



NEW YORK CITY EARLY INTERVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL (LEICC)
MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2013

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION
MEETING CONVENED AT 10:06 AM	<p>The following members were present:</p> <p>Marie B. Casalino, Assistant Commissioner Braden Josephson, LEICC Chair Nancy Calderon-Cruz Mary DeBey Lois Kessler Helen Murphy Toni Rodriguez Lisa Shulman Mina Sputz Christopher Treiber Catherine Warkala</p>
<u>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</u>	<p>Braden Josephson, LEICC Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of procedures for LEICC meetings:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Attendees should pre-register on the LEICC website for LEICC meetings.○ Audience does not address LEICC during meeting.○ Audience members may sign up with Felicia Poteat to speak during public comment period. <p>Marie Casalino, Assistant Commissioner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LEICC is continuing with the meeting registration process online.• New appointments to the LEICC will join in July 2013. Some current members are coming to the end of their two (2) year term and are eligible for reappointment for one (1) additional two (2) year term. <p>Braden Josephson, LEICC Chair</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minutes from the 11/27/12 meeting are approved pending changes. Catherine Warkala will send an amendment to the minutes to Ms. Poteat.
<u>DEPARTMENT REPORTS</u>	Marie Casalino, Assistant Commissioner
<u>POST HURRICANE SANDY UPDATE</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Bureau of Early Intervention's (BEI) primary concern at the time of Hurricane Sandy and its aftermath was communication with agencies. BEI was very encouraged that agencies continued to provide services.Guidance was provided to agencies regarding destroyed and damaged records.BEI sent an email informing agencies that the New York City (NYC) Office of Emergency Management is holding meetings to get feedback on the hurricane response. Consultants will be in NYC during the week of March 25, 2013, and have reached out to some agencies to participate in the meetings.
<u>POLICIES AND PROCEDURES</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Policy Review Committee has provided feedback on the Amendment and Service Coordination chapters of the Policy and Procedure Manual, and necessary changes are being made.The Transition chapter will be the next to be reviewed in the summer or fall of 2013.
<u>PROVIDER OVERSIGHT</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">BEI's Provider Oversight Unit has completed all monitoring visits for the 12-month period.Service coordination findings continue to be a concern.The 2013 State legislation on Early Intervention (EI) says that NYC retains responsibility for monitoring.Toni Rodriguez expressed an interest in joining the LEICC committee that works on service coordination and was advised to contact Ms. Poteat.Nora Puffett, Director of Administration and Data Management, noted that there were a range of issues with service coordination, especially regarding the question of whether trainings for Ongoing Service Coordinators are sufficiently substantive and specific to NYC.Ms. Calderon-Cruz asked for statistics on Corrective Action Plans (CAPs). Ms. Puffett



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**STATE EARLY
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(SEICC) REPORT**

stated that almost every agency had to do a CAP in some area; referrals were suspended to about 10 percent of agencies; and a number of agencies did very well in one (1) area and poorly in another.

- Ms. Calderon-Cruz stated that the provider community would like to work more closely with the Provider Oversight staff. She also stated that there was confusion about standards.
- Dr. Casalino replied that agencies can schedule meetings with the Provider Oversight Unit. She also noted that the oversight process is not static and will be reassessed at the end of the year.
- Dr. Josephson stated that it would be helpful to the provider community to get data on the areas with the biggest issues. Dr. Casalino stated that there is concern about proper billing. To provide feedback to providers, BEI has prepared a Provider Report template and is awaiting data from NYEIS to complete the agency reports. The report will show an agency's performance compared to other agencies.

Marie Casalino, Assistant Commissioner

- Dr. Casalino provided an update on the SEICC meeting held on December 4, 2012.
 - The Group Developmental Task Force discussed draft standards and planned to move forward with them.
 - There is a draft plan for handling Assistive Technology requests after the 4/1/13 transition to New York State Department of Health (SDOH) Provider Agreements.
 - There was discussion on the Conflict of Interest Regulations, the Annual Performance Report submitted to the US Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs, and the definition of "natural environment."
- The SEICC meeting scheduled for March 2013 was canceled. In lieu of the meeting, a conference call with SEICC members and the SDOH was held on 3/15/13 in response to concerns about the 4/1/13 transition.



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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Conflict of Interest Regulations

- Conflict of Interest Regulations are not currently in effect due to legal action.

