

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

**Scribe- BG
Facilitator- DT
Timekeeper- EIOD**

Announcements / Sharing

BS - This Sat. there will be a training for SLPs at MCC 7:30 -3:30

CPRoch – new EI Adm assistant – Katherine Kolich-Munsun and 5 K run for fun- 5/12.

At Child Care Council- Developmental Disabilities Day.

FRC – will be ending its contract for EI SC and other services the end of June. ☹

Follow Up on Action Items from Previous Meeting

AMS sent email regarding scripts & forwarded info on Parent Training.

EI Agenda:

- NYS 2012 Executive Budget- highlights, program implications, & questions;
County EI would like to know how to support you regarding training.

“Arms length” issue may be implemented by BEI even though it did not pass in the budget. Agencies will drop out of doing evaluations; they lose \$\$ right now. 45 day time line would be disrupted. There is no further details on definition.

“Providers agreement with the state”- difference between that and a contract is that it does not have comptroller’s office approval. The state will take over the fiscal responsibility through a fiscal agent. Yes, providers submit claims through NYEIS, but details are not available now. The provision includes all children, not just new referrals. Start date announced is 4/1/2013. There will be a workgroup to advise the state on transitioning to the new system. Third party vendors may be called upon to assist but will not be official members. Why is the state doing this? Medicaid payments may happen faster. Is Medicaid payment going directly to the provider? Yes. Is the provider suppose to know which insurance co. the child will be billed for? Are providers going to need that information? No, per Pat Graff, who had information from a previous meeting she went to. What is expected of the provider if the claim is denied? State thinks there will not be many denials other than due to clerical errors. The fiscal agent will reimburse. Pat’s notes answered some questions. There may be payment delays to start with. Will there be communication between the provider and the insurance co.? What training do you need to do this claiming? Need more information on what will be needed. Those providers who have experience with claiming mentioned persistence as key and “mind-boggling” as an experience. General concern that there will be payment delays and more staff time needed to do this. “Doing more with less.” What does HEG do now and what parts would the providers have to pick up? Would there be 2 payments, one from Medicaid and the balance from the state? Concern about April start, as no RFP is out yet to contract with fiscal agent. Experience tells us that it may be longer. Is it correct to assume that SpEd and Groups will get the state rate and be billed through NYEIS?

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Other Questions:

Who is on the workgroup? Likely County officials Does the State already have a fiscal agent in mind? Likely, but not shared. Why can't there be separate rules for NYC? The differences have come up in the past, but there is no plan to create different rules. Is there any way to pursue establishing different rules?

Changes in the SC functions will be incorporated into a new rate. NYC billing rules and SC functions are the same, but AMS was told that agencies in NYC make a profit. Likely because they subcontract out so benefits are not paid and the staff is not as highly qualified, so salaries are lower. Monroe County rate decreased in 2010.

DOH received special permission to contract with a fiscal agent without the competitive bidding that is usually required.

Ann Marie will be getting more information about the "Other than costs reimbursable by third party payors above,..."

Regarding "Providers must first seek payment from insurers..." Ann Marie was not certain yet of the payment flow from the fiscal agent to the County. Providers will be using NYEIS. Will referrals be needed for third party insurers? What is the county's responsibility regarding administration of the program? The county still has responsibility for administration and implementation of the program. The state has indicated that IPRO and the County may share oversight. What is NYSACHO's position? Did they welcome the changes? Depends on who you talk to in the County; some are in favor; others are not.

"Parents shall provide..." – The county has some information on this, but has to discuss internally as to process.

"Payment to EI..." is self-explanatory.

"Eliminates statute that authorizes..." the provider may have some responsibilities regarding the subrogation letters. No more details now.

Pre-K proposals of arms length and districts to pay a portion of plans did not pass. As the State gives us information we will share. Could the workgroup periodically update us on progress?

Preschool Q: the evaluation has 60 days now; how does that relate to the other 60 day timeline? Does not change.

