

# Early Language Working Group (ELWG)

## Minutes

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind Library

**Early Language Working Group Members in Attendance:** Jennifer Clark, Christie Chadwick, Carole Duran, Dale Matsumoto-Oi, Coleen Momohara, Darci Singlehurst, Po Kwan Wong. **Facilitator:** Keiko Nitta

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
<b>Welcome/ Introductions—</b>	Group welcomed.	
<b>Minutes Review</b>	Group reviewed January 8, 2019 minutes.	If people have edits, please send to Keiko.
<b>Discussion of ELWG Minutes and Protocol</b>	A request from the Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind was received asking for all the minutes from previous ELWG meetings. The group needed to have a discussion on the sharing of minutes and protocol of how to bring on new members, whether and how to share legislative updates, and how the group makes decisions. The group thought it would be okay if the minutes are in a pdf form so that it cannot be manipulated. Group agreed that the DOH website would suffice to store documents but when the Comprehensive Services Center (CSC) develops the online resource, materials could also be posted there.	Keiko to update the website and post pdfs of minutes.
<b>Legislative Updates</b>	Group decided that it would be okay to share legislative updates and to use the ELWG as a listserv to get information out to members. Currently there are several bills that may have an impact for families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HB1009 Motion Picture Theater Accommodation; Closed Captioning requiring a movie theater to provide at least two</li> </ul>	Facilitator will forward legislative updates as they come in.  May need to ask Debbie Jackson who works for the Disabilities Communication

	<p>showings per week per movie offered with open movie captioning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HB 1017/SB 1243 Amends the Newborn Hearing Screening statute to mandate reporting of diagnostic audiologic evaluation results to improve hearing follow-up of infants and to update definitions and terminology.</li> <li>• HB 469 Requires health insurance policies and contracts to provide coverage for the cost of hearing aids for each hearing-impaired ear every thirty-six months in their base plans.</li> </ul> <p>As part of the recommendation from ELWG, DOH submitted a request for another position in Early Intervention Section (EIS) to support children who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind. EIS received and responded to questions regarding this position.</p>	<p>Access Board to share updates at the next ELWG meeting.</p>
<b>Implementation Updates</b>	<p>Facilitator asked permission to draft documents to share with the ELWG to help expedite the processes since it is easier for members to respond to material rather than having to create it.</p> <p>CSC has been contracted to work on a pilot of a family-centered resource center and may need to develop a form to keep a list of permissions to share information with families. For example, before collecting family contact information, it should be decided about who is holding onto this information, for what purposes, and how these documents will be secured.</p>	<p>Keiko to draft documents for ELWG to review.</p> <p>CSC will be asked to attend an ELWG meeting to provide updates and share information.</p> <p>Group will need to discuss development of a form to keep information to contact with families.</p>
<b>Resources for Parents</b>	<p>Facilitator will start to develop one page handout for families as described in the legislative report.</p> <p>Information from PATCH about early childhood programs that work with children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Before sharing, Keiko to find out how this information is collected (is it self-report) and what is actually meant by their ability to work with these children (do they have special programs or specialized staff?).</p> <p>Group discussed the use of the tool LENA that measures the interactions</p>	<p>Keiko to draft one page handout, group to review.</p> <p>Keiko to check with PATCH on information on early childhood programs that work with young children who are deaf or hard of hearing.</p>

	between child and adults. This has been used with children who are deaf or hard of hearing. In Hawaii, the Early Childhood Action Strategy is piloting this program and may be able to work with children who are deaf. Keiko to explore the possibility as there is a call from LENA to bring this to Hawaii.	Keiko to check on LENA for ELWG population.
<b>Assessments</b>	Facilitator will work with DOE to develop a memo for information about the assessment matrix created by ELWG.	Keiko to draft, group to review
<b>Data</b>	Still need to look at how we can better present the data to different audiences (legislators, funders, families, schools, programs, etc.). May need to research Indiana who is able to link child data through other programs. May need to check with Genomics program on their new data system to see if it could be expanded.	May need to check in with Colin to see if he's still interested in looking at the data systems or if the ELWG needs to work on this.
<b>Strategic Planning</b>	Although Donna Ching is available for a 2-day Retreat to do a strategic planning and she wants to make sure the group is committed to this process but it may be more than members are able to partake in. May need to have targeted strategic planning around areas that are beyond the scope of the working group – for example, a larger public awareness campaign.  Group considered whether a facilitator might be needed to help articulate how Hawaii works collaboratively, especially as there is a national conversation about AG Bell and Lead-K. Group decided that Hawaii has adopted a model to be supportive of all efforts that support children who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf-blind and their families.	
<b>Updates and Announcements</b>	Upcoming Early Hearing and Detection Intervention conference coming up in March. Jennifer Clark will be presenting.	
<b>Next meeting date:</b>	Because Tuesday, March 26 is a holiday, group will meet on Wednesday, March 27 from 3:00 – 5:00. Location to be confirmed and will also be available via zoom.	