**CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS PROGRAM**
**COMMUNICATION NETWORK MEETING**
April 11, 2019

**CYSHCN Communication Network Purpose:**
*Provide for exchange of information among those programs and entities that serve children with special health care needs and their families, and facilitate an opportunity to learn more about statewide policies, programs and issues critical to this unique population.*

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Communication Network Meeting Minutes  
April 11, 2019

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CYSHCN Program Updates:

CSHCN Coordinator updates by county are being gathered from and shared on a quarterly basis. (See Attachment #1)

Staff Updates: CYSHCN Program- As of February 1, 2019, Michelle Hoffman has taken on the permanent role of CYSHCN Program Manager, following a 5 month period as interim. Michelle will be filling her former position of Family Engagement Coordinator soon, in addition to the CYSHCN Nutrition Consultant. In other staff news outside our program, we have a new Office Director who is also our Title V MCH Director, Katie Eilers. Some of you may know Katie, as she was the Director of Healthy Communities at the Kitsap County Health Department, and a board member on several regional and statewide organizations, such as the Olympic Community of Health ACH, executive member of Kitsap Strong, Statewide Diabetes Network Leadership Team, co-chair Nurse Family Partnership advisory board, to name just a few. Our previous MCH Director, Lacy Fehrenbach is now our Division Director, and so we are lucky to have such a wealth of MCH knowledge base supporting all of the work in our Office!

Other Grant News: Our team has been working on our annual Maternal and Child Health Block Grant report which is due every year to our federal funder HRSA. We report on all of the work of CYSHCN, with special emphasis on our National Performance Measures around Adequate Insurance, Medical Home and Universal Developmental Screening (which is led by our Child Health team/EfC) We are in the process of gathering all of our state needs assessment data which will inform our priorities for the next 5 year Block Grant application beginning in 2021. Today you will get to be an important part of this process as we gather input from you all who have the on the ground experience working with children and families every day.

In February/March we applied for a continuing compete grant which would build upon our existing AS3D grant. The new version has a focus on family navigation within primary care practice and creates a learning community to increase the capacity of medical providers to understand and meet the needs of CYSHCN with ASD/DD and their families. We expect to hear in July about whether we are awarded the next grant, which is $372,000 per year over 4 years.

The CYSHCN Program is partnered with Seattle Children’s Hospital in a COIIN grant. COIIN is a quality improvement framework and this opportunity is intended to identify care coordination strategies and payment structures for children with medical complexity (CMC). The grantee is Boston University school of Social Work who is leading 10 states to make recommendations to HRSA around project outcomes. For more information, please contact project lead Paula Holmes at Seattle Children’s Hospital. paula.holmes@seattlechildrens.org

Child Health Intake Form (CHIF) Database
The CHIF Redesign Project is well on its way. We have experienced a slight delay so testing phase will not occur until mid-Summer with User Acceptance Testing shortly after that. Our hope is to go LIVE in September.

For more information, contact Christy Polking at 360-236-3571 or (christy.polking@doh.wa.gov).

Washington Statewide Leadership Initiative (WSLI) and DOH Family Engagement
WSLI is planning an in-person summer meeting for the end of May or early June. Each year since our inception in 2016, we have had an annual in person meeting with the purpose of brainstorming shared topics of interest to work on as a coalition, ways to support and highlight each other’s work, and ways to increase the capacity of family leaders and family led organizations to participate in grass-roots community level and statewide work. WSLI recently developed a charter and Mission Vision Values Statement which can be found on the landing page of our "budding" website. Here you can also subscribe to our weekly newsletter which highlights leadership trainings, opportunities, events, and promotional resources for family leaders and family led/family serving organizations. We are always looking for new partners and new content to add to our site so feel free to reach out. We also formed an executive committee within our regular committee, and those executive committee members are those family-led organizational reps who are contracted with the DOH CYSHCN Program.

Our Family Engagement Coordinator position within DOH CYSHCN Unit has been vacant and Michelle Hoffman, who is now the CYSHCN Program Manager, has continued to “hold down the fort” in supporting both positions. The recruitment for a new Family Engagement Coordinator closed on Monday, April 8th and we will be hoping to conduct interviews by the end of the month to fill the position in May. Michelle Hoffman presented at the National AMCHP MCH conference along with Oscar Fleming, who came to Washington as part of a technical assistance project to implement a family engagement
Communication Network Meeting Minutes  
April 11, 2019

business/program analysis; and specific around outcome based program planning for family led organizations. The skills building session was a 3 hour workshop that focused on a toolkit that was created to help MCH organizations to embed family engagement practices within their work. Oscar presented an overview of Results Based Accountability with specific information around the value it offers family leaders and family led organizations in its approachability as a model. The workshop was well received and we shared the toolkit with the participants.

For more WSLI or DOH Family Engagement information, contact Michelle Hoffman at 360-236-3504 or michelle.hoffman@doh.wa.gov.

CSHCN Rule (Washington Administrative Code-WAC) Update
We are continuing to work on the CYSCHN rule. Thank you for your patience.

For more information, contact Ellen Silverman at 360-236-3580 or (ellen.silverman@doh.wa.gov).

AS3D (Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities) Grant
Telehealth: The recent DOH publication of the Telehealth Strategic Plan attracted positive attention from federal leaders. The Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) shared our plan at a rural health summit held January 28 in Washington, D.C., with U.S. Health and Human Services’ Secretary Alex Azar and George Sigounas, the Administrator of Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). This led to a follow-up request for more information from HRSA’s associate administrator for rural health policy. As a result, our telehealth lead, Ellen Silverman was invited to present at the 2019 Convergence Telehealth Summit in March 2019. Two conferences accepted poster presentations from the Office of Family and Community Health Improvement team that supported development of the Telehealth Strategic Plan. At the 2019 NW Rural Health Conference and the 2019 Convergence Telehealth Summit in Virginia, DOH staff described the many opportunities for telehealth to meet critical unmet needs. Both events gave the Washington state team a lot of knowledge and new connections for our telehealth work. The poster presentation led many attendees to share their own stories and their current telehealth strategies and how they might integrate our lessons learned into their own work. Additionally, in collaboration with our AS3D grant partners, Ellen identified specific telehealth billing issues with the Medicaid agency. As a result, the billing issues were addressed and now many other providers can successfully bill for services delivered via telehealth.

WA Legislative Report: An important outcome of last year’s meeting of the Washington Autism Advisory Council (WAAC) which focused on Trauma Informed Care prompted our Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) to include 2 of the autistic partners as key informants of a legislative report which acknowledges a specific focus on addressing children with neurodiverse biology and autism in early learning settings and the need to include more consultation from adult advocates on the sensory and social and emotional learning needs of CYSHCN with Autism Spectrum Disorders and other Developmental Disabilities (ASD/DD). This recommendation is now being included in a 5 year 2018-2023 early learning statewide strategic plan.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Licensing: In collaboration with AS3D grant partners, we have worked with our internal Division of Health Systems and Quality Assurance to assist our community ABA providers with licensing issues regarding delays for applications and renewals and we helped to develop a quality improvement process to ensure our partners can renew their licenses in a timely manner without causing gaps in service delivery to CYSHCN with ASD/DD and their families.

