

**Monroe County Early Intervention Program  
Providers in Partnership (PIP) Meeting  
January 18, 2012**

**Announcements / Sharing**

- See Chasa P. if you would like a copy of the Provider Resource Book.
- Trainings from September have been videotaped and are now available to view-See Barbara G.
- SSLC is presenting a conference on March 31<sup>st</sup> - Analysis and Treatment for Challenging Eating and Mealtime Behaviors for Children on the Autism. Brochures distributed.
- AMS circulated several flyers on upcoming workshops and training.
- Provider grid- Some OSC's are asking that for all Providers to keep grid up to date. Suggestion: Find out from OSC's when they use the grid and ask individual providers when information is not up to date. Also grid has Providers on that ended their contract.  
**Action:** EI supervisor (BG) to take over responsibility for maintenance of grid.
- Early Childhood Development Materials for Health Care Providers from ARRA funds: Materials need to be delivered to 26 Health Care Providers. If interested please sign up at the end of the meeting. Thank you.
- First Aid Kits: CCHS and CFC- Please contact Deb T. CP Rochester, Please contact Barbara G.

**Follow Up on Action Items from Previous Meeting**

**Action:** CCHS and CFC notified AMS re did not receive a survey from NYSDOH re group developmental intervention.

**Action:** AMS followed up with request to inquire with NYSED regarding whether or not there is guidance and/or recommended practice on scheduling annual reviews and when packets are due to the districts. NYSED response is that it is up to the discretion of the school districts. Paulette Kerr is once again a member of the Midwest team and Karen Donahue is no longer a member of that team.

**Both EI & Preschool:**

- **Provider Updates:** CFC update: Rachel Hildreth, OSC, is back full time. Please send any edits to the Birth-Five Provider list to Denise Edelman at [dedelelman@monroecounty.gov](mailto:dedelelman@monroecounty.gov).
- **Governor's 2012-2013 Preliminary Budget - Key Points.** Copies were distributed. The Preschool Special Education recommendation regarding the school districts assuming some of the cost of delivering preschool special education services was part of the Preschool Taskforce's recommendations to the former Governor.

Proposals to reform Early Intervention Program:

1. Expanding Insurance Coverage. Require commercial health insurance to include EI service providers in their networks.
2. Centralize Fiscal Oversight. State will centralize the fiscal administration of the EI program through a fiscal intermediary contract. Counties will be relieved of this responsibility.
3. Reduce Local Costs. Counties will immediately benefit from a reduction in their share of EI program costs. State savings will also be applied to improving the timeliness of State reimbursement of local program costs.

Proposals related to the Preschool Special Education Program include:

New York State offers extensive services to its students with disabilities, including services to children before they reach school age. The State's investment in Preschool Special Education has doubled over the past ten-years to a projected State cost of \$1.1 billion for the upcoming school year. The Executive Budget proposes several changes to both rationalize the existing Preschool Special Education financing system and eliminate potential conflicts of interest.

- Rationalizing the Current Finance System. School districts, while making most

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programmatic decisions, do not share in the costs of preschool special education, which are paid by the State and counties with 59.5 percent and 40.5 percent shares, respectively. Without a fiduciary interest in the program, school districts may have little incentive to see that services are provided appropriately and efficiently. To address this disconnect and to eliminate potential conflicts of interest, the Executive Budget proposes to:

- Apportion all growth above each county's share of 2011-12 school year costs equally to school districts, the State, and the county;
- Increase the role of counties when providers request an exception to existing payment rates;
- Require justification when a distant provider is chosen over closer, suitable providers; and
- Prohibiting, in most cases, children being evaluated by the same agency that provides the child educational services or by an evaluator with a less-than-arms-length relationship to the agency, to avoid the inherent potential for conflict of interest in these relationships

Note: All County Conference Call with BEI is next week. AMS is attending the NYSACC 1/30 and EI is one of the presentations she will be attending. Will share additional info received.

- **EI Website** Go to [www.monroecounty.gov](http://www.monroecounty.gov). Click Department. Scroll to Public Health on left hand navigation bar. Use A-Z index at the top of the page. Click letter e for early intervention.
- Log in to Provider Section: User name for all providers= eiprovider Password for all providers= hdei59 (as in Health Dept Early Intervention)
- Send updates, suggestions or if problems getting into web site to Leisa Sabernick. Email is [lsabernick@monroecounty.gov](mailto:lsabernick@monroecounty.gov)
- Included in Provider Section: Contact lists, CPSE, Evaluations, OSC and EI/Preschool list. Group location finder, etc. Question-Will this be in other languages?

