

**HAWAII EARLY INTERVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL**  
**Quarterly Meeting**  
**March 30, 2016**

O'ahu	State Office Tower, 14 <sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room – 235 South Beretania Street, Honolulu Hawaii
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**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Michael Fahey, Sabrina “Kehau” Golis, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Keri Kobayashi, Lisa Lemon, Jason Maga (Co-Chair), Dr. Bobbie-Jo Moniz-Tadeo (Chair), Colonel Daniel Roy M.D., Danette Wong-Tomiyasu, Julie Walsh, Stanton Michels, Carrie Pisciotto, Jill Arizumi, Ashley Anne Diaz, Aesha Shapiro.

**Members Absent:** Dr. Daniel Buehler, Patricia Dong, Leolinda Parlin. Bernadette Lane, Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Peter Trang, Toby Portner

**Ex-Officio:**

**Guests:** Chris Jackson, Ann Sasuga, Daintry Bartoldus, Dr. Curtis Toma,

**Staff:** Charlene Robles, Clayton Takemoto (recorder), Danelle Cheng,

<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>DECISION/ FOLLOW-UP</b>
<b>I. Call to Order</b>	<p>Moniz-Tadeo, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.</p> <p><b>A. Welcome/Reflections</b></p> <p>Moniz-Tadeo led council in introduction activity.            Danelle Cheng announced that today will be her last meeting as HEICC coordinator (she will be taking another position). Bobbie Jo Moniz-Tadeo presented her with a lei and parting gift on behalf of HEICC.            Introduced Aesha Shapiro who is a new parent member of the council.</p> <p><b>B. Review Agenda</b></p> <p>Agenda reviewed.</p>	

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	<p><b>C. Review &amp; Approve Minutes from December 9th, 2015 HEICC Quarterly Meeting</b></p> <p>Minutes reviewed and approved. No additions or comments.</p>	
<p><b>II. Community Update</b></p>	<p><b>A. Parent Sharing of Their Child’s EI Journey – Ashley Anne Diaz</b></p> <p>Ashley Anne Diaz shared a power point presentation of her child</p> <p><b>B. Agency Sharing – Hawaii Children’s Action Network (HCAN) – Mike Fahey</b></p> <p>Fahey shared that because HCAN advises both the Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Education (DOE) it has the opportunity to make a difference for all children including children 0-3 with developmental delays. The organization has gone through a big transformation in the last year. The HCAN’s mission is for all children in Hawaii to be safe healthy and ready to learn, and to build a unified voice, educating and advocating for Hawaii’s kids. Their focus is much broader than just education and early childhood, and includes issues related to child well-being (e.g. healthy foods, nurturing child care, safe neighborhoods, medical and dental care, developmental screenings, early intervention services, quality pre-K and school services, and economic security for families). Fahey shared HCAN’s children’s agenda handout.</p> <p>HCAN invited approximately 100 people who were working on issues that affect young children (e.g. homelessness, health issues, education, welfare system, equity for families and children, family training and strengthening.) to brainstorm and share what they were doing. They collected a list of issues that people are actively working on.</p> <p>HCAN is having their lobbyist follow all legislation that addresses any of these issues. Next step is working with non-profits and state agencies to develop a membership option for individuals to get the tools to advocate. Even state employees can testify as a private citizen. This gives people the information they need to testify on issues that are important to them and to their children. One of the issues is increasing Preschool Open Doors monies. Last year HCAN campaigned for the State to keep \$6 million to support the subsidy. HEICC also</p>	