For more information about AS3D, contact Jean-Marie Dymond at 360-236-3737 or (jean-marie.dymond@doh.wa.gov).

Essentials for Childhood (EfC)
• We had a tremendous response to the invitation to our next ACEs and Resilience Community of Practice event in Everett on May 15. This event will provide opportunities to connect with people across the state who are working to grow trauma-informed, resilient, and compassionate approaches in their communities and work places, so that all children thrive in safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments. Registration is closed and we are planning another in person event in the fall as well as four webinars. To be added to a distribution list to receive information about the Community of Practice, contact tory.henderson@doh.wa.gov and ask to be added to the distribution list.
• Successful treatment of pregnant women with opioid use disorder can improve the safety and well-being of their children and reduce the need for child welfare to remove children from parents. However, there is a critical gap in care for pregnant women who need treatment. We are using CDC EfC opioid prevention supplemental funding to support work in the Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD). SRHD is piloting community outreach to raise awareness about the need for and availability of treatment for pregnant women with an Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), build a network of services, pilot an improved outreach program to locate pregnant women with an OUD who have not engaged in prenatal or substance use healthcare, and connect them to services.
• We are exploring ways to help the state Employment Security Department promote Washington’s new Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML). Starting in 2020, eligible Washingtonians will be able to get wage replacement benefits to care for a newborn or newly placed child, care for sick family members, as well as in other qualifying circumstances.

Back to top
The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recognizes paid family leave as a proven strategy for reducing family stress, supporting family well-being, and preventing abuse and neglect.

- EFC in conjunction with Project HOPE (RWJ funded grant) is working to build a Coordinated Statewide System of Help Me Grow: a system to ensure communities identify the needs of children, link families to community-based services, and help families to support their children’s healthy development. We will support an initial learning cohort of counties that have active efforts to pilot and promote a Help Me Grow system. Each setting has existing capacity to convene and organize local partners around this issue, we are exploring additional capacity to provide at the local level for partners to get a consumer perspective on Help Me Grow development and also fully participate in technical assistant activities.

For more information, contact Dan Torres at (206) 384-0981, Dan.Torres@doh.wa.gov, or see www.doh.wa.gov/efc.

**Project LAUNCH (PL) Expansion**

Project LAUNCH (Linking Action for Unmet Needs in Children’s Health) is a grant to DOH from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). DOH is partnering with Catholic Charities in Yakima to expand work they did in a previous Project LAUNCH grant into Benton-Franklin and Chelan-Douglas counties, focusing on Spanish-speaking children, and North Thurston, with a focus on children in Military families. This grant ends in September 2019.

**Strategy Updates:**

- **Strategy 1: Universal Developmental Screening** – This included training on using a developmental screening tool - Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) in child care settings for children birth to three. This work is almost complete, and there are sustainability plans being put in place to continue the work without additional funding from SAMHSA.

- **Strategy 2: Mental Health Consultation** – Part time mental health consultants have been hired in each of the three communities and have been visiting child care providers with Early Achievers Coaches and Infant Toddler Consultants. The Mental Health Consultants are available to providers who participated in Strategy 1. Providers are completing the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) on each child in their group, with parent permission. Consultants and Providers will work together to use DECA results and other information to develop strategies to promote social emotional wellbeing and address challenging behaviors.

- **Strategy 3: Workforce Development** – Trainings have been provided on the Pyramid Model and on Reflective Supervision/Consultation to early learning professionals and partners in the expansion communities. This will continue until the grant ends in September.

For more information about Project LAUNCH, contact Laraine Clardy at 360-236-3523 or laraine.clardy@doh.wa.gov or Tory Henderson at 360-236-3522 or tory.henderson@doh.wa.gov

**Strategic Topic**

Maternal Child Health Block Grant 5-Year Needs Assessment Community Café
Kathy Estes and Marilyn Gisser

The Washington State Department of Health’s (DOH) Office of Family and Community Health Improvement is gathering information on the health needs and priorities of people in Washington. This needs assessment is part of the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant (MCHBG) under Title V of the federal Social Security Act. The MCHBG funds programs across Washington State that serve the following population domains: 1) women/maternal health, 2) perinatal/infant health, 3) child health, 4) children and youth with special health care needs, and 5) adolescent health. This work is also inclusive of fathers, kinship and other non-traditional caregivers.

A summary of the needs assessment will be part of the DOH’s application for the 2021 block grant. The needs assessment is conducted every five years and relies on a variety of data sources, including input from partners and stakeholders statewide and local health jurisdictions. These assessments help guide the direction of maternal and child health programs across the state in order to improve health for the people of Washington State.

MCHBG Five-Year Needs Assessment Fact Sheet (see Attachment #2)
PowerPoint Slides (see Attachment #3)
Open Mic

1. Share successes in your work on behalf of CYSHCN (ex: legislative session highlights)
2. Raise issues you are seeing/experiencing in your work on behalf of CYSHCN, group can offer ideas/resources/thoughts

Nutrition issue: gaps for nutrition and feeding issues for children being discharged from Neonatal Intensive Care; there have been quarterly meetings with lots of representation from different agencies. If you want to reach out, contact: Mari Mazon (see contact information above in attendee list).

Susan Atkins is retiring and will be celebrating in September. Tracie Hoppis from Yakima County Parent to Parent (P2P) is transitioning into the Washington State Parent to Parent Statewide Coordinator position in June.

Heather Milliren from Parent to Parent of Skagit County organized a sibling support program and this is shared across the state. The WA CYSHCN Program in partnership with PAVE supported the Parent to Parent program to develop community projects to work together to improve their organizational capacity. The P2P program has long been interested in the SibShop curriculum as a way to meet family needs around supporting siblings of CYSHCN. Heather organized a train the trainer workshop with the SibShop facilitator and offered the P2P local coordinators around the state the opportunity to become certified to offer this training in their own community. Many of the local counties were so supportive of the P2P offering this type of outreach that they provided additional funds to support the coordinators to conduct SibShop events in their community.

Children's Village is working on an adolescent transition plan with their local educational service district. At Yakima, Children's Village we have a new CEO—Laura Crooks! Laura comes to us from Seattle Children's Hospital.

Marsha Quinn is now the Co-Executive Director for Parent to Parent USA, along with her counterpart in Texas. Marsha was formerly a family navigator at Encompass NW, a neurodevelopmental center in North Bend, WA. Marsha is excited to co-lead the Parent to Parent USA organization.

Seattle Children's is presenting a Medicaid Center of Excellence for Autism Diagnosis training in southwest Washington. There are providers coming from all over the state to attend the training.

HCA starting dental managed care as of July 2019; for more information, go to: http://hca.wa.gov/health-care-services-and-supports/apple-health-medicaid-coverage/apple-health-dental-managed-care

The most recent information for the HCA-ABCD Dental program can be found at: http://hca.wa.gov/assets/billers-and-providers/abcd-dental-bi-20181001.pdf

Public Health Seattle King County (PHSKC) is experiencing some budget challenges in the next few years but not sure what the impacts will be. Children with Special Health Care Needs will be the same because of the MCHBG. PHSKC – Community Health Services, Parent Child Health Division has sent some information out to agencies and community partners about the upcoming changes. There will be program redesign to better meet the needs of our clients and this may include some staff reduction. If you are interested in more detail you can contact Sheryl Davis, PCH Program Manager at Sheryl.davis@kingcounty.gov. For more details, please see the Regional Updates (Attachment #1).

