

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

CD/ED Task Force Meeting Notes

July 10, 2009

Members Present

Jill McElyea	Judy Owen	Selina O'Shannon	Sandra Osborn
Renee Valletutti	Kathy Henderson	Susan Gold	Enrique Escallon
Michele Polland	Jordan Knab	Lillian Sigler	

Members attending by Phone

Jacky Needelman

Members absent

Sally- Golden-McCord (new resource member)

Guest

Sheryl Madison Janet Chapman Carrie Culbertson

Staff Present

Allison Cruz-Mitchell Bonnie Newsome

I. Call To Order & Welcome

Quorum was established and Kathy Henderson called the meeting to order at approximately 10:10 am. Kathy welcomed everyone to the meeting and Jordan Knab, (Project 10: Transition Education Network Director- new resource member) introduced himself to the task force members.

II. Approval of Minutes - The 4/03/09, CD/ED Task Force Meeting notes and the 5/15/09 interim conference call notes were reviewed. The following corrections were identified:

- i. On the 4/3/09 meeting notes, change all references of "day care" to Early Care and Education (see item IV).
- ii. Correct the full name of FDLRS to "Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources Systems (FDLRS) Associate Centers".

MOTION: Enrique Escallon motioned to approve the 4/3/09 and 5/15/09 task force notes with the noted changes and Sandy Osborn seconded the motion; motion carried.

III. Budget Review

Allison Cruz-Mitchell provided an overview of the task force budget. Mrs. Cruz-Mitchell indicated that the CD/ED budget is in good shape. She also informed the task force that by September 2009 Council meeting, 95% of 2009 funds have to be obligated. Currently, the task force has 64% of the 2009 funds obligated. The projects that are unobligated (\$106,051) are:

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| 1. Special Education & Advocacy Workshop | \$19,815 |
| 2. Survey- Children with disabilities in early childhood settings | \$20,000 |
| 3. First Steps Postage & Storage | \$2,019 |
| 4. YMAD (If this project is cancelled, these funds need to be re-committed into another project) | \$50,000 |
| 5. Travel | \$ 14,217 |

By the September Council meeting, 50% 2010 funds have to be committed. Currently the task force has 53% of the 2010 funds committed. There were not action items under the budget category.

IV. Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas presentation on project PIECE (Program for Inclusive Early Care and Education)- Carrie Culbertson, Janet Chapman and Sheryl Madison, presented to the task force on the status of the project. The purpose of the project is to create effective inclusive settings for early care and education environments. The settings are to provide opportunities for children to increase social skills and language through interaction with typically developing peers and gain a better understanding of the world around them. To allow children with disabilities to experience a more complex environment that stimulates developmental progress. The Project Model- A system of inclusive learning in collaboration with other community agencies and program including: Early Steps, Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource Services, Pinellas County Health Department. The framework of the model included: training, coaching, mentoring and mutual learning between participants.

V. Review and Action Items

- a. You Make a Difference-** staff informed the task force members of the You Make a Difference advisory committee recommendation to retire the You Make a

Difference Award program, at this time. There was a consensus from the advisory committee members that the award program may better be suited to be an outcome of the Implementation of Universal Education Practices (a new CD/ED project).

MOTION: Michele Polland made a motion to accept the recommendation of the YMAD advisory committee and use the funds originally targeted for the You Make a Difference Award project on another initiative. Judy Owen seconded the motion; motion carried.

b. Printing Publications – task force member reviewed a request for funding application to reprint/purchase the following publications:

1. First Steps publication
2. Special Education Law- 2nd Edition (Wrightslaw)
3. From Emotions to Advocacy (Wrightslaw)
4. ESE Rules “Red Book”

These resources would be readily available to individuals with disabilities, their families and advocates upon request.

MOTION: Judy Owen made a motion to approve up to \$43,000 for the reprinting/purchase of the publications. Jill McElyea seconded the motion; motion carried.