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	<p>testified in favor of this and their efforts were successful.</p> <p>Per Fahey, this year the Finance committee is saying the \$6 million should come from federal government, but there are no federal monies budgeted for this. HCAN plans to send out a letter, co-signed by other agencies in support of continued state funding of the Open Doors program. Fahey read the letter requesting the legislature restore full funding to Preschool Open Doors and also restore to the Executive Office of Early Learning two positions and administrative services \$176,000.</p> <p><b>C. Update on Early Learning Advisory Board (ELAB) – Mike Fahey</b></p> <p>Fahey shared ELAB is a board that advises the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). At the last meeting he shared that the legislature wanted to change ELAB from an advisory board to a commission. Per Fahey, if ELAB became a commission, it would need to get rid of its state representatives. He feels the advisory council needs to have the state departments who are delivering services to young children represented. He plans to support keeping ELAB as an advisory board and creating a different group/commission to be responsible for the budget and the hiring/firing of the director.</p> <p><b>D. Request for ELAB Representation</b></p> <p>Maga shared that ELAB needs a representative from the HEICC to be part of their board. Fahey has been representing HEICC the past two years. Confirmation hearing is scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>. If he is confirmed he it will last until 2019). ELAB is willing for Fahey to serve as an ex-officio on their board. Meetings are currently held 1 time a month or at least quarterly.</p>	<p>A motioned was made and seconded to have HEICC chairperson, Moniz-Tadeo, contact Deborah Zysman, executive director of HCAN to inform her that the HEICC supports and wants their name to be on the letter. A vote was taken and motion passed unanimously</p> <p>A motioned was made and seconded to have Mike Fahey continue as the HEICC representative for ELAB. A vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p><b>III. Council Business</b></p>	<p><b>A. Update on Recommendations for HEICC Reappointments and Vacancies</b></p> <p>Cheng shared updated spread sheet of council reappointments and vacancies. She reported that currently 22 of the 25 council positions are filled. All 3 vacant positions have people who are either in the process of submitting applications or applications are already submitted</p>	

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	<p>and we are waiting for appointment. Kerrie Urosevich, is applying for “Other members of interest selected by Govenor” but is no longer with the governor’s office and currently works for a non-profit. The Executive committee decided it would still like to extend a request for her to apply and she said yes and will submit her application.</p> <p>Cheng shared there are several members whose term is coming to an end in June. These members have received an email from her asking them to submit their application for a second term. Fahey’s second term is ending so we are anticipating asking Lauren Moriguchi who is the current EOEL (Executive Office of Early Learning) to apply. We need to decide on who will approach her.</p> <p><b><i>B. Request for ELAB Representation</i></b></p> <p>This item was listed on the agenda twice and already discussed.</p> <p><b><i>C. Motion to Provide Testimony</i></b></p> <p>Fahey shared that during his administration as chair, it had decided that the Executive Committee could make decisions about supporting legislation on behalf of HEICC. The problem is that hearings for testifying at the legislature are often announced the day before and the executive board cannot meet within 24 hour period to decide whether to support legislation (that support young children and is listed in our policy agenda and the Department of Health). As an example, Fahey shared that last year there was legislation supporting money to look into a data system for Department of Health (Early Intervention Section). HEICC wrote testimony supporting it. The Executive Council wants the chair to have the ability to write testimony at a moment’s notice on behalf of HEICC to support children’s issues.</p> <p>Tomiyasu shared that there could be situations where the council takes a position that is different from the Department of Health and in that situation, the Department would “step back”. Fahey shared that if the chair knew there may be an issue it would be brought up for discussion with Department.</p> <p><b><i>D. Legislative Update – Charlene Robles</i></b></p> <p>Robles shared about two bills in the legislature related to early intervention. One is S.B. 2552/H.B. 2466 related to the EI trust fund. The State auditor has reviewed accounts, which</p>	<p>A motion was made and seconded to authorize the chair of the HEICC or chair’s designee to submit testimony on behalf of the HEICC concerning issues that affect children and families from birth to 5. A vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.</p>