Parent Child Health (PCH) Division at PHSK provided training for the Public Health Nurses, Social workers and some Registered Nutritionist on Substance Use Disorders (SUD) and Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for women who are pregnant and Post-Partum. There were Providers from Evergreen Treatment Services, DCYF, Healthpoint and Swedish Addiction Recovery Services as well as staff from Public Health who presented. We will be providing the second part of this training on May 22nd which will focus on client centered care.

Linda Porter shared that her organization has been serving families through our Lifespan Respite Voucher program, getrespite@wapave.org. It is important to note that we are moving quickly through our available funding. Our CYSHCN program is full, but we have many slots available for individuals who have experience Traumatic Brain Injury. We continue to seek additional funding.

Teresa Cooper at HCA is working on assisting with discharge planning for clients who don’t have a home and is working on identifying housing resources community supports such as methadone treatment centers.

Paula Holmes from Seattle Children's shared a flyer around their transitions program. They were able to use this project as a way of obtaining stable housing for a family.
Melissa Charbonneau reported that Spokane Regional Health District will be participating in a cooperative effort with Bright Heart Health, Molina Healthcare, Providence, our Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) program, and WSU around opiates and outreach, & treatment. The Bright Heart Health Program, available throughout California, provides Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) services for addiction and opioid dependency via telemedicine. The program treats all addictions to substances, including opiates, alcohol, benzodiazepines, and methamphetamines. We are still in the planning phases of this work.

Melissa facilitates the Birth Outcomes Task Force meetings in Spokane and this group is made up of professionals from many community agencies. This group worked on the Weed to Know, Baby and You campaign (2017) that developed messaging around marijuana and pregnancy, marijuana and breastfeeding and marijuana and parenting/caretaking. This work has spurred much discussion around marijuana use and has been distributed across the country.

The Birth Outcomes Task Force has been very concerned about the Opioid issues impacting our communities and our nation. We have Nurse Managers from our local mother/baby units, DCYF representatives, a Nurse Midwife that works with much of this population, the counselor with our Opioid Treatment Program (or our methadone clinic), a social worker from a local hospital mother/baby unit, the manager of our Nurse Family Partnership program, and a Nationally recognized Neonatal Nursing Consultant that participate on this task force. We began work on drafting messaging for the pregnant women in our community that are on MAT around key messaging points that the group feels the women need to be aware of and that can hopefully, improve outcomes, reduce anxiety and improve collaboration efforts, education and care of these women. We have broken out into a work group and hope to have some educational materials to share by fall.

Open Doors for Multicultural families shared that families need to have access to qualified interpreters for IEPs. See Language Access Bill HB1130

**Medical Interpreter training resources**
These resources were developed at LEND/CHDD in collaboration with medical interpreters at UW Medical Center.

There is a training manual:

Two videos (part 1 and 2) at the bottom of this LEND resource page:

And some other handouts from another version of this training Kay Kopp did in 2017:
- [http://depts.washington.edu/lend/tools_for_family_communication.html](http://depts.washington.edu/lend/tools_for_family_communication.html)

If questions, please contact Kate Orville (orville@uw.edu) or 206-685-1279. (Please see Attachment #4 for training manual.)

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**Health Care Authority (the Medicaid agency)**

Teresa Cooper and Kevin Cornell

**Integrated Managed Care Update - North Sound** (Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties) region will roll out integrated managed care **July 1, 2019**. All 5 managed care plans will be present.

Here’s contact information for the plans –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amerigroup (AMG)</td>
<td>1-800-600-4441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Health Plan of Washington (CHPW)</td>
<td>1-800-440-1561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinated Care of Washington (CCW)</td>
<td>1-877-644-4613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molina Healthcare of Washington (MHW)</td>
<td>1-800-869-7165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Healthcare Community Plan (UHC)</td>
<td>1-877-542-8997</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Healthplanfinder update – Free Mobile App**
Individuals can use a free mobile app, WAPPlanfinder, to access their account at [www.wahealthplanfinder.org](http://www.wahealthplanfinder.org) and apply or renew coverage, report a change, choose a plan, and upload verification. Apple Health clients can also to use the mobile app to request a new ProviderOne card, or show a provider an electronic copy of their card. Here’s a link to the demonstration - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ka0Sg5uyHS4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ka0Sg5uyHS4).
Later this month Healthplanfinder will be updating the look and feel of the application so that it appears the same whether you are using a computer, tablet, or phone to access. Features will look a little different, but be even easier to use.

**Dental Coverage goes managed care – Starting July 1, 2019**

Apple Health recipients will be automatically enrolled into an Apple Health managed care dental plan. There will be no change to the scope of dental coverage. Three apparently successful bidders, Amerigroup Dental; Delta Dental; MCNA Dental, have had an initial readiness review by HCA. The letter informing all Medicaid enrollees of the change in dental services was sent in late March. (See Attachment #5 for a copy of the letter.) Enrollees will get more information in June, including which Dental Managed Care plan they have been assigned to, and how to change their plan if desired.

As always, feel free to reach out to Teresa or myself if you have other questions or concerns.

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**Kevin Cornell**  
CHIP Program Manager  
Office of Medicaid Eligibility Policy  
kevin.cornell@hca.wa.gov  
(360) 725-1423

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**Teresa Cooper, MPH, RN**  
Occupational Nurse Consultant  
Medicaid Compliance Review Unit  
Medicaid Program Operations and Integrity  
teresa.cooper@hca.wa.gov  
(360) 725-1392

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**Health Plans**  
**Amerigroup-Washington**  
Tonya Jensen  
www.amerigroupcorp.com  
[ Coverage Area Includes: All Counties except Adams, Chelan, Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Douglas, Ferry, Grant, Kittitas, Lincoln, Okanogan, Skamania, and Wahkiakum ]

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**Community Health Plan of Washington (CHPW)**  
CJ Bruner and Ashley Kleinjans  
www.chpw.org  
[ Coverage Area Includes All Counties except Clallam, Columbia, Garfield, Jefferson, Klickitat, Lincoln, Mason, Skamania, and Whitman ]

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**Coordinated Care**  
Sherry Bennatts and Azka Bashir  
www.coordinatedcarehealth.com  
[ Coverage Area Includes: All Counties except Clallam, Ferry, Kittitas, and Pend Oreille ]

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**Molina Healthcare of Washington**  
Cathi Sears  
www.molinahealthcare.com

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No new updates at this time.
UnitedHealthcare Community Plan gave a $50,000 donation to Boys and Girls Club of Washington for the Mental Health initiatives.

Seattle Children’s Hospital
Noel Rees and Paula Holmes
www.seattlechildrens.org

- Work continues to update and migrate content from the Center for Children with Special Needs' website (cshcn.org) to the Seattle Children’s website (seattlechildrens.org).
- Now that summer is around the corner, Seattle Children's providers and clinics are realizing the significant loss in not having an updated Summer Camp Directory to provide families of children with special needs. The Directory was a much used resource. There is nothing comparable to give parents who are working to find camp opportunities for their kids (and respite for their caretaking role).
- We continue to explore strategic opportunities to serve families with Children with Special Needs.

