

Early Intervention Task Force

Monday, June 26, 2023

12:00–1:00 p.m.

Minutes



1. Welcome and Introductions

Present: Cindy Aardema, Sue Miller, Sylvia Call, Diana Shope, Arley Hammons, Suzi Janasov, Kelly Brooks

2. Spotlight

- *Spotlight ideas:*
 - Presentations from various Agencies to share what they are doing & how
 - Data from other counties – what are their #'s of families/children served, increase year over year? Are other agencies seeing children with actual DX or more children “presenting” with Autism?
 - Transition from E/I to school (ODE) – how are various counties handling this transition?
 - Some agencies/counties serve children in Foster care from different counties- would be helpful if there is a Contact Roster for other counties, so it’s clear “who to call” when making a transfer from county to county.
 - Several reported “upticks” in E/I kids being served- most agreed that finding ways/opportunities to engage parent remains a challenge. Learning how other counties successfully engage parents would be helpful
 - Other Resources for Parents to engage (of course I shared all the Autism Connections offerings)
 - Are there true “upticks” in Autism diagnoses as it seems? What is best practice for collecting DATA about increased diagnosis’?

3. Around the Region: Program Updates

- RAAC
 - RAAC Update
- Autism Connections
 - ASGC Event Calendar: <https://www.autismcincy.org/events/>
- Group shared that Early Intervention is age 3 and under- funding through local dollars, DD dollars and Part C grant

The Regional Autism Advisory Council Early Intervention (RAAC EI) Task Force of Southwest of Ohio is committed to enhancing the resources, advocacy, education, and access to EI services for families with children birth to age three through networking, sharing updates, services, and training opportunities across the region.

- ODE begins at age 3- IEP written at age 3 collaborating with family & representative from the school district
- Some districts offer DD Pre-schools

4. Policy Updates

- House Bill 7 – recent E/I Eligibility changes?
- E/I merging with part of ODE @Federal level- current “budget freeze” is concerning.
- How will E/I service providers work with ODE going forward

5. Training & Events

Electronic copies can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/RAACflyers>

Please note you may need to copy and paste some links into a web browser

- [Children’s Theatre 2023-2024 Season](#)
 - The SpongeBob Musical – October 14-23, 2023
 - Narnia the Musical – December 9-18, 2023
 - Cinderella – February 17-26, 2024
 - Finding Nemo Jr. – April 20-29, 2024
- [Cincinnati Art Museum](#)
 - Sensory Saturdays
- [iFly](#)
 - All Abilities Night
- DDBP Outreach Calendar
- Noble Barber and Beauty – hosts monthly “The Gifted Event” haircuts for children ages 2-12 with any developmental, intellectual or physical disability. By appointment only. Book at <https://www.vagaro.com/vjcuts> 2915 Highland Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45219
- Other

6. Task Force Discussion

- Group agreed 4th Monday every *other* month still good cadence for meetings ; 12Pm – 1PM
- Group agreed 60 minutes instead of 90 (*feedback that “updates” from all counties during the meeting can take up more time than necessary- preference is for the county or agencies that have news/updates to share they be added as part of the Agenda*)

7. **Next Task Force Meeting**

- July 24, 2023 @ 12 noon
- Zoom info
 - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98146313857?pwd=YVdrVFpqMTFEUGlIWlgrdGd2dElzdz09>
 - Meeting ID: 981 4631 3857
 - Passcode: RAACEI