

State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) | Hybrid In-Person & Zoom Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2024

Time: 9 a.m. – 2:35 p.m.

9 – 9:37 a.m. | Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Introductions

- ✚ The first few minutes were reserved to let members and attendees join the meeting.
- ✚ Will Moncrease, Jr., ESIT Partnership & Collaboration Manager, greeted meeting attendees and shared the Zoom Meeting Dos and Don'ts and Keyboard Shortcuts.
- ✚ A few minutes were needed to adjust the sound for the online attendees.
- ✚ SICC Chair, Danna Summers, gave her visual description, welcomed meeting attendees.
- ✚ SICC members in person and online each gave brief introductions and descriptions.
- ✚ Sheryl Fryberg, SICC Member and Tulalip Trib Representative, led a meaningful Land Acknowledgment.
- ✚ **Motion:** SICC Chair, Danna Summers, moved to approve the July agenda and the previous April 2024 meeting minutes, and SICC member, Michelle LaMotte, seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

9:37 – 9:50 a.m. | Parent Stories | Parent Institute for Engagement (PIE) overview

A special overview presentation was shared of the ESIT PIE leadership program highlighting some of the members and their personal journeys, how they collaborate with and contribute to the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC), and how their involvement strengthens our work in the early learning community.

PIE member, Adriana Farnsworth, PIE Cohort 6 member, shared her personal experience with the PIE program and how helpful it was to learn to be a parent leader, the and the difficulties navigating, or even initially becoming aware of the service available for families. More parents and educators in the community are needed to spread awareness to families that Birth to Three and early learning services exist.

[PIE Overview video](#)

9:50 – 10 a.m. | PIE Cohort 6 Graduation

The meeting attendees, PIE and SICC members took time to acknowledge and celebrate the PIE Cohort 6 graduation! Each PIE member in attendance received a certificate commemorating their involvement in and completion of the PIE program. A few minutes were reserved for

congratulating and taking group photos (with those attending in-person).

10 – 10:22 a.m. | Break

10:22 – 11:21 a.m. | CDHY, Kerianne Christie and Kris Ching | Birth-5 Deaf & Hard of Hearing (D/HH) Services & Activities: Updates from Washington Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Youth (CDHY)

Kerianne Christie and Kris Ching presented news and updates on statewide early childhood services, projects, and other collaborative efforts centered on birth-5 D/HH activities in Washington State.

CDHY is a state agency that provides leadership and support for educational programming for children birth-21 who are D/HH, their families, and service providers who support them. WA CDHY was recently chosen by Gallaudet University's Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center to become the Western hub for a national project called REAL, Regional Early Acquisition of Language. REAL-West is designed to provide technical assistance, training, and resources for parents, families and service providers. The focus is on accessible language acquisition during the first three years of critical brain development. This project corresponds with collaborative efforts including CDHY, WA Sensory Disability Services (WSDS), WA State School for the Blind (WSSB), and major state agencies such as Department of Health's EHDDI Program and DCYF-ESIT. These agencies work closely to develop and maintain statewide early intervention (EI) guidance documents, screening tools, intake procedures, and access to IFSP services. Ultimately the above efforts will ensure all parents of deaf or hard of hearing (D/HH) infants and toddlers in WA state have equitable access to receive complete information and comprehensive EI services, specific to D/HH.

Acronym Terms

- ASL= American Sign Language
- LSL=Listen and Spoken Language
- SEE=Signing Exact English

[CDHY Collaboration and Accessibility Birth-3 DHH Systems in WA State](#)

11:21 – 11:36 a.m. | Break



11:36 – 11:56 a.m. | Boyer’s Children’s Clinic, Mike Stewart, Executive Director | ESIT COVID Impact Survey Results.

Mike Stewart shared an overview of the highlights and challenge areas that came out of the *ESIT COVID Impact Survey*, as well as recognize the resiliency of the provider agencies ability to navigate providing services during the pandemic.