Medical Home Partnerships for CYSHCN and Their Families
Kate Orville
www.medicalhome.org

Staff Changes
- Amy Carlsen, RN, had her last day with MHPP and the UW LEND program April 2nd. We appreciate all she has done over the past decade for children and youth with special health care needs and their families and caregivers. We wish her well in her new clinical role as nurse with Seattle Children’s Neurodevelopmental Clinic. Amy's new job is part-time and will be a good fit as she also embarks on getting a master’s degree in nursing leadership.

Medicalhome.org Website
- Check out the new medicalhome.org website! We invite you to take a look and provide us any feedback about what would help you and your colleagues’ better care for vulnerable children and youth.

The Washington State Medical Home Partnerships Project for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs helps primary health care doctors and nurses, other health care providers, families and communities improve care for children and youth, particularly those with special health care needs, and their families. Project staff, in consultation with our funders and partners, identify and filter for you the best practical and current tools, strategies, and examples of local and state activities in Washington to help you strengthen:
  - The patient- and family-centered medical home
  - The “medical home neighborhood,” which includes specialty and community services
  - Developmental screening in primary care practices and early childhood settings

- Our goal is to help WA advocates for children and youth be able to find local and state partners and resources to improve local capacity, quality of care, and quality of life for all.
- An example of putting partner tips to immediate use is adding the new RideSourceNW Transportation hub tool WIN 211 told us about to the website on the Accessing Key Resources Page.
- Suggestions, ideas? Send them to Kate at orville@uw.edu.

AS3D Grant Autism Work
- Seventy-five plus enthusiastic primary care providers, psychologists and other clinicians have filled all the available spots for the Health Care Authority-sponsored Autism Center of Excellence (COE) Training in Vancouver WA April 26-27. The COE training will be led by Dr. Gary Stobbe and Jim Mancini from Seattle Children’s Autism Center as well as Dr. Patti Matestic from UW Autism Center- Tacoma. Amy Carlsen and Kate Orville have been helping with coordination for the training.
• There are still some spots left for the evening Continuing Medical Education dinner for providers the evening of April 25. RSVP to Patti Kilburn by April 18th for the dinner: Phone: (206) 987-5765; email: physician.relations@seattlechildrens.org (See Attachment #6)


• We helped the DOH CYSHCN program with some of the planning for the next cycle federal autism grant the CYSHCN program submitted. Kate will be participating as part of the WA team for the DOH Autism grant’s meeting with teams from Wisconsin, Delaware, and Rhode Island, in Madison, WI April 16-17.

Pediatric Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (P-TCPI)

Child Health Notes
• Child Health Notes are available on the medicalhome.org website under the tab Medical Home Topics ➔ Child Health Notes
• New issue this quarter: Early Intervention (See Attachment #7)
• Next issue: Accessing Special Education Services (available July 1)

Staff Changes
Amy Carlsen has left the UW medical home partnership and pursuing her Master’s in Nursing and working at Seattle Children’s.

Questions? Contact Kate Orville (orville@uw.edu) or 206-685-1279.

The Nutrition Training contract between the CSHCN Program, DOH, and CHDD-UW, provides training and technical assistance to registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs) that are part of the CSHCN Nutrition Network, and to Community Feeding Teams, as well as projects related to improving nutrition through medical nutrition therapy and feeding team services.

Nutrition Network (NN) Training and Development
1. Nutrition Network Webinar – This annual event took place Thursday, February 28, 2019 and was attended by 67 people total. We had speakers from the Seattle Children’s Motility Program present on pediatric gastric dysmotility, and a GI specialist from Mary Bridge Children’s Hospital present on pediatric constipation.
2. Nutrition Network Journal Club - This quarterly event took place Wednesday, March 6, 2019 and was attended by 17 Nutrition Network members. Journal club article was on “Baby-Led Approach to Complementary Feeding on Infant Growth and Overweight” and discussion was facilitated by a LEND long-term nutrition trainee.
3. Nutrition Network Meeting – This annual event is scheduled Monday, May 20, 2019 at the Mountaineers Seattle Program Center. Agenda topics include type 1 diabetes, dietary and medical management of seizures, oncology nutrition, presentations on LEND nutrition projects, and updates from WIC, HEAL, and the CSHCN Program.

WA Community Feeding Teams
1. Feeding Team Meeting - This annual event is scheduled Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at the Mountaineers Seattle Program Center. Agenda topics include developmental and relational considerations for children who struggle to eat, assessing fragile infant feeding, dietary and medical management of seizures, nutrition and feeding for cleft lip and palate, and updates from the CSHCN Program.
2. Telehealth Learning Collaborative for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and Restrictive Eating - Based on feedback from the training in contract year 2017-18, contract staff and the Seattle Children’s Pediatric Feeding Program identified one team to train during contract year 2018-19.
3. Washington State Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (CoIIN) to Advance Care for Children with Medical Complexity (CMC) - Mari Mazon has participated as the nutrition content expert on coaching calls and state team calls.

Questions? Contact Mari Mazon, MS, RDN, CD 206-598-3025 or (lilmaro@uw.edu) or Sarah Harsh (sbharsh@uw.edu).
• Dads and Kids event held in January at the Microsoft Store in U village. Xbox gameplay and virtual reality were the highlighted activities. Scheduled again for June 9th.
• Unexpected Journey workshop held in March for 11 people (6 men). Future workshops scheduled for June 8, October 5 and November 9.
• Telling Your Story with a Purpose Workshop (TYSP) was held in Mt. Vernon for 7 people. Two attempts were made to do this workshop in the Auburn/Lakewood area but were cancelled due to low registration. Future sessions are scheduled Spokane (April), Pullman (March) and Longview (June) and on dates still to be determined with PAVE and the ESIT P.I.E. program.
• A TYSP train the trainer was held in January for two people from Dads Move and one from the Exceptional Families Network.
• The members of the King County Cultural Accessibility Consortium meet with Sensory Access to discuss using their web platform to create the website we had discussed with consultants. An agreement was reached to use the existing platform and enhance it using funding from the consortium members. The website will be for the community as well as cultural organizations.
• Joined and attended a teleconference of the Communications subcommittee of the Participation and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities project. This is funded by the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute which is a collaboration of the University of WA, Temple University, Augusta University and the University of Pittsburgh. This was the initial meeting of the subcommittee and the focus was on selecting name, discussing the creation of a website and what it should contain and discussing what, if any, social media presence to have.
• Attended and assisted at the first of a series of workshops to be held in Seattle on creating access to the arts. This session consisted of a panel of individuals with a variety of disabilities discussing their experiences and wishes regarding access to cultural events. 100 people from cultural organizations in King County attended.
• Took part in two teleconferences of the WA Fatherhood Council. We have received a mini grant to survey fathers’ experiences with family support programs and state services. The teleconferences have focused on structuring the survey and the Council.
• The WSFN Facebook page was merged with the WA Dads (who no longer exist) page. This resulted in our followers going from 808 on March 17 to 2523 as of March 19.
• The Partnership for Fathers and Families effort has stopped. From a formal launch in June of 2016, with no budget, driven by volunteers; we managed to keep the Partnership alive for almost 3 years. In that time, we connected with 140 individuals from 102 organizations.
• The WSFN website was updated with changes to the home page, About Us section, Affiliates page, and the Events section.
• WSFN flyers have been updated.
• Attended and worked a vendor table at the Together We Can Conference in Kelso.
Work with the CoIIN Team
- Work with Seattle Children’s on family navigation strategies and manage stipends for the family participation
- Two PAVE employees under F2F work as family navigators and are working with Kate Orville to get a virtual family support group up and running
- Work with the Leadership Team on strategies for stakeholder involvement
- Work on National family workgroup to share Washington’s work with families.

