

**MINUTES**  
*Inclusive Child Care Committee*  
*December 11, 2008*

***Next Meeting : Thursday, January 8, 2009 9am to 12pm***

***Meridian Park Hospital Health Education Center, Room 107***  
***19300 SW 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon***

**Attending:**

*Donna Lewelling, Co-chair, Parent Voice Project; Dawn Norris, Co-chair, Child Care Division; Kathy Seubert, DHS Addictions & Mental Health Division; Dolores McNee, Washington Co. Community Action Head Start; Nancy Lowry, Oregon Children for Children with Special Health Care Needs; Hilary Hyde, Multnomah Early Childhood Program; Pam Deardorff, Oregon Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education; Terry Butler, Melinda Frink, Lorine Day-Reynolds, and Kate Reitan, Inclusive Child Care Program.*

**Inclusive Child Care Program Review and Planning**

This was an interim committee meeting focused on review and planning for the Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP). The goal of this meeting was to come away with a basic foundation for ICCP's vision, mission, core values and goals. These will guide the program in its future services and planning. The committee, as the advisory group to the program, has an essential role in the process.

Terry outlined how the committee can help this process and summarized the work ICCP has done to date. This included surveys of the program's key partners: parents, child care providers, other service providers, and stakeholders. Terry shared the following themes from the survey findings:

- There was an overall very positive response to the program's direct service activities (assessment and subsidy services). This indicates that the program is on track with its basic approach. There are areas for improvement but no need for major changes in this area.
- Program staff received very favorable comments on their professionalism, knowledge and ability to maintain positive relationships with parents, providers and agency partners.

- There is a lack of awareness of the Inclusive Child Care Program's services. ICCP staff and partners need to do more outreach and marketing.
- ICCP is seen and used as a source of information. Program staff need to develop, maintain and share information as effectively as possible.
- Opportunities exist for coordination and collaboration with other programs and projects. These are important to progress on the program's goals.

Pam asked if ICCP staff reviewed the Oregon plan for child care for children with special needs written in 1998. Progress on the plan was reviewed in December 2002, and again over the past two years as part of the Inventory Project. The committee requested copies of the plan and will review that document's recommendations. *(An electronic version is included with minutes. Print copies are available from ICCP upon request.)*

### **Vision, Mission and Core Values**

ICCP staff presented drafts of vision, mission and core values for the program. The committee discussed and made recommendations for each. They also got to wear cool glasses that Melinda made. Lorine shared a way to show that we've reached our vision for inclusion: *"When Inclusion Isn't News."*

ICCP staff will use the committee's recommendations to refine the drafts. They will present final or in-process drafts at the January meeting.

The topic of inclusion presented a key issue in discussion of ICCP mission statement. The program was initiated as a pilot subsidy program. Supporting access to care was its primary focus, with a portion of staff time and resources dedicated to working on strategies to support inclusion. Committee members recommended that supporting inclusion of children with higher level needs in typical child care settings be established as a part of the stated ICCP mission.

When the list of core values is finalized program staff will develop an accompanying document. The document will include concrete examples of how each value is implemented and demonstrated.

## **Next Steps**

ICCP staff will use committee recommendations to further work on vision, mission and values. ICCP staff will develop a set of draft goals for the program. These will be presented and discussed at the January meeting.

Committee members identified two “parking lot” items for further discussion:

- *ICCP capacity for outreach*
- *Family, provider and agency perceptions of ICCP wait lists.*

***Next Meeting : January 8, 2009.***

### ***Agenda for next meeting:***

- 1) Inclusive Child Care Program Review
  - Present Inclusive Child Care Program vision and mission
  - Review values
  - Discuss first draft of measurable goals
- 2) Discuss committee work plan and goals.
- 3) Report on Oregon early Childhood Collaborative and Multnomah County group.