Provider Agreements

- Provider agreements were sent out on 2/28/13 to all current EI contractors.
- Providers must be Medicaid billing providers in order to be paid after 4/1/13. During the week of 3/11/13, BEI staff contacted all provider agencies to inform them of the need to sign and submit their provider agreements to the SDOH. Ms. Puffett stated that all but five (5) agencies have submitted their agreements; those that have not submitted have reasons that they are working out with the SDOH.
- Providers who have already submitted their provider agreements will hear from the SDOH by 4/1/13 and can continue to work without interruption.
- Dr. Murphy asked what would happen if agencies are approved by the SDOH but are not approved in NYC. Dr. Casalino replied that the SDOH has said that if providers checked off NYC on their agreement and are approved at the State level, they will be able to serve NYC children. There are some concerns about this because of BEI's current knowledge about the existing NYC providers.
- Dr. Murphy further inquired what would happen if an agency is approved at the State level for Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), but not for NYC. Dr. Casalino replied that she would get back to the LEICC regarding that question when she has more information.
- The SDOH is developing a Service Coordination training toolkit that will be sent to all service coordinators. The statewide Service Coordination training module has been revised and training availability through the SDOH trainer will expand.
- Changes at the State level have resulted in some changes at the City level (e.g., transportation services). Ireti Bobb, Director of Early Intervention Services, stated that BEI has worked with providers who are serving families who receive car service or transportation reimbursement. At this time, only school bus service is available. Regional Office and Technical Assistance staff have reached out to agencies for this information; if agencies are aware of any other families receiving transportation services, they should contact BEI. Ms. Rodriguez asked who is allowed to accompany a child on the school bus. Ms. Bobb



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**Proposed Governor's Budget
2013-14**

- responded that up to two (2) companions are authorized to accompany a child.
- The transition to the SDOH fiscal agent will take place on 4/1/13. If the SDOH fiscal agent is not identified by that time, there may be an interim fiscal agent.
 - Anthony Faciane, Senior Director of Revenue, spoke on behalf of Assunta Rozza, Deputy Commissioner of Finance. Effective 4/1/13, claims successfully submitted will become SDOH responsibility. BEI Finance sent out guidance to providers urging them to submit all current claims by 3/31/13 to be processed by NYC and to submit the application to become a Medicaid billing provider. About 80% of agencies have done so. Dr. Helen Murphy asked if there will be only one (1) interim fiscal agent; Mr. Faciane replied that there may be one or multiple interim agents.
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- There are two (2) significant items in the proposed Governor's 2013-14 Budget:
 - a developmental screening before a full screening to provide quicker access; and
 - a requirement that insurance companies include EI providers on their provider lists and that EI providers negotiate with insurance companies.
 - There are proposals from the legislature to delay implementation of key changes:
 - a proposal to delay the implementation of the SDOH fiscal agent from 4/1/13 to 8/1/13; and
 - a proposal to delay the implementation of the SDOH Provider Agreement from 4/1/13 to 4/1/14.
 - Ms. Calderon-Cruz stated that the uncertainty and changes are contributing to anxiety. Dr. Josephson stated that real-time communication with providers would be helpful. Dr. Casalino replied that BEI provides information to the provider community as soon as the information is received from SDOH and re-emphasized that none of the changes should affect families. Ms. Calderon-Cruz stated that parents may be put at ease when they see agencies working with BEI; she is encouraged by the current collaboration and would like to see it increase.
 - Dr. Josephson asked about NYC's ability to advocate for the provider community in the event that there are date changes or no Provider Agreement. Dr. Casalino replied that because it is BEI's responsibility to ensure services are provided to children, she has conveyed NYC's concerns to the SDOH but has not heard any additional information about



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<u>NYEIS UPDATE</u>	<p>the proposed postponements.</p> <p>Nora Puffett, Director of Administration & Data Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Challenges with NYEIS continue. There is no data reporting capability, but work continues.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ms. Puffett stated that NYEIS data is a challenge and that the data mart is inadequate. There is a “Strike Team” partnering with the SDOH to build a new data mart.○ There is a statewide workgroup currently validating reports.○ Dr. Casalino explained that the Strike Team is a SDOH initiative; the DOHMH Divisions of Informatics and Information Technology, Finance and BEI are working with the SDOH.○ Dr. Josephson suggested that it would be helpful for providers to have access to NYEIS reports and asked that the suggestion be made to SDOH. Ms. Puffett stated that BEI originally pushed for provider access to reports but ceased when data was found to be incorrect. BEI will send reports to providers when accurate reports become available. However, there is no communication on when providers will have direct access to reports through NYEIS.
<u>REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 11.27.12 MINUTES</u>	<p>Braden Josephson, LEICC Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes were approved pending an addendum by Ms. Warkala about the activities of the Transition Committee. Three (3) web-based trainings were submitted to the committee for review and were re-submitted with comments over the summer. As of February, voiceovers are being added to the trainings. Ms. Warkala will send the update to Ms. Poteat to amend the minutes of the 11/27/12 meeting.
<u>CURRICULUM BASED ASSESSMENT (CBA) PILOT INITIATIVE</u>	<p>Prashil Govind, Medical Director</p>



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EMBEDDED COACHING

- Five (5) agencies were selected to participate in the CBA Pilot. BEI has been working closely with the pilot agencies on protocol, logistics, and interventionist selection.
- Agencies have completed trainings on the Assessment, Evaluation, and Programming System (AEPS) and its associated data management system, AEPSi. The AEPS training was held at DOHMH headquarters and conducted by two (2) national experts. Unfortunately, due to the snowstorm on 2/8/13 and 2/9/13, transportation difficulties resulted in fewer interventionists being trained than was originally planned.
- The enrollment period has started. Currently, there are seven (7) children enrolled in the pilot.

