

The Nebraska Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program

Advisory Committee Meeting

October 5, 2023

Meeting Minutes

12:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Nebraska Public Media

Attending:

<u>Members</u>		<u>Staff</u>
Jessica Anthony		Angel Sumpter-McFarland
Jonathan Arteaga	<u>Guests</u>	Judith Obodougo
Laura Beshaler	Arlene Gunderson	Stacy Luther
Katie Brennan (Vice Chair)	Cassie Garner	
Heather Gomes	Melissa Henry	
Shelli Janning	Ashley Wulf	<u>Newborn Screening Staff</u>
Kristin Jolkowski		Jill Chance
Ashley Kaufman		Krystal Baumert
Sara Peterson		Krizia Sanoy
Stacie Ray (Chair)		
Joanna Webster		<u>Interpreters</u>
Anne Thomas		Ben Sparks
Merry Spratford		Roxanne Petersen
Colleen Richart		
Kelly Rausch		

1. Welcome and Introductions

Stacie Ray, Chair for the Nebraska Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (NE-EHDI) Program Advisory Committee, welcomed all Committee members, staff, and guests.

Meeting start time - Committee Chair, Dr. Stacie Ray, called the meeting to order at 12:38 p.m.

Chair Stacie Ray presented the Open Meeting Act at the beginning of the Advisory Committee Meeting.

2. Review of Agenda, changes

There were changes to the meeting agenda due to one of the presenters' absences.

3. No Review of May 2023 Minutes & Motion

The Meeting Minutes from the May 2023, NE-EHDI Program Advisory Committee meeting were not distributed due to no meeting was held on that date.

4. Program Update and Action Items

Angel Sumpter-McFarland, Program Manager for the NE-EHDI program updated the committee on changes to the membership roster, and welcomed new members & staff who are attending in person for the first time:

Angel directed committee members to review the handout that details the current NE-EHDI Funding and requirements from the three sources of funding for the NE-EHDI Program: HRSA, CDC, & MCH Title V Block Grant.

She also shared information about current family support agreements with Nebraska Hands & Voices, HearU Nebraska, and Boys Town collaborations, and updates on current NE-EHDI projects including expanding capacity to support hearing screening, diagnosis, and EI for those infants who pass a newborn hearing screening but later develop hearing loss up to age three. Angel asked for other ideas of entities other than Early Head Start programs, pediatric audiologists, ESUs, PCPs, and licensed daycares who may conduct hearing screenings for early childhood ages up to age three.

Angel shared an update on implementing a statewide Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) Mentor/Role Model/Guide Program. She asked if anyone on the committee had anything that they wanted to add or ask about the work done so far on the program.

The DEI-A partnership evaluation needs assessment & advisory council recommendations and the initiatives with Merry from BTNRH per the handouts.

5. Additional Specialty Programs Updates

Judith Obodougo, Community Health Educator Sr. for Nebraska EHDI updated the committee on the status of the additional project (EHDI Conference-parents scholarship, Hospital Champions/Pledges, Congenital Cytomegalovirus (cCMV) Awareness Materials on the website, Newsletters update and Parent Scholarship to the EHDI Conference in 2024.

6. NE-EHDI Statistics

Krystal Baumert, Newborn Screening Program presented information on EHDI 1-3-6 statistics, and hearing screening statistics, as detailed in the handouts.

7. Hands & Voices Update

Stacy Luther, Nebraska Guide By Your Side (GBYS) Program Coordinator and Community Outreach Coordinator for the NE-EHDI Program shared an update on EHDI follow-up and Nebraska Hands & Voices family support events as detailed in the handouts.

8. HearU/Hearing Aid Bank Update

Stacie Ray, UNL Professor and HearU President presented information on the HearU financial criteria for receiving hearing aids, and the current HearU statistics, as detailed in the meeting handout.

9. Presentations

Arlene Gunderson- Director of the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Colleen Richart- Nebraska Association of the Deaf Program Coordinator/Parent/Advocate/Advisor
Merry Spratford- Boys Town National Research Hospital

10. Other/New Business

There were Nominations for the open spots on the Advisory Board, and other items to discuss on the advisory members' position distributions as well as the balance in the field and areas that are represented in the meetings. Four new members were voted in to join the advisory meeting there are.

- Melissa Henry
- Cassie Garner
- Arlene Gunderson

- Ashley Wulf

The motion was voted in by Jonathan Arteaga and seconded by Kristin Jolkowski

11. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sara Peterson, seconded by Merry Spratford, and unanimously approved by the committee members. The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

12. 2024 Meeting Dates

- May 9th, 2024, in Omaha
- October 10th, 2024, in Lincoln

Respectfully submitted by Judith Obodougo, Community Health Educator Senior