

**Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes Draft**  
**07.26.2019**

Council Members present: Leigh Anne Norman, Jay Isch, Olivia Lee, Jimmy Gore, and Dr. Cindy Volker.

EHDI Team Members present: Terri Ibieta, Danielle Mercer, Dr. Thira Choojitaroom, and Susannah Boudreaux

Guests present: Natalie Delgado and Rachelle Boudreaux

Chair Leigh Anne Norman called meeting to order at 12:13pm.

Review of Minutes: Jay Isch motioned to accept minutes from 4.12.19, seconded by Jimmy Gore. Minutes accepted.

EHDI Program Updates: Provided by Program Director Susannah Boudreaux. First update: Family needs assessment re: Deaf Mentorship Activities. 514 surveys sent to families. Responses will be analyzed by team by end of August and followed up with development of parent focus groups statewide. Focus group responses will be analyzed and a plan to support any needs identified will be developed. Second update: AAP conference in New Orleans, August 17-19<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Choojitaroom shared an overview of his presentation topics which included CMV-effects on newborns and Early Language Development and Deprivation in children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. Third update: finalized portions of the provider toolkit which includes physician fax, and family support information. Additionally, a rack card with screening and diagnostic protocols for physicians is in development. Fourth update: EarlySteps presentations in various regions statewide. Presentations focus on strengthening collaborations with family support coordinators in an effort to ensure all children are completing hearing screening follow up and diagnostics if needed. Fifth update: Program Coordinator Terri Ibieta shared the recent EHDI data related to screening, diagnostics and early intervention enrollment. Final update: Hands and Voices, family-to-family support upcoming activity at Rock n Bowl in Lafayette on August 25, 2019.

New Business: Audiologist Dr. Danielle Mercer presented information recently discussed in an EHDI Learning Community group about getting follow up for children who refer on newborn hearing screening and present with middle ear issues. Dr. Mercer shared a recap of the discussion and suggestions shared in the Learning Community with Council members and presented the data that she had recently analyzed along with a couple of case studies. Council members inquired as to the reasons behind the lack of follow up and Dr. Mercer shared the barriers encountered in counseling families and encouraging them to go for follow up. Discussion continued around strengthening the language in the physician fax/letters. A suggestion was made to include the phrase "developmental urgency" on the fax/letter. Dr. Mercer will continue her work in this area and do some plan, do, study, acts to test strategies for effectiveness.

Community Updates: No community updates

Meeting Adjourned: With no further business to discuss, Jimmy Gore motioned to adjourn, seconded by Leigh Anne Norman. Meeting was adjourned at 2:06pm.

Next meeting date is 10.25.2019 from 12pm- 2pm in Bienville, 628 North 4<sup>th</sup> St Baton Rouge La 70802 in room 173.