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	<p>included the EI trust fund. The EI trust fund was developed in the 70s, but since that time no funds were ever put into it. Based on this, the auditor has recommended the Trust Fund be repealed. DOH and EIS support this. The bill includes other trust funds. Fahey shared that some of these trust funds do include funding and are used to serve the vital purpose of keeping programs running between legislative funding. He shared that if there was a bill HEICC would testify against it, not so much for our trust fund but for the continuity of services for others.</p> <p>Robles shared a possible bill related to Early Intervention is a Birth Defects bill. There is currently a birth defects program which provides surveillance for infants with birth defects up to one year of age but law does not permit information to be shared with health provider. This bill would allow for that. Resources could also include early intervention services. She shared that this would be a way to increase the number of referrals to Early Intervention.</p> <p>Robles reported there are two other bills that EIS will be following related to deaf and hard of hearing. The Executive Office of Early Learning and DOE Special Education are involved with these bills as they involve IFSPs (Individual Family Support Plans).</p> <p>Robles reported that EIS is requesting funding for the relocation cost of moving from South King Street to the Kamamalu Building downtown.</p> <p><b><i>E. Update on HEICC Priorities / EI Initiatives Follow-up</i></b></p> <p>Robles reviewed handout (Crosswalk of HEICC Priorities and Early Intervention Initiatives/Actions). At the December Quarterly meeting the council identified priorities. Stacy Kong also came to share about the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and how it aligns with the council’s priorities. In the handout, the right column is a list of HEICC Priorities and the left column is a list of Early Intervention Initiatives and Actions that address that specific priority. Most priorities were addressed either through a work group or as part of the early childhood Action strategies which also has work groups.</p> <p>Robles shared that EIS is looking to establish a Statewide data base system and is currently working with a couple of national technical assistance agencies that are funded by the Office of Special Education (OSEP). She also has a team working to put out a bid in May to hire a project manager to help EIS evaluate its system, identify what it need, develop an RFP (Request for Proposal), and getting for next steps and asking for funding.</p>	<p>Robles will follow up with Parlin to see if crosswalk sufficiently addresses the HEICC priority “Re-look at Medicaid Menu”.</p>

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	<p>There was a parent representative on the Children’s Cabinet, but Fahey confirmed the cabinet is put on hold.</p> <p>Regarding the request to develop a system for parent input and notification, Robles sees this as something that can be done when EIS has a new database. She would like to develop a system that will incorporate this kind of interaction with families.</p> <p>Robles shared that for children who are not eligible there is Hiilei (developmental follow along program) and also through Action Strategies there is an Access work group and they are working on creating Keiki Central (virtual hub) as something that parents can access. Pisciotto shared that when Hiilei first started, her understanding was its intent was to provide more support to families, but she knows of one parent who didn’t get the follow up and had to call back on her own. Her question is who is following up on that program? Is it doing what it was suppose to do to support the family? Moniz-Tadeo understanding is the intent was to look at the numbers of families that would continue or need on-going support or whether they would come back to EI for referral, but after a year they stopped collecting that information. There was no feedback that after a year of data.</p> <p>Diaz asked for clarification on the 3 bullet points (Early Intervention Initiatives/Actions) for EI Contract Rates for Services. Robles clarified that while the SSIP’s focus is on improving social emotional outcomes for children, the SSIP Staffing Workgroup is working on surveying the programs to find out what their challenges are in recruitment, strategies being used and gather statewide data. They will look at staffing patterns and service delivery model need. Robles shared that SSIP will help us, initially on a smaller scale focusing on social emotional and then hopefully the lessons learned and the things developed can be applied more broadly.</p> <p>Robles reported EIS does mid-year contract review for our POS (Purchase of Service) providers (e.g. Easter Seals). Every six months they are asked to do a budget review and send us any request for changes (request additional service hours, propose rate changes, request additional positions). EIS would then evaluate it to see what it can do to support it.</p> <p>For RFP (Request for Proposals), Robles shared that EIS sent out letters to ask contractors to extend current contracts from July 2016 through June 2017. By the end of this year it will be time to accept new proposal for contracts which opens the door for negotiation on funding</p>	<p>Robles will follow up regarding Hiilei and give Council and update.</p> <p>Robles will look into this and report back to Council.</p>