### EI

- **LEICC Meeting:** January 25<sup>th</sup> 10:10am-12:00pm at Brighton Memorial Library, 230 Elmwood Ave. 14618. The meeting will include discussion of the governor's budget proposals, advocacy efforts by parents and EI on Facebook. The Winning Beginnings advocacy efforts to meet with the governor have not been successful. Further discussion will occur re other ways to advocate including going in groups to Albany. CP Rochester was on WXXI –Bob Smith Connections on 1/12 with a parent who spoke about their child's positive experience in EI. Go to the WXXI website, archives section to hear. Marsha Dumka/RCN has also utilized advocacy through letter writing as a Provider. Senator Robach suggested letter writing from providers and parents to restore rates. SSLC shared an example of a petition for families to sign. It also included a place for the parent to include their child's picture and story. Petitions need to include the name of the person, address, phone number and signature. Parent-Provider pairs experience visiting with Assemblymen and Senators will also be covered at the LEICC meeting.
- **Program Reviews:** The timeliness and quality of how program reviews are completed has a wide variance. The timeliness has been improving. Please make sure the providers sign and if they are the only provider serving the child, complete all the domains. Using the term, "within normal limits" is not adequate as it does not provide enough information on the child's current developmental level and skills.

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**County Action:** BG to resend directions and bring examples to next PIP meeting. Cindy Mizerny sends out a Quarterly Newsletter to SC's. A request was made to include providers when sending it out.

- **NYEIS- Directions for attaching supplemental evals were sent via email.** Please begin attaching supplementals effective 2/1/12. BG sent out directions to providers. Cathy Dell from CP Rochester also sent directions to the county as they have attached the MDE report in NYEIS. It is important from an EIOD viewpoint re seeing the attached supplemental evaluation in NYEIS d/t the length of time it normally takes to obtain the faxed report, review the report with the information in NYEIS and then either approve, reject or pend. Attaching the supplemental report to NYEIS will also expedite payment to the Provider. Suggestion from Cindy Tolman/CAFL re how to access the supplemental in NYEIS. Open Task Bar, click on Work Q. Go to Fiscal file-Supplemental (SA), sign and scan the report if in PDF. Electronic signature if Word document. Question: Will IPRO/BEI agree with this process re electronic signature?

**Note:** If the supplemental evaluation recommends a change in services, a separate Outcome Page may have to be developed by the OSC and Provider.

### Preschool

- **Consensus document:** Lisa P. made changes to document which is now referred to as Guidance Document. 14 CPSE Chairs attended last week's meeting. She is gathering additional feedback from chairs not in attendance and will send the document electronically once finalized.
- **CPSE Round Table.** Meeting is on 2/6 from 1-3 at 15 Linden Park. Please register at WIN CAP. Beth Grier- Leva will be presenting as well as a rep from the State Ed Midwestern team. AMS sent a request that declassification be addressed.  
**Provider Action:** Please send any specific questions or requests for topics to be covered directly to Beth Grier Leva prior to the meeting.
- **Mandated Training Year 2:** If providers have not completed training by 12/31/12, please do so as soon as possible. OMIG is leaving the Phase II (Year 2) training on-line, but not for long. For any new staff, the training is available through the end of this month.  
**Provider Action:** Please send lists re who completed training to Denise Edelman at dedelman@monroecounty.gov ASAP.  
AMS will share info re Year 3 when information is sent to her.
- **Preschool Scripts:** Kinney has received only 1 Excel spread sheet from a Provider. Challenges of getting scripts from children's Health Care Providers were discussed. Some Health Care Providers do not feel they should write scripts if they did not recommend services. It also takes a while to get scripts when change in frequency, duration or change in services occur on the IEP. Pia Stampe/Step by Step has met with many pediatricians and recommends sending out the ICD list to Health Care Providers and consider having the recommendations in Evals be moved to the front of the report for ease of Health Care Providers
- **Provider Action:** Providers, please either enter script info directly into Ksystems or complete an excel spreadsheet and send to Karen Shoemaker at Kinney.

### Other

AMS:

### **Monroe County Early Intervention Program**

- The EI Admin Grant for Monroe County has been cut by \$29,000 for this year. This is significantly lower than the cuts that surrounding counties received. AMS is following up with NYSDOH BEI regarding this.
- Lynda Seimer's last day is 1/30. Vicki Murphy will be in this position. A new County database has started for the Preschool Program.

**Provider Action for EI:** Please send updated rosters to AMS and include credentials such as LCSW, CODA, etc. This info is needed by SC's when they create a Service Authorization.

**Provider Action Preschool:** Preschool providers must register their NPI numbers on eMedNY. Please note that this is **separate** from the issue of NPI #'s in NYEIS. EI Provider Agencies who are or plan to bill electronically in NYEIS need to enter their employees NPI #'s into NYEIS. Question regarding what to enter for those disciplines who do not have NPI #'s (e.g., special educators). Response from BEI was to obtain a Federal Tax ID # or use SS#. Some providers are using their certificate # from their teaching certificate which in many cases is often their SS#.

- AMS inquired as to whether any of the providers who expressed an interest in participating in the NYEIS Provider User Group had been contacted regarding a date and time to meet, but no one has been contacted yet.  
**Action:** AMS will inquire on the status of this group on the EI All County Conference Call 1/26/12.
- AMS provided update on the NYEIS Municipality User Group –working on primarily fiscal reports, which not yet functional and prioritizing these.  
Immediate need is the end of year reports for budget monitoring.
- AMS has not yet received a date for the next Group Developmental Taskforce meeting.

Next Meeting: Wed, February 15<sup>th</sup> from 2-4:30pm at Early Head Start, 30 Hart Street, Rochester, NY. 14605 Contact: Dawn Breitung 325-5116 x3329.