

**Integrated Training Collaborative
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2007**

Members Present:

Nancy Bailey	Heidi Faustini	Cori Hill	Mary Voorhees
Deana Buck	Adrienne Frank	Jaye Harvey	Lynn Wiley
Carol Burke	Alana Groshong	Dianne Koontz Lowman	

1. Welcome, Announcements, and Celebrations-Members introduced themselves.

- Jaye is able to join us because she is on spring break!
- Heidi will be celebrating her birthday on Saturday. Happy Birthday, Heidi!
- The Creating Connections is OVER (YIPPEE!) and we all think it was successful!

2. Interagency Updates

- The Shining Stars conference will be held July 11-13, 2007 in Virginia Beach. The keynote speakers are Steve Bagnato, Cindy Pitonyak, and Kristie Pretti-Fronczak. Registration is available through T/TAC online.
- The New Horizons conference will be held May 17, 2007 in Abingdon. The keynote speakers will be Mark Lester, LPC, and parent who will present on family involvement. Dr. Adolph Brown will also present on critical thinking skills and positive language.
- Deana reported that the Partnership is writing a grant through Frank Porter Graham at UNC that will be awarded to four states this year. The grant is for long term technical assistance to serve children with disabilities in childcare settings, Head Start, churches, etc. We have great collaboration through the Governor's office, Part B, Head Start, and numerous other groups.

3. Subcommittee Updates

1) Curriculum Review

a) Kaleidoscope I and II-Cori reported that the third and final KI training for this grant year was held in Abingdon on March 29th and 30th. There were eighteen participants registered for the session. The final day will be conducted on April 24th. KII is scheduled for April 30th and May 1st in Portsmouth. Fourteen service coordinators are registered for the training.

b) Autism-Cori reported that at the recent KI training she spoke with Katy McCullough who is one of our KI trainers but is also a NECTAC consultant, sharing information about our Communities of Practice in Autism grant. Katy consulted with the NECTAC consultant who specializes in autism and requested her recommendation for a consultant. Dr. Maureen Conroy has recently relocated from Florida to VCU and she has been highly recommended from NECTAC, Carol Schall and several other sources. It was agreed that Cori would contact Dr. Conroy and see if she was interested.

There was some discussion/concern that the one day full session could only accommodate 200 participants. Questions were raised regarding how registration

would be handled (i.e., first come, first serve basis, limited number of registrations per council, etc.) A discussion also took place regarding how the Communities of Practice Leaders (CPLs) would be selected for each region. It was suggested that there be a short application process. Following these discussions, the following members agreed to assist in the planning:

- ◇ Adrienne
- ◇ Carol
- ◇ Dianne
- ◇ Alana

c) System Managers Training-Mary Ann Discenza agreed to move this training to the fall. As a collaborative process with the local system managers, Cori, Bev, Beth, and Bonnie Grifa will be meeting with CoCoA steering committee members to develop an agenda for the training. It is our hope that the ITC will facilitate the training and Part C staff members and system managers will provide the training.

2) Conference Review Meeting Update-The conference committee met prior to this meeting. Overall, we believe the conference went exceptionally well with no major snafus.

Successes:

- Strands were better organized
- Conference was “geared” towards families as well as providers

Things We’d Like to Improve for Next Year:

- Still discouraged by the registration numbers for family members
 - ❖ Consider incentives for EI programs that bring a family member
 - ❖ Consider family scholarships
 - ❖ Re-establish the conference fund for families-any onetime funds??
 - ❖ Offer a stipend for families
 - ❖ Advertise through providers, ARCFIP
- Registration at hotel desk was not smooth for some
- Some mentioned they were tired of the Hotel Roanoke-is it time to relocate?
- Make the EI awards more subjective so that there are actual assignments of numeric “points” to each nomination and the recipient has the highest points.

Things We Want to Change for Next Year:

- Fees for presenters:
 - ❖ If only participating for their concurrent session, NO CHARGE
 - ❖ If attending full conference, ½ cost of conference fee
- Include conference registration form in presenters’ acceptance letters so they register for conference.
- Include deadline for conference refund on brochure.

4. Grant/Budget for Next Year-Cori reported she and Deana were still working with Mary Ann Discenza to develop the grant for next year. The original grant that we submitted was too high and we have had to amend it. We are looking at reducing the number of KI and KII trainings as the number of participants has been low. We hope to focus on more web

trainings, the autism project, personnel issues, etc. Cori will have more information at the July meeting.

5. Personnel Shortage Issues-Mary reported that she often gets information from various universities regarding positions or opportunities for students. There is not a central location or person that can pass this information to EI personnel. Cori agreed to share this information with local system managers. It has also been noted that the local system managers contact information was not available on the Part C website. **Update: The local system managers contact information is now posted on the Part C website under: Information for Providers.**

6. Other Business-none

Next meeting: Monday, July 2 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. (location to be announced)

Thank you for dedication to EI!