Work with DOH CSHCN
- Continue work on the Steering Committee and work with group to pull together the annual in person meeting.
- Working with 3 Parent to Parent counties to support special projects and Statewide Parent to Parent to support annual training as a contractor with DOH
- Working with Lifespan Respite of Washington at PAVE assign and to manage the 10 Vouchers for families of CSHCN through DOH

Regional and Statewide FYSPRT
- Work with 3 counties on FYSPRT and WISE (Wrap Around with Intensive Services) and looking at WISE and behavioral health access for ASD.
- Hiring a youth mentor for the region
- Work at the state level around homelessness, SUD, out of home placement, respite, and family choice and voice in care from 13 to 18 to support youth who are significantly mentally ill.

Open Doors for Multicultural Families
Hodan Mohamad
www.multiculturalfamilies.org

No new updates at this time.

Washington Autism Alliance & Advocacy (WAAA)
Miriam Chilton
www.washingtonautismadvocacy.org

What’s New?
WAAA has a new Special Education Program Director, Katie Hurt. There are several current systemic issues that the Special Education Law Program at WAAA has identified and is working to address through education, outreach, legislation, and legal services.

Education
WAAA recently held its Spring Blueprints to IDEA, which provides education on the Washington State and Federal laws on special education to parents, guardians, and other interested individuals who assist students in special education programing. Over 50 people attended the Spring Blueprints event, and our Fall Blueprints to IDEA is scheduled for September 28, 2019.

Outreach
WAAA will begin working with other attorneys in the area to provide training and education in the area of special education law so that other attorneys may provide pro bono legal services to families in need.

Legislation
WAAA has been tracking special education bills this session. We have specifically been tracking Senate Bill 5091, Senate Bill 5532, and the recently released House budget. WAAA has reached out to members to encourage them to reach out to their senator and representatives on these bills.

Legal Services
Pro-bono work: WAAA continues to be a legal services provider, and Katie has been working to update the WAAA Special Education pro bono legal program and working with the Health Law program director, Debbie Dorfman, to create a low bono legal program which will have a sliding scale for payment of legal services. This will enable WAAA to continue to provide excellent legal services to economically qualified individuals and families, while expanding the number of individuals and families who will qualify.
WAAA will begin working with other attorneys in the area to provide training and education in the area of special education law so that other attorneys may provide pro bono legal services to families in need.

Systemic Health Law Program issues WAAA is addressing: include

- Advocating to stop DDA’s proposed amendments to the DDA Medicaid waivers, including the caps of $8000 annually to the CIIBS waiver
- Training and advocating for families and individuals dually eligible for private insurance coverage and Medicaid, to maximize the benefits of their private insurance by applying for and obtaining funding for deductibles, co-pays and other out-of-pocket expenses through the Premium Payment Program
- Legislative/policy advocacy to increase community-based services for people with ASD and/or IDD who have behavioral challenges in lieu of expanding institutionally-based alternatives such as mental health facilities or nursing facilities as currently proposed by SB 5431 and HB 1391
- Ongoing legal advocacy to address individual and systemic barriers to individuals with ASD and/or IDD who have been denied medically necessary services such as ABA, other neurodevelopmental therapies, and other needed services and supports.

**Successes**

WAAA recently held its Spring Blueprints to IDEA, which provides education on the Washington State and Federal laws on special education to parents, guardians, and other interested individuals who assist students in special education programming. Over 50 people attended the Spring Blueprints event, and our Fall Blueprints to IDEA is scheduled for September 28, 2019.

WAAA has trained over 200 DDA case managers during the first quarter of 2019 on insurance benefits for DDA and WAAA’s mutual clients, the Premium Payment Program, and how to make referrals to WAAA’s health law program for insurance navigation and legal advocacy.

WAAA has also trained numerous providers and families on the insurance rights of individuals and families and the benefits of the Premium Payment Program.

WAAA has also commented on the DDA proposed waiver amendments. DDA has subsequently put these proposed amendments on hold pending clarification from CMS.

WAAA has also continued to successfully advocate on behalf of individuals and families who have been unlawfully denied insurance coverage for ABA and other neurodevelopmental therapies as well as other related services. This advocacy has resulted in both individual remedies as well as some systemic remedies wherein insurance companies have changed their policies in order to comply with the law.

**Barriers**

WAAA has continued to receive numerous complaints from adults and families of children who have not been able to secure the needed community-based services. Consequently, many of these individuals have inappropriately ended up in emergency rooms for extensive periods of time—sometimes for months or even indefinitely. Others have ended up in other longer-term inappropriate institutional settings such as the state hospitals and nursing facilities—that are not equipped to provide the needed habilitative mental health treatment and neurodevelopmental therapies.

WAAA also continues have concerns about the lack of adequate community provider capacity, particularly with respect to Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA). Although the lack of sufficient provider capacity is a problem throughout Washington for children who are covered by private insurance as well as for those covered by Medicaid, the problem is particularly acute for Medicaid-eligible children and youth living in rural communities. WAAA has received numerous reports from its members and clients that due to the lack of qualified ABA provider capacity, children and youth are waiting for these medically necessary services for years.

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Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
Nicole Klein
Health Services Program Supervisor
[www.k12.wa.us/HealthServices/default.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/HealthServices/default.aspx)

Nicole is unable to attend but has provided us with the link to their most current Newsletter.

**Summary of Topics Included this Month:**
- Notice of Annual State Application for Fiscal Year 2019 Public Comment Period
• Indicator B-13 Data Collection Changes
• New Procedural Safeguards: Translations Coming
• Annual and Three-Year Renewal Application Reminder for Districts and Nonpublic Agencies (NPA)
• OSPI Special Education Monthly Webinar Schedule – Updated
• Spring Special Education Data Dives

State Needs Project Highlight
• Center for Change in Transition Services (CCTS)

Professional Development
• Free Professional Development (PD) Certificates for Teachers
• CADRE Webinar - Beyond Mediation and Facilitation: Exploring Early Resolution Options
• Oregon’s Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTII) Conference
• 2019 Infant Early Childhood Conference
• MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support) Fest East – SAVE THE DATE!
• WASA/OSPI Special Education Conference – SAVE THE DATE!
• Free Web Based PD on Autism for Early Childhood Special Educators
• FREE Course on Explicit Instruction from NCII (National Center on Intensive Intervention)

Tips from the Special Education Division: Reminders to the Field
• Responding to Parent Requests for School Staff to Recommend an Assistive Technology Evaluation for Students Eligible for Services Under the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)

News from Assessment and Student Information
• Educator Retooling Scholarship – Repeat

News from the Professional Educator Standards Board
• Watch the Recording of the Paraeducator Certificate Program
• Join the Paraeducator Board in Celebrating Progress of the Paraeducator Certificate Program
• ESA Certification Workgroup Recommendations
• Educator Retooling Scholarship – Repeat

News from Outside OSPI
• Now accepting applications: 2019 Youth Leadership Forum at Evergreen
• March is Brain Injury Awareness Month
• Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
• Drumming for Students with Disabilities
• Save the Date - April Lightning Talk Series Voices from the Field: The Arts and Autism!

