

# Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) for Infants and Toddlers

## ICC Fiscal Committee Minutes

Thursday, July 18, 2024, 10:30 - 12:00 a.m.

### Attendees

Amber Neubauer, Chair (Present)  
Dana Hutchings, ICC Member (Absent)  
Kelly Lalan, ICC Member (Absent)  
Sylvia Acosta (Present)  
Lauren Encinas (Present)  
Senator Rosanna Galbaldon (Absent)  
Leo Huppert (Present)  
Kristin Mancuso (Present)

Peggy Peixoto (Present)  
Cristina Renteria (Absent)  
Jenee Sisroy (Present)  
Gini Britton (Present)  
Christina Quast (Absent)  
Lisa Casteel, AzEIP Staff (Present)  
Jeremiah Hale, AzEIP Staff (Present)  
Amanda Honeywood, AzEIP Staff (Present)

### Agenda

1. Called to Order at 10:34 am
2. Welcome and Introductions - none
3. Read Public Member Notice
4. Minute Approval for the June 20, 2024, meeting
  - Leo Huppert made a motion to approve meeting minutes and Kristin Mancusco seconded the motion. All committed members present voted Aye to approve the meeting minutes. Motion carried.
5. Discussion Items/topics
  - A. ICC Fiscal Committee Vice Chair and Chairperson roles
    - a. Leo Huppert volunteered to be vice chair. Peggy motioned to approve Leo for vice chair and Jenee seconded that motion. All committee members voted aye for Leo as vice chair. Motion carried.
  - B. Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) issues
    - a. Cristina has been a huge support with these issues. Gini requested that they copy her when sending requests to Cristina for assistance. Providers are still having issues but most recently has involved denials for no prior authorization although authorization actually was in place. Leo stated that a provider billing group has been created. They will meet quarterly to discuss AHCCCS billing issues. These meetings will be helpful to

the billers themselves and should provide information that can be shared with AzEIP and AHCCCS.

- C. Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) Fiscal Responsibility and Timely Reimbursement
  - a. Billing OT and PT on the same day is still an issue. Christina is investigating, and Gini will follow up on this, as well.
- D. 2023 AzEIP Rate Rebase Study
  - a. There are two separate reports for DDD and AzEIP. The study was created to support future decisions but AzEIP is not obligated to make those specific changes. The overall impact of the study is fairly revenue neutral if adopted. This report is difficult to compare to prior years because the approach was different and more thorough due to the improved input from providers. The AzEIP fiscal team does not need support from the ICC Fiscal Committee for next steps at this time, but the offer is certainly appreciated. Structural changes will be considered and determinations made regarding changes to the data system and possibly the future contracts. Recommendations are always welcome. The committee will take a look at the report before the next meeting to see if they need clarification or have recommendations.
- E. Goals and Strategic Planning
  - a. This discussion was tabled. Leo will have a structure prepared for the next meeting.
- F. Budget Request - ICC Administrative and Family Participant Support Costs
  - a. Amber sent out a request to other subcommunities for any budget requests. No one has responded. Family Engagement will likely be the main focus of the budget proposal. Amber met with Laurie Shook and other ICC and committee members to discuss budgetary options to support family involvement in the ICC. They felt Raising Special Kids (RSK) would be a great resource. A meeting with them is being scheduled to get feedback and more detailed information on how they entice and support families to participate in their programs. There was discussion around what materials are available or could be produced to help families better understand these opportunities. The Family Engagement committee is taking the lead on this. Service Coordinators we may need some additional education to be able to best talk to the families about this topic.
- G. Professional Development Opportunities
  - a. The ICC is sending one member to each of the two national meetings taking place in August.
- H. Budget Transparency
  - a. DES/AzEIP Update and Possible Impacts
    - i. The new Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES) division that AzEIP will be joining was discussed. Molly Bright is the Assistant Director (AD). She is a former Part C Coordinator which means that she brings with her an understanding and knowledge of the program. Jeremiah assured the committee that there will be almost no impact on AzEIP's day to day operations. Single Line of Responsibility will not be affected and there are no plans for staffing or budgetary changes.
- I. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Billing - Speech units
  - a. Amber is still waiting to hear back from ArSHA regarding the possibility of any changes in this area.
- J. Parking Lot Items
  - a. AzEIP Eligibility Changes Subcommittee
    - i. No discussion - Keep in parking lot
  - b. AHCCCS Provider Enrollment Portal (APEP) Process

i. No discussion - Keep in parking lot

6. Action/follow up

- A. Committee will take a look at the Rate Rebase report before the next meeting to see if they need clarification or have recommendations.
- B. Leo will prepare talking points on Strategic Planning for the next meeting.
- C. Amber will continue to work with RSK to gain understanding of their system for family support and engagement.

7. Public Comment

None

8. Confirmed next meeting date/time: August 22, 2024 at 10:00 am

9. Adjourned at 11:32 am

- Pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other nondiscrimination laws and authorities, Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Persons that require a reasonable modification based on language or disability should submit a request as early as possible to ensure the State has an opportunity to address the modification.
- Persons with a disability or Limited English Proficiency (LEP) may request reasonable accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Amanda Honeywood at (602) 532- 9960 or email at [ahoneywood@azdes.gov](mailto:ahoneywood@azdes.gov). Requests should be made 48 hours prior to the meeting
- The Interagency Coordinating Council may hear items on the agenda out of order. The Council may discuss, consider, act, or solicit public comment regarding a matter any time on the agenda.