**MINUTES**

**STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF HEARING IMPAIRED INFANTS**

**Quarterly Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 28, 2012**

**DHH Laboratory Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room**

**Metairie, La 70001**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Staci Sullivan, Melinda Peat, Linda Frantz, Dorothy Rodriguez, Dr. Juan Gershanik, Dr. Thiravet Choojitarama, Dr. Evelyn Kluka

GUESTS PRESENT: Naomi Dedual, Kathy Hughes, Wendy Jumonville, Dwana Green, Terri Mohren, Christy Fontenot, Kay Darr, Mariah Ranko

The meeting was called to order by Melinda Peat at 10:13am. The minutes from the November, 15, 2011 meeting stood approved as corrected.

**Discussion**

**Advisory Council Meetings**:

Melinda asked for a discussion on which day of the week would work best for each of the council members. It was decided that the 3rd Tuesday of the month for May, August and November would work best. Dr. Gershanik asked if we could possibly get the meeting via teleconference for those members unable to attend. Melinda stated that that would be possible.

Melinda reported on the positions currently available on the Advisory Council. We possible have two parent positions available. Melinda reported that she has received notification of resignation from the council from the following members: Mikki Spence, Caroline Scholl and Suzanne Trahan. Angie Richard, parent, has not attended a meeting in a while, so she will possibly have to be replaced. Dr. Gershanik asked if the by-laws state how many meetings a member must miss to be considered resigned from the council. Melinda stated she would review that issue.

**Logo**

Melinda presented the new logo and distributed copies for each member to utilize for LA EHDI purposes.

**Reports**

**Web based database:**

Dwana Green reported that phase 1 has been completed and she has received a quote for phases 2 and 3, which will be combined. She is currently trying to negotiate that price, but once that is agreed upon, it will have to go to the budgeting committee and then the actual application will take approximately 10 weeks. Phases 2 and 3 will allow remote, electronic reporting and data access from LA EHDI stakeholders. The company that developed the new LEERS system, DBSysgraph, is also developing phases 2 and 3 which should reduce data accuracy issues once completed. They will also provide maintenance for the software. Dr. Gershanik questioned the HIPAA compliance as well as ease of use with this new system. Dwana assured him that it will be HIPAA compliant, although the protocols have not yet been developed. DBsysgraph will utilize a pilot test prior to statewide implementation to ensure compliance.

**LA EHDI website:**

Melinda announced the revitalization of the LA EHDI website and Kay Darr gave an overview of available documents on that website. Neomi DeDual asked if we would put the NCHAM powerpoint presentation on the website after presentation at the national meeting. Kay will talk to Jerome about that ability.

**Guidelines for non-compliant hospitals:**

Staci Sullivan reported that she met with Wendy Jumonville, Christy Fontenot, and Kay Darr regarding the development of some guidelines for hospitals which are non-compliant. She stated that she reviewed the DHH Health Standards Division in the meeting. Wendy, Christy and Kay utilized that protocol to develop a suggested guideline for non-compliant hospitals, which were passed out during the meeting. Neomi De Dual questioned whether LA EHDI has the regulating authority to impose these guidelines. It was clarified by the LA EHDI staff that these guidelines are merely an internal protocol for them to utilize for consistency.

**Guide By Your Side (GBYS):**

Mariah Ranko reported that there is a training March 23-24, 2012 in Alexandria, La in cooperation with the national GBYS organization. It is open to anyone on March 23rd and for parents of hearing impaired children on March 24th. Hands and Voices as well as PPEP and others involved in the area have been notified about the meeting. They are currently waiting on some funding from fiscal per Melinda. Neomi De Dual asked for clarification on what information GBYS offers regarding communication options. She also stated the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf regional services center are now offered as a home base for PPEP. Mariah stated that she has a list of regional resources for anyone who needs them. Melinda stated that she would like to have Neomi on the agenda for one of the next meetings to report on resources available through the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf.

**Presentation:**

LA EHDI staff members, Wendy Jumonville, Christy Fontenot and Kay Darr, as well as Dr. Choojitarma presented the powerpoint presentation that they will be presenting at the national EHDI conference March 6, 2012.

Dorothy Rodriguez stated that she has a short presentation she would like to share by email. Melinda stated that if Dorothy sent it to her she would ensure that the members would receive the link.

**Next Meeting:** May 15, 2012

**ADJOURNMENT**

Melinda motioned to adjourn at 12:00pm and it was seconded by Dr. Gershanik.