Neurodevelopmental Centers (NDCs) Update
Jodi VanVleet, Children’s Therapy Center


Children’s Therapy Center (CTC)
CTC serves over 3,000 special needs children and their families a year at our four locations in Kent, Burien, Tacoma and Maple Valley. Our service area covers over 300 square miles and encompasses much of South King and Pierce counties. Our six early intervention teams provide home-based therapy and education services to children ages 0-3. Early intervention teams include speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, early childhood special educators, social workers and family resources coordinators who work together to meet the individual needs of each child and family. Center based therapy is provided at our Burien, Tacoma and Kent sites. Interdisciplinary teams include physical therapists, occupational therapists and speech/language pathologists. Individual therapy is family focused and centered around functional outcomes. Social skills, feeding, fitness center, and gymnastics groups as well as aqua therapy are also offered on a rotating basis for children and families.

UPDATES:
• We have a new partnership with Waterbabies pool in Renton and will be offering aquatherapy services again starting in April.
• We host Play and Learn community play groups each week in our Burien and Kent locations.
• We currently are providing Hannon, It Takes Two to Talk parent education courses at our Kent and Tacoma locations.
Many of our therapists participated in the Go Baby Go workshop recently in our area and after this course we hosted our own “build” party to build four “cars” (one for each of our sites) to use with children. Research has shown these adapted cars provide exploration, movement and cognitive and social opportunities for children with limited mobility.

CTC is dedicated to providing equitable services to all children and families. All of our staff have been encouraged to attend the foundational Equity Training course provided by King County and our Equity team presents and teaches at team meetings and staff meetings/trainings throughout the year. Our January all staff meeting included a training provided by Ginger Kwan from Open Doors for Multicultural Families.

UPCOMING:
CTC is hosting an Oral Motor/Feeding Workshop presented by Dr. GayLloyd Pinder at the Doubletree in Seattle on April 11, 12, and 13th. This class is full but we are keeping a waitlist to determine interest in providing an additional workshop in the near future.

Holly Ridge Center Infant Toddler Program
In February during the fun snow Holly Ridge opened another site in Bremerton, to serve additional children. The new location is on Kitsap Way in Bremerton, it is located on a bus route to help make it more accessible to families that may not have transportation. We had an open House and ribbon cutting ceremony on March 28th. It was well attended by various community members. Parents and staff love the new building and the location. We continue to serve approximately 400 children a month!

We recently hired an RBT in order to expand our autism program to serve more children. We are in the process of interviewing for an FRC.

We are having some issues meeting timelines, we suddenly have an influx of children we did over 70 intakes this month and processed 64 children. We are also looking for additional staff –we need an SLP, and an OT or a PT.

We have a group called “Little Singers”, one of our SLPS provides speech therapy services along with an SLP-A to a group of 4 children using singing to enhance and promote language development, parents participate in this group along with their child.

Our biggest challenge is finding staff to meet the needs of our area.

Kindering Center
Kindering, now in its 57th year, provides best-in-class therapies and special education for infants and toddlers with disabilities, delays, and other risk factors from sites in Bellevue, Bothell and Renton, and now in Redmond as well. These range from inclusive preschool programming and speech, feeding, and motor therapies to supporting young children experiencing homelessness or living in foster and kindship care, as well as a range of family support services for parents and siblings of children with special needs.

UPDATES:
- It’s official - we are expanding! Kindering Redmond is set to open for services in mid-April. Our campus is located at the Together Center in downtown Redmond. This is our 4th client-facing physical site. There will be an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony on April 18, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. If you’re free to take a peek at our new home, contact Alison Morton at alison.morton@kindering.org or by phone at 425.653.4331.
- We are currently hiring a Special Educator for our new Redmond campus. The role includes enhancing children’s development and learning environments through a combination of direct intervention, groups, and parent coaching. We are also hiring for several other positions, from administrative staff to direct service providers. See all openings at: https://kindering.org/get-involved/careers/.
- Kindering served over 5,800 children and their families in 2018. In 2019 we plan to serve over 6,000. Kindering continues to explore and employ scalable strategies, including teleintervention, to expand the reach and accessibility of our services throughout the communities we serve. We are working hard to ensure equitable outcomes throughout diverse populations.

UPCOMING:
April 17th, 2019 - Speaker Series: Toddler 101
Location: Verdant Health Commission 4710 196th St SW, Lynnwood
6-8:30 p.m.
Presented by Dr. David Reuter, Allegro Pediatrics
Your baby is growing and so are the number of questions you have as a new parent.
- How do I handle a tantrum?
- Why is my toddler not eating?
What are some successful sleep strategies?
How do I nurture self-control?

Parenting isn’t a practice, it is a daily learning experience. Hearing fresh ideas from a seasoned pediatrician will add confidence to your personal parenting style.

**Wednesday May 1st, 2019 (rescheduled from Feb 27th) - Planning for the Future: Guardianship, Special Needs Trusts & other Issues for Families**
Location: Kindering Bothell 19801 NorthCreek Parkway #200, Bothell
6-8:30 p.m.
*Presented by Matthew Parker, Thompson & Howle Attorneys at Law*
When children have a disability, it is crucial to plan for their financial future so that when they become adults they will have the necessary financial assistance to live independently and with dignity. Families will not have to worry about who will take care of their child if they are not there. This workshop will give an overview of what a special needs trust is all about, provide insights on guardianships, and identify a framework for families as they plan for the future.

**Wednesday May 15th, 2019 – Sensory Processing Workshop**
Location: Verdant Health Commission, 4710 196th St SW, Lynnwood
6-8:30 p.m.
*Presented by Alex Neukirch, Kindering Occupational Therapist*
Do you have a child who struggles to stay focused in crowded environments, stay calm in unexpected situations or transitioning at home or school? Join this evening to hear from a professional Occupational Therapist who will provide a variety of information and strategies to try with children having Sensory Processing challenges. During the evening you will also meet other parents who are facing similar behavior concerns. There will be ample time for questions. You are sure to come away with new ideas and a fresh perspective.

**Wednesday May 29rd, 2019 – Feeding a Toddler: Parent Tested & Pediatrician Approved- Tips for frustrated parents**
Location: Kindering Bellevue, 16120 NE 8th Street BELLEVUE
6-8:30 p.m.
*Presented by Dr. Richard Keeler, Allegro Pediatrics*
What foods are appropriate for a toddler? Why won’t my toddler eat? Should I purchase organic foods? Does my toddler need a vitamin or supplement? Figuring out what foods are right for toddler can be confusing. Actually getting them to eat those foods can be even more problematic. In this talk, we will cover which foods are ideal for toddlers, how to get them to eat that food and how to keep them safe at the dinner table.

Skagit Preschool and Resource Center (SPARC)
SPARC provides therapeutic and educational services to kids, age’s birth through 5 who have a disability. We also provide educational and emotional support services to their families. We serve about 150-200 kids each year in Skagit county.

