

MD EHDI Advisory Council Minutes

January 15, 2015

Approved by Council

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	GUESTS
Jen Reesman, Ph.D., Chair, Mental Health Professional with expertise in deafness	Stacy Taylor, Parent	Cheri Dowling, Parent
Claire Buxton, Au.D., Audiologist with expertise in childhood hearing loss	Lori Moers - MSD	Deborah Marquez, MSD
Olga Polites, AG Bell	VACANCY: MSDE MEMBER	Callie Ellis - Pediatric Medical Group - Arundel Hospital
Judith Black, educator from a Local Education Agency		Stacy Fitzgerald, MSDE/Hearing Aid Loan Bank
Mary Ann Richmond, MDAD		Keithia Harding, Au.D., NATUS
Melissa Schober, DHMH		Jean Montgomery, HASA, AG Bell
Lisa Kornberg - ODHH		Dawn Marsiglia, Audiologist/JHH
*On the Phone		
*Kisha Greenidge-Kader - Parent		
*Brian Reilly, M.D. - Physician		
CHAPTER CHAMPION		
*Debbie Badawi, M.D. – Maryland AAP EHDI Chapter Champion		
DHMH STAFF PRESENT		
Tanya D. Green		

QUORUM PRESENT? Yes

(at least 4 board members constitutes a quorum)

WELCOME and BRIEF STORY-SHARING

Mary Ann Richmond shared a family’s story about their experience with the newborn hearing screening process. Their baby was in the NICU, was transferred to another facility and later returned to a CICU. At some point during the hospitalizations, the newborn hearing screening was administered. The results were shared with the family in a nonchalant manner. A sedated ABR was recommended. The parents expressed that upon their baby’s return to the hospital (CICU), they begged for the screening but were told that the hearing screen could be dealt with after release from the hospital (not life threatening to determine hearing status). Mary Ann stated that there should be a better process to inform parents when a child is an inpatient.

Mary Ann stated that this child was followed by an eye doctor throughout the entire hospitalization process and she feels that should be the process for hearing as well.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting minutes from October 16, 2014 were approved with no recommended changes.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

All positions are filled except the MSDE representative position. Dr. Kathy Heck has moved on from MSDE and has accepted a position outside of MSDE. Marsye Kaplan is the supervisor at MSDE who is working to fill the Dr. Heck's position.

Stacy Taylor still holds one of the two the parent representative positions. However, she has expressed that due to her work schedule she is unable to attend council meetings in person or by phone. A letter of resignation will be requested from Stacy before seeking to fill her position.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR THE COUNCIL

A majority vote amongst the board members was conducted prior to today's meeting and determined that Claire Buxton and Mary Ann Richmond will both serve as co- vice chairpersons to Chairperson, Jen Reesman.

HEARING AID LOAN BANK

Stacy Fitzgerald, audiologist at the MSDE Hearing Aid Loan Bank, reported that the loan bank currently serves up to age 3 but efforts are being made to increase the age to 5 years. It is possible that the age limit may be increased to 5 by March, 2015. Stacy indicated that a workgroup will be formed to revise the loan bank by laws and that she is looking for/welcoming participants. There are older hearing aids that the loan bank is disbursing. If a child is in need of hearing aids and does not qualify for the loan bank, other options are the Starkey Foundation, Lions Club, and Montgomery County has some options as well.

MD EHDI Update

Clarification was provided regarding the MD EHDI follow up statistics that were reported during the previous meeting. "Not yet determined" refers to babies who are in the process of receiving diagnostic hearing evaluations, however the provider has not indicated a definitive diagnosis. The report showed an incorrect number of births for the year through September 30, 2014. As of 01-09-2015, the MD EHDI system shows the total births from 01-01-2014 through 08-31-2014 were 46,926 and total births from 01-01-2014 through 12-31-2014 are 70,770.

MD EHDl Regulations Revision Update

The Maryland Register is available online bi-weekly on Fridays. It may be checked to learn the status of the MD EHDl regulations revisions (COMAR 10.11.02).

NCHAM Parent Stipend to attend the 2015 National EHDl Meeting

Every year NCHAM (National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management) provides a parent stipend to each state. The stipend provides partial funding to attend the National EHDl meeting. The stipend has been awarded to a Maryland parent. NCHAM proposes this offer to a parent who has not attended the national meeting in the past with the hopes that the parent will become actively involved in their state's EHDl system. There was no federal grant funding available to MD EHDl to fund national meeting attendance for additional parents this year.