Marie Casalino, Assistant Commissioner

- The latest cycle of the Learning Collaborative has finished. BEI is currently developing materials and training modules to reach a wider audience and is very enthusiastic about working with Brooklyn College.

Jeanette Gong, Director of Intervention Quality Initiatives

- 85 interventionists and 20 practice mentors from 10 agencies completed the latest cycle of the Learning Collaborative.
- Six (6) training modules are being developed and will be posted online.
- BEI is also working on a project called the Mentor Support Education Network.

Mary DeBey, Chair, Mentor Support Education Network (MSEN)

- Dr. DeBey spoke about the MSEN.
- The goal of the MSEN is to have students learn the principles and practices of home-based services and to ensure that they know about family centered approaches like Embedded Coaching (EC).
- The subcommittee met on 2/27/13 to begin developing a curriculum.
- The model will be developed at Brooklyn College, where there are approximately 750 early



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DSM V CHANGES

childhood education students. The goal is to integrate EI skills and knowledge into the early childhood education curriculum.

- The committee is exploring ways to provide direct experience to students.
- The committee is looking at developing an EI cohort or track at the graduate program level.
- The fieldwork component aims to teach home and center-based practices that meet EI standards of care, including assessing progress, using functional outcomes, coaching and communicating with parents, and using a trans-disciplinary approach.
- The next steps are to develop the model for the graduate level cohort, including a pathway for students, developmental specialist coursework, and supportive placements and internships.
- Dr. Casalino noted that BEI envisions expanding beyond Brooklyn College. Dr. DeBey stated that there have also been conversations with Lehman College.
- Ms. Calderon-Cruz said that it is exciting that EC is continuing. Dr. Gong stated that it has been very rewarding for Dr. Clancy and her to work with the agencies in the Learning Collaborative.

Braden Josephson, LEICC Chair

- Dr. Josephson introduced the topic of the changes in diagnostic criteria for Autism Spectrum Disorder in the DSM V and the effect on EI and opened the discussion to Drs. Murphy and Shulman.

Helen Murphy and Lisa Shulman

- The DSM-4 has five (5) diagnoses under the umbrella of Pervasive Developmental Disorders (PDD); under the PDD umbrella there are 12 diagnostic criteria, none of which is specific to a particular diagnosis. This leads to over 12,000 possible combinations of criteria.
- In the DSM-5, all diagnoses are subsumed under Autism Spectrum Disorder. There are seven (7) diagnostic criteria. The diagnosis is made when at least five (5) of the seven (7) criteria are met. This leads to 12 possible combinations.
- The goal of the changes is to increase sensitivity and specificity and to separate descriptions of behavior from etiology. The changes also base severity on the individual's need for support and include sensory sensitivity to the criteria.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The seven (7) criteria consist of three (3) social communication criteria, all of which must be met, and four (4) repetitive behaviors and restrictive interests criteria, two (2) of which must be met.• There are “specifiers” to characterize individual differences. Severity is based on the need for support. Sensory sensitivity has been added.• There has been concern from individuals and families with a current diagnosis that they will be excluded under the new diagnosis, which is not true.• More changes are expected at the American Psychiatric Association Convention on 5/13/13.• EI generally uses the gold standard ADOS and CARS assessments for diagnosis, neither of which was connected to the DSM-4 criteria.• Most children in NYC in EI are diagnosed during their time in EI, not prior to it.• Dr. Casalino stated that BEI’s first concern was to examine the effect of changes on children entering EI.
<u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>	<p>Catherine Warkala, Transition Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As stated earlier, web-based trainings are being updated to add voiceover. <p>Braden Josephson, Program Reports Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Noted that this committee has not met since the last LEICC meeting. <p>Braden Josephson, Policy Review Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As stated earlier, the amendment and service coordination chapter drafts were sent out. <p>Helen Murphy, Programs and Services Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As reported earlier by Dr. Govind, the CBA Pilot Initiative is underway. <p>Mary DeBey, Mentor Support Education Network Committee</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. DeBey gave the MSEN report earlier in the meeting.
<u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u>	No public comment.
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:33 AM	