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	<p>and rates.</p> <p>Maga shared that there is a lot on the priority list but him the top two are the EI Contract Rates for Service and EI salaries for Employees. Do we have enough funding? , Do we pay enough to our staff so we can keep them and have those services? Is there anything else the state is doing to make sure all the other services (OT, PT, SLP) are provided. Maga shared that he is hearing more and more from parents that they are not getting those services and it continues to be a frustrating issue for everyone.</p> <p>Robles reports EIS’s budget is \$20 million. Approximately \$18 million from State General Funds and \$2 million from the federal government. There will be an increase in federal monies (approximately \$95,000). Robles is open to ideas on how to get more funding.</p> <p>Moniz-Tadeo shared Paul Takishita came last year to explain the budget, but much of what was explained went over people’s heads and maybe the Council needs more help in understanding it. She asked “How can we be proactive and how does the council help to get the funding needed.</p> <p>There was discussion about DOE and DOH salaries not being compatible. Robles shared that EIS engages with providers and tries to problem solve (e.g. doing temporary hire, outside contract), but sometimes there is just no one. EIS cannot compete with mainland salaries. DOE has more vacation time. Pisciotto shared that staff don’t want to leave, but they need too. She also shared that sometimes their subcontract rate is above the rate negotiated with EI so program has to make up the difference.</p> <p>Jackson recommended a “strategic sit down” with Chun Oakland and Kobayashi around the issue of retention. She mentioned meeting with University of Hawaii (UH) faculty, but UH does not have OT or PT school. Sit down with the personnel who prepare our therapist. Michels shared that CAMDH is meeting with legislators because their providers have not have had a cost of living increase since 2009. He asked his providers to develop some hard data to share with legislature (e.g. salary comparison from the mainland, cost of living information). Maga shared Easter Seals may be able to provide nationwide data.</p> <p>Michels recommended looking at how outcome measures may be affected by recruitment. Discussion held concerning the quality of people recruited and difficulty keeping “good” people in the state.</p>	

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	<p>Performance plan and corrective action plan: Robles shared the EI performance plan and monitoring report is on the EI website for anyone to review. Report currently being reviewed by OSEP. Roy shared it may be good to reach out to DOE for data to see if enrollment after transition is going up exponentially because of population increase or early intervention services aren't "hitting the mark" and they are needing to provide more services later (per Michels "when the services are more expensive and the outcomes are not as good").</p> <p>Toma shared that access is much better to Early Intervention and CAMHD (Child Adolescent Mental Health Department) than to pure Medicaid because they pay more. He recommends developing a salary grid, starting with the most important services, and looking at access, in relation to factors like geography and specific specialities. Would providers be willing to share salary information, if not maybe above or below a designated amount? Then prioritize based on geography and specialty. Maga asked who is going to put this together? Michels shared it would be more powerful coming from the council because the council represent the people.</p> <p>Roy commented on Federal government funding only approximately 10 % of the cost of Early Intervention and suggested putting together some information and approaching our Hawaii legislators in Washington.</p> <p>Moniz-Tadeo and Maga will take the lead in having a work group gather the information and meet with executive committee. Michels is willing to look at it and edit it on how it can be presented in the most effective way. Fahey shared that parents can help by write personal letters or talk with representative to support whatever action the council takes. Discussed timeline. Fahey shared that legislation would need to be submitted by the end of this year. Maga would like to get something put together by next council meeting to share. Michel's recommend collect data over the summer and by fall, work on how it will be presented and who it will be presented it to.</p> <p>Fahey shared how people can sign up for membership of HCAN so they can get all updates and emails and links to testify. Membership sign up at HCAN, individual membership fee ranges from \$25 to \$50.</p>	<p>Moniz-Tadeo and Maga lead work group to gather information and meet with executive committee.</p> <p>Takemoto will email Council members to invite them to participate in the workgroup</p>