The council was informed of how difficult it is to obtain a solid commitment from a parent to attend the conference. Many parents have accepted the stipend offer and backed out, sometimes not allowing enough time to search for another parent who can attend the national meeting.

Suggestions from the council included making a greater effort to inform parents of the national meeting and the value of attending, creating a back-up list of parents who can attend if the selected parent backs out, and re-visiting the criteria that past attendees are not eligible to receive funding to attend the national meeting.

COUNCIL BY-LAWS WORKGROUP

The by-laws draft is still being finalized by the workgroup for council review. Some recent items for consideration are:

- By-laws should re-define what the quorum should be (1/3, majority, majority +1, or ½ +1 of filled positions)
- By-laws should clarify that it is possible to have 2 co-vice chairs
- By-laws should clarify the procedure to be followed to elect the chairperson, vice chairperson and co-vice chairpersons
- By-laws should clarify a process for submitting resigning as a board member, ie. requirement to submit a letter of resignation
- Consider adding Maryland Open Meetings Act training as a requirement for all board members (Note: Open Meetings Training is available online and is captioned)
- Determine if there is a method that makes confidential online voting possible for those times when a vote needs to occur between meetings and if so, consider including this possibility in the by-laws (Survey Monkey and Google Drive may make this possible)

The by-laws workgroup will take these suggestions into consideration as the work toward finalizing the draft for council review/approval and then DHMH review/approval.

PROTOCOLS WORKGROUP

Claire Buxton will be the chair of the protocols workgroup. Each section of the protocols manual has been assigned. Claire will work with workgroup members to move the project forward.

COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP

No Report

FOSTER CARE DISCUSSION

Dr. Debbie Badawi, MD AAP EHDI Chapter Champion, opened a discussion about the concern for care coordination for children with medical needs who are in foster care. Claire suggested that this be added to the next agenda for further discussion and to consider establishing another council committee to cover this issue.

MSD receives DHMH/OGPSHCN grant-funded audiology equipment

Deb Marquez informed the group that the equipment has arrived – OAE and ABR. Hearing screening and diagnostic follow up services will be offered at no charge at the Frederick and Columbia locations with a tentative opening in Spring, 2015. A brochure to advertise this new offering is being developed.

ODHH Update

ODHH is seeking parent representatives to the ODHH Council. Please contact lisa.kornberg@maryland.gov if you know any parents of Deaf or Hard of Hearing children who may be interested in participating.

PARENT CONNECTIONS UPDATE

The “Family Learning Weekend” held in Columbia, MD on November 15-16, 2014 was a big success. There were 30 families in attendance. Presenters were Valerie Smirlock, Dr. Jennifer Reesman, Dr. Christine Yoshinaga-Itano, Cheri Dowling, and Josie Thomas. Dr. Yoshinaga-Itano worked with families on pragmatics. This learning weekend event included an all day workshop and hands-on activities. A childcare stipend was not offered at this year’s event.

Regional meetings are still being held. The most was a Hanukkah event in December, held in downtown Baltimore with 60 families in attendance.

Cheri will email Tanya (for distro.) details about other future events which include a visit to the Walters Art Gallery, a horse farm in Woodbine, MD (will include a sensory trail and an indoor arena),

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 31, 2015

Workshop for Hispanic Families with Deaf or hard of hearing children

10:00 - 12:00 pm

Hyattsville Library

6530 Adelphi Road

Hyattsville, MD 20782

Contact Maya or Ricardo at [202-907-6295](tel:202-907-6295) or [240-441-6377](tel:240-441-6377) (text only) to register or for more information.

May 14, 2015

Annual MD EHDI Stakeholders Meeting

Hearing and Speech Agency

Presenters: Mary Pat Moeller, Ph.D., Director, Center for Childhood Deafness, Boys Town National Research Center; Howard W. Francis, MD, MBA, Director, The Listening Center, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, possibly 1 other keynote

Additional details will be forthcoming

Meeting Schedule

12:30-2:30 at the Hearing and Speech Agency (Park in the rear lot)

March 19, 2015

****Annual MD EHDI Stakeholders Meeting: May 14, 2015****

July 16, 2015

Meeting Adjourned