SPARC is in need of space in order to expand all of our programs. We are simply bursting at the seams. In addition, we are hoping to restructure our programs/classrooms so that they can be housed under one roof. Having our staff spread out over several locations makes it difficult to have efficiency.

We have recently hired an Insurance Bill/HR specialist. We are still learning what’s needed to best support our staff and simplify the billing process for all involved. We hope to identify and implement an Electronic Medical Records program in order to streamline much of this process.

We are anxious to see how the changes in ESIT will impact us. Starting August 2019, SPARC is looking at an increase of kids served in this program with the potential of at least one local school district not qualifying to take on the ESIT contract. SPARC plans to provide services to the families residing in this district. Like everyone else, we are having to plan for this change without knowing what resources/funding will be available.

Overall, things are going well. I have a fantastic group of leaders providing exceptional services.

**Spokane Guilds’ School & Neuromuscular Center is now Joya Child & Family Development**
We’re proud to announce that the Spokane Guilds’ School & Neuromuscular Center is now Joya Child & Family Development!

The new name and brand are the result of a thorough and thoughtful process involving not just our staff, but also our boards and other key community members who support our children and families. Although our organization’s name has changed, our mission is the same: to provide the highest level of care to children with neuromuscular conditions.
changed, our commitment to providing comprehensive support to our children and families in the community remains the same—if not stronger than before.

Our new name, “Joya,” inspired by the word “Joy,” has roots which mean “jewel,” “gem” or “treasure.” To us, it is especially strong, because this is how we think of the children we serve. Each child is a person to be discovered, revealed and treasured—and cherished for unexpected beauty and joy.

We have a comprehensive messaging guide for sharing information about Joya Child & Family Development and our new brand.

In addition, we launched the new Joya Child & Family Development website. This new site provides information on the services we provide, volunteer opportunities, and the life-changing stories of the children and families we impact.

We'd like to personally thank you for your continued support of Joya Child & Family Development. We value your dedication in supporting our mission to help families thrive, so kids can thrive.

If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Conway at teresa.conway@joya.org or 509-326-1651.

**Toddler Learning Center**

Therapy, Education and Parent Support for children 0-36 months with developmental delays on Whidbey Island

[https://www.tlcwhidbey.org/](https://www.tlcwhidbey.org/)

**UPDATES:**

In collaboration with community partners (Pediatric Clinic, ABA Providers, School District, Parent to Parent etc.) we are offering a series of trainings for parents who have children with Autism.

We are gearing up to provide services in San Juan County as of July 1, 2019.

**NEEDS and OPPORTUNITIES:**

We are looking to hire an Infant Educator and a Social Worker, please see website below.

[https://www.tlcwhidbey.org/job-openings](https://www.tlcwhidbey.org/job-openings)

We have some difficulty hiring staff with an early childhood background.

**Valley Medical Children’s Therapy**

Our amazing staff was recently joined by two new OT’s and a rehabilitation aide. We are looking for an additional speech language pathologist. We are working on new collaborations with additional community partners in dentistry and fitness to further support our patients and families. We are offering a center based PEPS (Program for Early Parent Support) class. In addition, we offer a free art class Thursdays 12-1 and we have free events every other Friday with our First Responders—called the Friends Project. All information is on our website. [https://www.valleymed.org/childrenstherapy/](https://www.valleymed.org/childrenstherapy/)

We continue to have challenges with reimbursement with the shift to Medicaid Managed Care. We continue to seek ways to decrease barriers to funding and eligibility for services.

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**Staff Updates:** ESIT Data Manager **Susan Franck** has accepted a position as the Early Learning Management System (ELMS) Product Owner for the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP). Her last day on the ESIT team was March 29. While we are excited for Susan to have the opportunity to expand her vast skill set, we are thankful for the time we had with her. We want to thank Susan for the many qualities she has loaned to the ESIT team over the past several years: her exemplary work ethic, willingness to assist her colleagues and in particular, for the tremendous work she has done to improve the data system and development process.

We have had some movement within ESIT:

- **Val Arnold** is the new ESIT Deputy Administrator.
- **Tammy McCauley** has been promoted from her previous position as an ESIT Program Consultant to the Contracts and Compliance Manager.
• **Sue Rose** has been promoted from her previous position as the ESIT Family Engagement Coordinator to the Stakeholder Engagement Manager.

• **Jahla Brown** has been promoted from her previous position as Administrative Assistant to the Stakeholder Engagement Specialist.

ESIT have added four new staff members:

• **Sakada Buth** has joined us as a Contract Specialist.

• **Vanessa Allen** is now the Family Engagement Coordinator.

• **Tinunola Adelakin** is the new Administrative Assistant.

• **Michelle Baker** is the new Program Consultant for eastern Washington.

**ESIT staff recruitment:** ESIT is in the process of hiring a Data Coordinator, Data Manager, and a Tribal Program Consultant. Additionally, the most current list of Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) job postings at [https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/washington?keywords=dcyf](https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/washington?keywords=dcyf).

**Application for Part C of IDEA Funds:** Washington state has adopted policies and procedures to ensure public participation in the annual application for Part C of IDEA funds. Public participation notices will be published in a manner to ensure circulation throughout the state for at least a 60-day period, with a 30-day opportunity for public comment and public hearings, as appropriate, during that period.


An in-person public hearing is scheduled on April 15, 2019, from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. at DCYF, 1110 Jefferson Street SE, Olympia, Washington. The hearing will be held in Conference Room 130 on the first floor. Those intending to testify should arrive by 4:00 p.m., as the hearing will conclude once all testimony has been heard.

A virtual public hearing is scheduled on April 16, 2019, from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Those intending to testify virtually should connect at the start of the virtual meeting, as the virtual meeting will conclude once all testimony has been heard. We will send the virtual meeting log-on details in a separate announcement. For questions, please contact Laurie Thomas, ESIT Program Administrator and Part C Coordinator, at laurie.thomas@dcyf.wa.gov.

**State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Update:** Washington’s report on Phase III, year 3 of the SSIP was submitted on April 1. You can view the report and attachments on the ESIT website. The report includes an update on the activities and outcomes achieved in the past year with SSIP implementation sites. These activities include training from ESIT on social-emotional assessment, engaging families in the child outcome summary process, and writing functional outcomes. Providers attended training with Promoting First Relationships and received reflective supervision to use toward WA-AIMH endorsement. The report also includes plans for next year which include more in depth data analysis and a focus on sustainability.

**ESIT System Design:** The Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) is delaying the release of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) services for the 2019-2020 program year, at the request of DCYF administration.

This delay is due to required legislative action related to state apportionment of B-2 funding. The funding shift will require more changes than anticipated to the special education portion of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW 28A.155). Additionally, in order to meet ESIT’s goal of maximizing available resources for early intervention, DCYF will continue to engage in conversations about current and future special education (B-21) state appropriations. This may require DCYF to wait an additional program year to formally implement the funding shift from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to DCYF as requested in a joint letter from Superintendent Reykdal and Secretary Hunter to Governor Inslee earlier this year.

