



Conference Call Minutes April 5, 2004

Board Participants: Mary Jones, Andy Gomm, Ron Benham, Stephanie Moss, Monica Rutkowski, Terry Harrison, Duncan Munn

Contract Staff: Sharon Walsh, Maureen Greer

Legislative Report – Sharon Walsh

- IDEA Reauthorization: The expectation is that the legislation will come to the floor after spring break. The longer the delay, the more likely the reauthorization will not occur in this session. We are more likely to get the Senate bill but not the conference committee.
- Medicaid cuts are a distinct possibility this year. The Association has signed on to a letter requesting no cuts.
- The Association also signed on to a letter requesting increases in child care funding
- Sharon will develop a letter to CMS as a result of the early childhood meeting in Washington. The letter will be sent to the Board for review prior to sending forward to Child Care and ADD with a copy to OSERS
- Sharon was given authority by the Board to sign on to letters on behalf of the Association when the policy content has already been approved by the Board.
- Sharon discussed her conversations with OSEP representatives regarding comments related to the proposed APR document. OSEP is interested in a dialogue with the Association regarding the APR. Andy proposed that the Association hold a series of facilitated conference calls regarding suggested changes to the APR prior to any discussion with OSEP. Maureen, Sharon and Mary will talk before the next call to make arrangements for the conference calls.
- The Connecticut governor has sent language forward through the National Governor's Association regarding the issue of referral vs. evaluation as it relates to CAPTA legislation.
- Sharon will be sending some draft language related to Natural Environments to Board members for their review and input. The language will be moved forward during the conference session.

Administrative Report

- Leadership Academy: We have received three applications. A reminder has been sent to the other applicants along with applicants from 2003 to see if any other full applications will be coming in. Three participants are not enough to conduct the Academy. The Association needs to explore what other leadership options could be utilized to support the applicants. Maureen will call the other four participants to determine whether they need additional time to submit applications.
- Membership: Delaware and New York have renewed their membership.

- CCD membership documentation has been sent to Sharon for final signature and submission as the official representative of the Association.
- Newsletter: Next edition should come out in May. Articles should include:
 - President's letter- Mary
 - Legislative Update - Sharon
 - Legislative Committee - Ron
 - Outcomes Center report-Stephanie
 - CAPTA Call – Sharon/Maureen
- Summer Board meeting: The dates have been confirmed for July 30 and 31. Hotel arrangements will be made by the May call.
- Rate Setting RFP: The bid submitted by Solutions Consulting Group was approved by the Board. The office will develop a contract for the project.
- National Survey: The Board approved funding (\$2,1000) to upgrade server capacity to accommodate the survey
- Budget: Budget figures continue to look positive. A decision will be made in May whether the membership year can be aligned with the calendar year.
- Insurance: Three bids were received. Terry and Mary approved the bid process. The application has been submitted to the winning vendor and the office is waiting for an invoice.

Outcomes Center Meeting

Stephanie provided a report on the meeting. The first two days of the meeting were focused on a "think tank" process to develop child outcomes. The last day was spent talking about the process of selecting states, role of the Center, their TA capacity. There was no conclusion regarding the identification of child outcomes. There was good information shared along with good discussions between Part C and 619 representatives. There continues to be tension between short term and long term outcomes as well as the tension between state control and the need for national aggregation. The Board decided to have further conversation about this and try to identify reasonable indicators that all states could produce and incorporate recommendations into our future input regarding the APR.

Mentoring

Stephanie has 8 individuals that have volunteered to be mentors and 2 individuals that have asked for a mentor.

Finance Issues

- Medicaid: Duncan raised the issue of potential problems with the regional CMS office regarding service coordination. There needs to be a closer look to see if this is specific to the region or a national issue.
- Champus/ Tricare: Washington State has identified concerns about payment being refused for Part C services.

Agenda Items for May Call:

- Leadership Academy

- Decisions re: aligning fiscal and calendar year for Assoc. membership dues
- Good News Document
- Conference Calls related to APR