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<p><b>IV. Early Intervention Section Update</b></p>	<p><b>A. Part C Update</b></p> <p>An Early Intervention Section Update handout was distributed and reviewed by Robles. A DOH-DOE (Department of Health-Department of Education) MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) for transition of children from EI to DOE SPED was due to OSEP (Office of Special Education Program) by December 1<sup>st</sup>. The document has undergone multiple reviews by both the DOH and DOE Deputy Attorney Generals (AG). Robles has kept the OSEP’s State lead person (who is also the lead for DOE SPED) informed of the situation. She hopes the MOU will be finalized in March or April.</p> <p>The Part C Grant Application was posted for comments on EIS website (comment period ended March 24, 2016). Robles will be finalizing it and sending it up to the Director of Health for signature and submission to OSEP. Submission due date is April 21<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p>The State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report 2014 (SPP/APR 2014) have been submitted to OSEP and can be found on the EIS website.</p> <p>EIS continues to work on its State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and needs to submit a status report of its plan by April 1<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p>Discussion regarding MOUs and public review. Is there a forum for public review of an MOU? No per Michels.</p> <p><b>B. Budget</b></p> <p>No budgetary concerns and no deficit anticipated.</p> <p><b>C. Vacant Positions</b></p> <p>Robles reported 23 vacant EIS State positions at the end of December 2015. Some positions have been filled since then (see Early Intervention Section Updates) and currently 6 are being recruited and 1 social worker IV position is being temporarily loaned to another department in Kona to support the dengue fever emergency.</p> <p>Robles reported that based on data provided by the EI Purchase of Service Providers (POS) for the period ending December 31<sup>st</sup>, there are approximately 4 vacant care coordinator/social</p>	

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	<p>worker positions, 12 vacant direct service positions (e.g. occupational therapist) and 1 Office Assistant/Data Clerk.</p> <p><b><i>D. Initiatives and Activities</i></b></p> <p>Robles reports working with QUEST Integration Health Plans to finalize a care coordination/service coordination plan so when children with a QUEST medical plan leave early intervention but need continued follow-up, they will already be connected and the services coordinators from MedQuest who can hopefully help. The intent is to invite them to IFSPs and they will in turn invite EI care coordinators to some of their meetings with no expectation they have to be there. There is no set roll out date yet as things still need to be finalized. Dr. Toma shared that MedQuest recognizes that it is difficult for families to navigate the system to help their child get needed services without the supports they receive when they are in Early Intervention. The intent is to work with EI to make the transition smoother.</p> <p>Discussion around private insurance role and responsibility. Lemon shared more needs to be done to see what private insurance can do. She shared that private insurance does not want to cover what “government is already covering, but many times don’t know where the line is between what is and isn’t covered.</p> <p>Statewide Care Coordinator Meeting was held, bringing together care coordinators from around the state for training and review of procedures.</p> <p>Robles shared that EIS is currently monitoring programs statewide. Senate Bill for enhancing Deaf/Hard of Hearing/Deaf-Blind Services (discussed earlier).</p> <p><b><i>E. Program Measures Dashboard – Data Dashboard Clarification</i></b></p> <p>Handout distributed and reviewed.</p> <p>Robles shared that at last meeting there was interest around service gaps and it was shared that there was a Gap Data Group, but the group felt that it would be a lot of work for a program to capture this data. So the plan was to at least monitor the gap data annually. When our monitors are out reviewing programs they collect this data and we will be able to share this information next year after we process it. Reviewed data from FFY 2014. All 20 programs had some kind of service gap. Robles shared that corrective action plans are</p>	

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	<p>put in place if there are violations. Pisciotto shared that root causes are discussed and recommendations made. Discussion around the issue of service gaps. In event of staff vacancy, medical coverage still would not be available to provide a service that EI is mandated to provide. Families have their rights explained to them and can file a complaint. Approximately 10 % of the programs charts are reviewed.</p> <p>Reviewed complaint summary report. Last year there were 3 complaints and all were resolved in a timely manner. This year there were 2 and they both were resolved in a timely manner.</p> <p>Discussion that despite all these service gaps there have been only a few complaints. Robles gave credit to the programs for their relationship with the families and for being transparent and connected with them. She shared that families know that the programs are trying their best. At the same time she shared we are concerned. Dr. Roy shared that it takes time for parents to learn to have a voice.</p> <p>Robles mentioned that in reviewing the data the only thing of note was in Measure #9 there was an increase in the number of children with IFSPs in the second quarter.</p>	
<p><b>V. Public Comment</b></p> <p><b>VI. Announcements</b></p> <p><b>VII. Future Meetings</b></p> <p><b>VIII. Adjourn</b></p>	<p>None</p> <p>None</p> <p>June 29, August 31, November 30<sup>th</sup> and this room is reserved for this meeting</p> <p>Moniz-Tadeo adjourned the meeting at 11:10 am .</p>	