Pending final legislative and budget decisions, DCYF is prepared to move forward if necessary, with the current contracting mechanisms with existing local lead agencies for the 2019-2020 state fiscal year. This includes the distribution of federal Part C IDEA funding. State funding for 2019-2020 would continue to be provided through contracts with local school districts as described in local Early Intervention Service Plans and Interagency Agreements.

DCYF will continue to work with OSPI to find resolutions to potential challenges that will ensure continuity of services for infants, toddlers and their families.

Further details will be provided as more information becomes available.
Communication Network Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2019

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Laurie Thomas, ESIT Administrator, by phone at (360) 725-3516 or by email at laurie.thomas@dcyf.wa.gov.

**Family Resources Coordinator (FRC) Training:** The next FRC Professional Learning Community (PLC) is scheduled for June 18, 2019. The topic of the PLC will be transition planning and the transition conference. FRCs can register at [https://www.esd112.org/special-services/frc/](https://www.esd112.org/special-services/frc/).

**State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Vacancies:** The Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) is soliciting applications for appointments to the Washington State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families.

The SICC is mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C and established through the Governor's Executive Order 14-03. As such, the Governor appoints the members of the Council. Council members advise and assist DCYF in implementing the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) program per the federal requirements of IDEA Part C.

Applications are currently being sought for representation in the following vacancies on the Council:
- Service Provider
- Head Start
- Tribal/Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Parent Representative

Interested persons are encouraged to apply by completing the application on the Governor’s website. In the drop-down list, the SICC is titled “Infants & Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families.”

The Governor, DCYF, and ESIT are interested in assuring statewide representation of Washington's ethnic and geographical diversity on the SICC. Please share this information with others who may be interested.

If you have any questions about SICC membership, please contact Sue Rose, ESIT Stakeholder Engagement Manager, at sue.rose@dcyf.wa.gov.

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**DSHS, Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), Waiver Unit**

Kari Freer

- DDA waiver amendments scheduled for July 1, 2019 have been postponed due to comments received from the public and ongoing conversations with the Health Care Authority and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- The Individual and Family Services (IFS) waiver will be amended effective September 1, 2019. The amendment will remove the age 3 and older requirement for IFS waiver eligibility.

**DSHS / DDA, Medically Intensive Children’s Program**

Doris Barret

No new updates at this time.

**DSHS, Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Unit (FWB CCU)**

Autumn Wade and Amanda McCleskey

Fostering Well-Being (FWB) has several staffing changes. We are happy to announce our two new Team members. Amanda McCleskey who started in February 2019; she is our new Clinical Nurse Advisor. And Jesenia Stark who started in March 2019; she is our new Outcome Improvement Specialist.

**DSHS / ALTSA, Kinship Care and Lifespan Respite**

Hilarie Hauptman and Karen Fitzharris

www.dshs.wa.gov/kinshipcare

The Kinship Navigator Program (KNP), authorized by the Legislature in 2005, serves grandparents and other relatives who are raising children whose parents are unable to do so. Kinship Navigators from several program sites in Washington
are currently working with a team from University of Washington’s Partners for our Children, Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF) and the Department of Social and Health Services in a joint research evaluation effort through September 2020. It is funded by a two-year federal Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)/Administration for Children and Families (ACF) grant to demonstrate the positive impact Kinship Navigators have on stabilizing kinship children living with kinship caregivers and to help the Kinship Navigator Program gain Evidence Based status. Once the program becomes evidence based it will become eligible to receive a 50% match of federal dollars.

Free Recreational Passes are available to any grandparent or other relative raising a child(ren). Aging and Long-Term Support Administration received 2000 Woodland Park Zoo/Seattle tickets through their Community Access Program for use in 2019. In addition, two year passes are available at the Seattle Aquarium and one year memberships are available at the Pacific Science Center. Relatives can receive information and passes through their Kinship Navigator, Kinship Caregivers Support Program, along with seven Tribes involved with the Tribal Kinship Navigator Program (Yakama Nation, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Samish Indian Nation, Lummi Nation, Makah Tribe, Quileute Tribe and Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe) or from ALTSA Kinship staff, Rosalyn Alber, Kinship Navigator Project Manager, 360-725-3543 or Rosalyn.Alber@dshs.wa.gov.

For contacts to all Kinship Navigators, Kinship Caregivers Support Program, or support groups, please go to: https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/kinship-care-support-services

**Lifespan Respite Washington (LRW)**  
Linda Porter  
www.lifespanrespitewa.org

Lifespan Respite Washington continues to fill respite voucher requests, especially for certain target populations such as those with Traumatic Brain Injury of any age. All of the Department of Health, Children/Youth with Special Health Care Needs slots have been awarded. The repertoire of respite options continues to increase as the program unfolds. There is a simple online application process at this link: https://www.tfaforms.com/4694142. If you know of any respite provider agencies that could join our efforts in your community, please let us know at giverespite@wapave.org, or fill out the application at our website, www.lifespanrespitewa.org. This website also leads families to creative respite options, a table of public respite options in Washington State, https://www.lifespanrespitewa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/295/2018/10/WA-Respite-Care-Information-Grid-101818A.pdf, and flyers that can be printed off and given to families.

**WithinReach**  
José Villalobos  
www.withinreachwa.org

No new updates at this time.

**DOH Screening and Genetics Unit**  
Deb Lochner Doyle and Nini Shridhar  
www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/InfantsChildrenandTeens/HealthandSafety/GeneticServices.aspx

Discovered that Premera Health Systems in contracting with AIM specialties. There were issues with accessing genetic testing and counseling. Deb Doyle, DOH, worked with the genetic counseling providers and with Premera to solve issues and work on the backlog.

We are excited to share with you new resources on the importance of newborn hearing screening. As you know, it is important to find out if babies have hearing loss as soon as possible so that families and providers can give them the best possible support for developing language and communication skills.

The animated video [How Newborn Hearing Screening Helps Children](#) explains why screenings are important, how a hearing screen is done and how it benefits a growing child.

In [Family Voices About the Importance of Early Hearing Detection](#), Washington State families share stories of how they addressed their child’s hearing differences and offer advice on how to move forward.
A booklet on Hearing Tests for Children helps parents know what to expect before, during and after a hearing test. It's ideal for parents of a child who has not passed newborn hearing screens.

These are some of the newer resources on the WAEHDDI web page. The site includes several other brochures and links to resources.

To share these resources with your stakeholders use these links:
Video: How Newborn Hearing Screening Helps Children
Video: Family Voices About the Importance of Early Hearing Detection
Booklet: Hearing Tests for Children

To download these resources for posting on your website or to show to clients, use these links:
Video: How Newborn Hearing Screening Helps Children
Video: Family Voices About the Importance of Early Hearing Detection
Booklet: Hearing Tests for Children

Attachments

1. CSHCN Coordinator Updates by County
2. MCHBG Five-Year Needs Assessment Fact Sheet
3. MCHBG Five-Year Needs Assessment PowerPoint Slides
4. Medical Interpreting During Interdisciplinary Developmental Assessments of Children
5. 19-0013-HCA Dental Changes July 1, 2019
6. Providing Support and Care for Your Patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder Flyer
7. Child Health Note – Early Intervention Services

Next CSHCN Communication Network Meeting
Tuesday, July 2, 2019 (New date)
Creekside Two at Centerpoint Conference Room 309
20425 72nd Avenue South
Kent, Washington