

Committee Reports for the September 13, 2000 VICC Meeting

LOCAL REGIONAL DIRECT SERVICES (LRDS) COMMITTEE

The committee explored the possibility of an endorsement by the Department of Education (DOE) for the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Linda Bradford will follow up on this request with Doug Cox when the review/revision of the Part B regulations is completed.

The committee recommended a change in the original plans for piloting the IFSP. Since the IFSP form is to be used statewide now, members recommended that feedback be solicited from all localities after the form has been in use for several months and annually after that. (This recommendation was shared with the Early Intervention Interagency Management Team; EIIMT members supported this recommendation).

Committee members met in June to begin to develop a set of sample outcomes for training purposes. Also, the Virginia Babies Can't Wait! consultants are developing plans for follow-up training on the IFSP and especially on outcomes.

LRDS members present at the June meeting stated that they would prefer that state funds be spent on translation of the IFSP rather than on providing IFSP forms on NCR paper.

A subgroup of the committee has served in an advisory capacity to a JMU student who is doing research on assessment in early intervention. Surveys have been distributed to council coordinators. The information gained through the surveys will be used in conjunction with information from other states and information from the literature in order to determine if specific guidelines or recommendations should be made for specific tools or methods for evaluations and assessments for infants and toddlers in Part C.

Other projects to be pursued by the LRDS committee include development of guidelines for child records (progress notes, location of files, etc.) and review/revision of the Transition technical assistance document (in 2001).

Submitted by Beth Tolley, Virginia Babies Can't Wait and Brenda Crockett, Co-Chair

PUBLIC AWARENESS COMMITTEE REPORT

The public awareness committee met with representatives from the Miles Agency and Campbell and Co. to review the posters and the proposed new name for early intervention. The posters were exceptional. After input from the committee, Campbell and Co. was going to field test the posters and the proposed name change with a culturally and economically diverse group. The public awareness committee had a phone conference to discuss the results of the survey. It was proposed that we go with two posters initially with two to follow in a year if it is feasible. More testing with families on the name change was recommended. The testing is to be completed by September 5th. The committee will meet on September 7th to review the results of the data and to select a proposed new logo for the state. A presentation by the Miles Agency and Campbell and Co. is planned for the VICC meeting on Sept. 13, 2000.

Submitted by Christa Shifflett, Co-Chair