- CPS reports and subsequent notes being kept separate from regular session notes. Ann Marie read email from BEI regarding provider requirement to store documentation on reports made separate from the child's usual file.
- Reminders: The process for attaching Supplemental evaluations and viewing them has changed to allow all providers access to the report because it should now be attached to the IFSP, not the SA for the supplemental.
- LEICC meeting Wed 4/25 10am-12pm at Brighton Memorial Library, 2300 Elmwood Ave. 2300 Elmwood Ave., 14618, 585-784-5300. The letter writing

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- campaign will be discussed. Karla Boyce, County Legislator will be present to discuss the local leg. Role. There will be another community forum in September.
- Info regarding NYSDOH BEI HRSA Research Project on autism. Ann Marie has a conference call coming up. Flyers are now available. Let AM know if you want more to give to parents. Still in recruitment phase.
 - Parent Leadership Training Institute – this is an initiative of ECDI. Key dates are tomorrow's press conference at City hall and next Thursday. There is another date on May 7- Taste of PLTI for parents. Information was sent as an email. Please call Ann Marie if you want more information.
 - The NYEIS muni workgroup has been meeting, but no functional fiscal reports have resulted as yet.
 - DECCO group (downstate Counties group)- have gotten the state to allow a moratorium on NYEIS for a few months, from 5/1/12 to 8/31/12. Participation by Counties is optional. Monroe is not participating in the moratorium. The purpose is to allow the state to fix the problems in NYEIS. We are not aware of who else is participating.
 - Please send updated rosters to Denise Edelman with staff's credentials listed as these are needed when SC's create SA's in NYEIS

Preschool:

Random Moment In Time Study – Bright Start has had 5 requests; other providers as well!! No one from the state has confirmed this with Ann Marie. This is happening because providers are connected to school districts so their name can be in the data base multiple times. How the information was entered does not seem to be random. When the provider opens the email you can tell where it was generated from so you can track it. "They will try to make sure the person is only entered once." PCG is the company that works for the state. The purpose is to identify \$\$ owed to providers or \$\$ that providers owe.

Medicaid in Education Training Phase 3/Year 3 for Relevant Employees. See info on the agenda.

Scripts – do not need frequency and duration. Do not put per IEP; no location is needed. Ann Marie has an email from the State. Yes, new scripts are required.

Other:

The main way to get training on NYEIS will continue to be through webinars. There was one recently on IFSPs and SAs. Let AM know if you are not getting emails. You must log on well in advance (at least 15 min.) so you will not be shut out.

Motor services – providers would like CPSE Chairs to assign services in a clinic. If services can be combined, instead of the provider traveling to homes, there would be more availability. Parent training and counseling has increased greatly. So many parents have requests for specific days or places which are hard to meet.

Suggest roundtable topics for CPSE Chairs: use of motor clinics. Action: Ann Marie will send this idea to Beth G-L. Also, why a cookie cutter approach to services being 2 X 30. Why not an hour?

Is there research as to how much therapy is best? Is intensive therapy really needed? Could length of approval be 3 or 6 months instead of the year? Districts do not like to de-

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classify children mid-year. Could therapy visits be front-loaded throughout the IFSP period? Seem not to be permitted in NYEIS.

There is a problem getting in all the individual therapy within the group. It could be provided as a related service on site. Medicaid rules are a pull-out model rather than a model that works with children within the classroom.

Also address with Chairs the location of services. Why not home and group instead of just one location?

Some children may be eligible for discharge in January. Chairs are only holding meetings at the usual time or letting services run til June. But west side is discharging related services. Districts may be feeling pressure from the state. The way a service is discharged seems to vary. An evaluation is not necessary for declassification, but if a parent asks for it. Many districts require. There is confusion and misunderstanding between the district and providers. Please contact Ann Marie if a child is declassified without notice to the provider. Please have SED present at the meeting with the Chairs.

Lisa Pedersen is scheduling one in September; 2 meetings per year. Providers would like it to be mandatory. Could go through Pupil Personnel Services.

Next Meeting: May 16th, 2012 @ Family Resource Center, 1 Mustard St, 14609 Conference Center- Use Mustard Street entrance to get into the Conference Center directly