For nearly four years policymakers and providers of Early Supports to Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) in Washington State have been heroically delivering vital services to young children and their families despite the vicissitudes of a devastating national pandemic. We have done our best to reach children, manage therapies and support, keep families and staff safe, and sustain our organizations financially. We are in awe of your determination, compassion, commitment, and creativity. Our purpose is to document the highlights and challenges of our shared COVID experience, so that we might learn from this crisis. The following summary is the product of the Finance and Public Policy committees of the State Interagency Coordinating Committee and has been vetted by the Early Childhood Development Association of Washington.

The SICC members had the opportunity to share their insights, recommendations and ask additional questions.

- SICC Member, Mustapha Kebbeh, proposed a recommendation for a preparedness plan for crisis.
- SICC Member, Stepanie Hokanson, shared insight to consider sociological impacts of policies as part of a crisis.
- **Motion:** SICC member, Michelle LaMotte, proposed a motion for a cross committee ad hoc work group to address developing a crisis response emergency preparedness plan for ESIT services. Amanda Simon seconded the motion. Council members voted and approved, meeting quorum at 10.

[ESIT COVID Impact Survey Results](#)

[COVID-19 Pandemic Experiences Executive Summary](#)

11:56 a.m. – 12 p.m. | No Public Comment

12 p.m. -12:50 p.m. | Lunch



12:50 - 1:33 p.m. | ESIT Update | Valerie Arnold, ESIT State Administrator

Valerie Arnold shared in depth highlights from the ESIT State Lead Agency report with the SICC and PIE members and meeting attendees. SICC and PIE members had the opportunity to remark and ask additional questions.

[ESIT State Lead Agency Report](#)

1:33 – 1:43 p.m. | SICC Member Spotlight: Michelle LaMotte, Co-Owner, Pediatric Occupational Therapist at Stepping Stone Pediatric Therapy, PLLC

SICC member and Co-Owner of [Stepping Stone Pediatric](#), Michelle LaMotte, introduced herself and shared her unique and personal journey, her contributions to the early learning community as an occupational therapist, providing services, perspectives on challenges across the community, and her hopes and ambitions for the early learning system. SICC and PIE members had the opportunity to respond and share insights.

1:43 – 1:57 p.m. | Break

1:57 – 2:02 p.m. | Committee & Agency Updates

This was a time for SICC state agency and committee representatives to share updates. Below are submitted agency updates and committee reports:

- [OSPI Special Education Update](#)
- [Data Committee Report](#)
- [Executive Steering Committee](#)
- [Personnel and Training Committee](#)
- [Public Policy Committee](#)
- [Parent Institute of Engagement \(PIE\)](#)
- [Joint Finance & Public Policy Committee](#)



2:02 – 2:27 p.m. | Brief Overview of Child Find Systems | E Renae` Antalan, ESIT Community Collaboration Coordinator

E Renae` Antalan presented to the council and attendees, sharing personal anecdotes from her own experience and using humorous props, how she learned about [Child Find](#). Child Find is the system for identifying, screening, referring, evaluating, and tracking children who are potentially eligible for early intervention or early childhood special education. Coordinated child find systems work to ensure all infants and toddlers are identified, located, and evaluated.

[Brief Overview of Child Find Systems](#)

2:27 – 2:30 p.m. | Public Comments

Requested that ACORN basic functionality is demonstrated consistently.

2:30 – 2:35 p.m. | Evaluation & Wrap Up | Danna Summers, SICC Chair

Council Members shared their input on the day and made recommendations for future meeting topics. SICC Chair, Danna Summers, shared last remarks, thanked attendees and adjourned the meeting.

Next SICC Meetings:

Wednesday, October 16, 2024 | TBD

Wednesday, January 15, 2025 | Virtual-Special Session | ESIT Annual Performance Report (APR)

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 | Virtual

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 | TBD

Wednesday, July 16, 2025 | TBD

