

Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council**December 8, 1999 Meeting****Early Intervention Interagency Management Team****Report**

The Early Intervention Interagency Management Team (EIIMT) meets every month in the ninth floor conference room of the Part C Office in the Jefferson Building. The next EIIMT meeting is scheduled for December 9, 1999 at 1:30 p.m.

- ***EIIMT Meeting Dates for the Year 2000.*** The EIIMT will change its meeting dates for the Year 2000. The EIIMT will meet the third Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. starting January 19 at 1:30 p.m. at the same place, the Part C Office. The meeting dates were changed so that the Chair of the VICC could participate in meeting discussions.
- ***Part C Ability-to-Pay Issue.*** The EIIMT small subgroup has visited several localities in order to better understand the scope and specific issues related to ability-to-pay. Several additional visits are scheduled in December. Each locality that is visited will receive a summary of the meeting discussion and will have an opportunity to add to the summary. After the visits are completed, the information from each meeting will be compiled (without identifying information) to provide further information to the members of the EIIMT, the VICC and the Early Intervention Agency Committee (EIAC).

At the October 14 meeting, the EIIMT appointed a special work group to design a process and develop recommendations for a mechanism to collect information about the potential fiscal impact of exempting special instruction, respite, and transportation services from fees.

An Ability-to Pay meeting was held November 2 to discuss interpretations and use of the findings of the family survey data. ODU researchers, DMHMRSAS researcher, an independent economist, ATP members, EIIMT representatives and several BCW staff members attended the meeting. During the meeting, further analysis was done of the responses from the 422 families who pay fees. 31 families indicated that they chose not to receive some or all services because they were beyond affordability. These families were from 14 localities and represented a range of economic levels. The meeting participants agreed that ***given the geographic and economic variations of the 31 families, the choice to not receive services because they are beyond affordability could be a systemic issue.***

Shirley Ricks reported at the November 18 EIIMT meeting that the DMHMRSAS Deputy Commissioner is leading an internal group that is carefully reviewing DMHMRSAS policies and state and federal regulations to determine if any of the DMHMRSAS policies are in conflict with the Part C regulations. After this initial determination, the group will be expanded to include representatives of other state agencies, families and providers.

- ***Part C Ability-to-Pay Questions.*** From information gathered from local site visits on ability-to-pay, the EIIMT has identified a number of questions that require legal guidance. On behalf of

the EIIMT, the Commissioner of DMHMRSAS has forwarded these questions to the Office of the Attorney General.

- **Joint Legislative Subcommittee Studying Early Intervention for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities.** A November 16 meeting of the Joint Legislative Subcommittee was held and the next meeting is scheduled for December 10 at 2:00 p.m. in the 6th floor conference room of the General Assembly Building.
- **Part C Budget.** At the November 18 meeting of the EIIMT, possible revisions to the current year's budget were discussed. A proposed budget for next federal fiscal year was developed. The proposed revisions and the proposed 2000-2001 budget will be presented to Agency Heads at the December 16 Early Intervention Agencies Committee meeting.
- **Charlottesville Request for EIIMT visit.** An EIIMT visit is being arranged with Charlottesville.
- **Council Coordinators Association of Virginia (CoCoA).** Mary Ann White and Carol Granger attended the October 14 and November 18 meetings of the EIIMT. The EIIMT was invited to attend the November 5 meeting of CoCoA in Charlottesville.
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Respectively Submitted,

Elisabeth B. Hutton, PhD, RN

Chair, EIIMT

December 8, 1999