Michele Polland requested to work with April Katine on accessing permission to re-print the ESE rules book. Michele Polland also, recommended that in lieu of printing the entire ESE Rules book (appx 300 pages), staff can pull down and print specific ESE Rules from the Florida Administrative Weekly.

c. ELC Pinellas- task force members discuss the continuation proposal to fund this initiative a 3rd Year. Based on the presentation made and the continuation proposal the following stipulations were identified:

- i. As part of year 3, expand training to another community (preferably a rural community)
- ii. As part of year 3, explore the interest/commitment of other ELC’s for future expansion of this initiative.
- iii. In the budget section, clarify the amount of fringes indicated in the proposal

- iv. Work with Amanda Moore and Expanding Opportunities to expand this initiative to other early care and education settings
- v. Present at state meetings of Inclusive Specialists and ELC Directors
- vi. Collect data of preschoolers who feed into schools using Positive Behavior Supports
- vii. Clarify the supports that are in place for preschoolers entering public schools

The requested amount for year 3 is \$75,000, the task force discussed adding additional funds to cover the expenses to expand training to another community.

MOTION: Sandy Osborn made a motion to approve up to \$85,000 with a budget justification (for the additional \$10,000); Enrique Escallon seconded the motion; motion carried.

- d. **Inclusive Recreation-** the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association (provider) submitted a continuation proposal for a Year 3. The proposal was not provided timely and thus the task force members did not have adequate time to review. As such this continuation proposal will be reviewed at the next interim conference call on August 21, 2009.

VI. State Plan Goals

Allison Cruz-Mitchell reviewed the progress towards CD/ED’s state plan goals. It was noted that the chart needed to be updated to reflect the amended language of the state plan goals. Additionally, in the “projects or strategies” column, “ELC” needs to be deleted from ED Objective 1.1

- VII. Partners in Planning-** Jill McElyea provided an update on the work the stake holder group is undertaking. Three areas of focus have been identified (Stabe and nurturing families, healthy children, and Quality Early Learning Experiences) with corresponding goals and strategies.

- VIII. Legislative Priorities-** Task force members discussed legislative issues and identified on the following priorities:

- i. Restraint and Seclusion Guidelines
- ii. Part C funding (concern for long term funding)

Task Force members identified the following issues should be on the “watch list”:

- iii. ESE Guaranteed Allocation
- iv. John McKay Scholarship

MOTION: Renee Valletutti made a motion to approve the legislative priorities identified and the issues on the “watch list”; Enrique Escallon seconded the motion; Michele Polland abstained from voting; motion carried.

IX. Project Updates

Michele Polland assisted Allison Cruz-Mitchell with the review of the notes from April Katine of the State Advisory Committee (SAC), Special Diploma and Statewide Assessment updates. Allison Cruz-Mitchell reviewed the current projects with the task force. The task force discussed a concern with the Due Process/504 white paper project. The provider, Mark Kamleiter, has not submitted all the requirements for deliverable 3 (even when granted an extension/amendment). The task force requested for a letter to be sent to the provider informing him of the deadline to submit a completed 3rd deliverable.

X. Council Projects Approved – task force members were provided with a chart of all the projects that were approved at the June 2009, Council meeting. The chart provided a brief description and funding amount of all projects approved.

XI. Life Experience scholarship opportunity – Jill McElyea provided an update on the four recipients of the scholarships:

1. Elyse (Central Florida)
2. Frank (Boca Raton)
3. Jacquelyn (Jacksonville)
4. Daniel (Jacksonville area)

XII. New Business

a. State Advisory Committee- Enrique Escallon indicated that an alternate was needed for the SAC to attend SAC meetings when Mr. Escallon is unavailable. Judy Owen was identified as the SAC alternate.

b. Child Screening- Susan Gold requested for the task force members to review and discuss at the October 9, 2009 task force meeting, the child screening report (Child Screening for Developmental, Health and Environmental Information) and recommendations.

c. **August 21, 2009-** the following will be discussed at the interim conference call:

1. Part C Funding- update from Sally Golden-McCord
2. Inclusive Recreation Request for funding continuation proposal
3. ELC Pinellas- budget justification for additional \$10,000
4. Update on Due Process/504 White Paper

d. **October 9, 2009-** the following will be included on the 10/9/09 task force meeting agenda:

1. Dean Vivian Fueyo- College of Education at USF- St. Petersburg- to discuss the colleges of education process to change criteria of programs for special education accreditation
2. Inclusive Recreation presentation
3. Child Screening- discuss recommendations from report (Child Screening for Developmental, Health and Environmental Information) and consider the Health Care/Prevention task force efforts towards an initiative on child screening. (Kathy requested for staff to develop 2-4 concepts that CD/ED and HC/P can collaborate on for potentially a child screening initiative.)

Without further business to discuss, Kathy Henderson motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:07 pm.