a pdf form that can be filled out on their website. For children with mental health/autism needs.
- ESD has a program for Birth to Three. They provide coaching to consultation. FIND program. 10 weeks back and forth. Ages and stages questionnaire training. 32 core centers. Lots of referrals from that program.
- State of WA has a pilot program, “Watch & Grow”. Screenings done online. 6-week program. If it is successful, will do another. They are giving away free subscriptions with no end date if you have any recommendations.
- Emma’s Exceptional Equipment Exchange held bi-annually, held last weekend. Another event will take place in the spring. We have space for any equipment you can share. Equipment is being used and provided to families. Everyone, including providers and families are welcome. Opportunity for families to try out equipment.
- Amber asked who a contact person for children 0-3 is at Fairchild Airforce Base. Teresa Jensen answered that that would be herself. This is a new position she has been in for two months. Teresa works with the family’s previous base to get new services here. This is called a “warm handoff”.

- Amber asked if it is the same process for families that live on base and off base? Teresa answered yes.
- Amber expressed that families have hesitations in engaging in ESIT services and the impacts on military duty. She asked if it is a lengthy process? Teresa stated that it is lengthy, but they can offer support and can assist families through the transition.

A 10-minute break was taken to give the presenter time to arrive.

## 6. Training/Presentation

- Julie German-Murrey with Rosalie Murrey Memorial Foundation
  - Sarah Thayer introduced Julie. She spoke about her daughter's memorial foundation
    - Apologized for being one hour late, she had the time of the meeting as 12pm not 10am.
    - A video, [Rosalie Murrey Memorial Foundation: Our Story \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) was shared.
    - The foundation applied for the Department of Commerce funded a feasibility plan. Still looking for a site. Would like the site to be in the 99205 or 99207 zip code to open Birdie's Nest. This would provide a safe place for children with disabilities and typically developing children to attend childcare which would include non-traditional operational hours.
    - In the 18-month plan, they can apply for 2.5 million dollars. \$620 thousand will need to be raised. An award decision will be made in 2026. Hoping to open in January of 2027.
    - There are roadblocks, but they are handling them.
    - Targeting ages 3–6-year-olds, as ESIT covers 0–3-year-olds. Julie opens for questions.
      - Question: Will there be a cost to families to attend. Julie answered that it will be a non-profit so there will be a cost if you can afford tuition, if not, services can still be provided on a sliding scale, ECEAP qualified, Working Connections Childcare subsidies and possible grant dollars.
      - Question: how many kids will you have space for? Julie answered that the smallest facility they may build will be 7000 square feet with 4 classrooms accommodating 12 kids and 3 adults per classroom.
      - Julie asked if anyone knows of any real estate opportunities? Right now, they are looking at space in churches as well.
      - Question: how ESIT and CICC can support? Julie said the most helpful would be spreading the word and educating families on who they are.
      - Question: Staisha asked if the ECEAP program would be countywide or through the school district. Julie is not sure yet but will let her know.
      - Julie does not see going below the age of 3 unless another facility is built.
  - Sarah will send out the You-Tube link to the video that was shared with everyone.
  - There will be an all-inclusive free event at the carousel on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025. More details to come.
  - Julie passed out business cards for the foundation.

## 7. The next CICC meeting will be held virtually on Dec 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

## 8. Adjournment – Make the motion to adjourn the meeting. (“I, (state your name), move to adjourn the meeting.”)

- Sarah asked if anyone else had any items to share? No response.
- Stacia made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

## Making a motion:

First, the motion is presented – A member raises a hand to signal the chairperson. Example: (“I, (*state your name*), move to (*state the action*).”)

Second, another member seconds the motions. Example: (“I, (*state your name*) second the action.”)

- Any discussion
- Vote – Only executive team members have voting rights. Example: (“Aye”, “Nay”, or “Abstain”)
- Announce the vote – Example: (“The motion passes....)

To encourage participation of families of children with special needs, CICC will provide childcare and/or transportation reimbursement. Please contact Eileen Duenas-Reyes at (509) 324-1674, or via email at [eduenasreyes@srhd.org](mailto:eduenasreyes@srhd.org) for further information as needed.