



Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) for Infants and Toddlers

Family Engagement Committee Meeting Minutes - Approved 3.19.26

Virtual Meeting

February 19, 2026

8:30am - 10:00am

The role of the ICC is to advise, assist, and advocate for the Arizona Early Intervention Program and its partnering agencies to administer, promote, coordinate, and improve early intervention for families and professionals.

Mission Statement:

To support AzEIP in creating a partnership with families to work together to improve services in early childhood programs, engage families in advocacy, and bridge the gap in parent involvement by encouraging authentic feedback, providing opportunities for collaboration, & helping families feel comfortable to share their voice, all to better our state services for young children.

Attendance

Members

Alissa Eromae (present)
Dani Merrill (present)
Sonia Samaniego (present)
Marisol Vazquez (present)

Laurie Shook (present)
Lana Graber (absent)
Tammy Sergent (absent)

Staff (AzEIP)

Lisa Vallee (present)
Brittany Page (present)

Amanda Honeywood (present)
Tanya Goitia (present)

Public

None

Minutes

1. Call to Order: meeting called to order by Laurie Shook at 8:35am
2. Alissa Read Public Member Notice
3. Minute Approval from January 15, 2026 Family Engagement Committee Meeting

- a. Sonia Samaniego motioned to approve the minutes, Alissa Eromae second the motion, all voted in favor. Minutes approved
4. Discussion Items/Topics
 - a. Chair & Vice Chair and member roles
 - i. Laurie announced her resignation as chair and expressed gratitude for the committee. Alissa accepted the nomination to serve as the new chair, and the motion was seconded and approved by group vote. Dani then volunteered for the vice chair position. A motion was made, seconded, and approved, confirming her appointment. Laurie concluded by noting this was her final meeting while offering ongoing support and resources, including assistance with connecting members to parent volunteers and partners.
 - b. Facebook Posts
 - i. The group discussed Facebook management and clarified roles and access. Dani will lead posting, with Alissa supporting and sharing weekly articles. Sandra and Laurie will be removed from page access due to role changes, while Marysol will be added as a backup administrator. Members also addressed minor access issues and agreed to continue sharing content and promoting upcoming events, including Special Day for Special Kids, through the page.
 - c. Community Feedback
 - i. The team discussed recruiting and preparing families to share their stories. Danielle shared that a referred family, Suki, will present at the March 19 meeting and will send slides ahead of time. Members supported using flyers to recruit families, but Laurie emphasized the need to vet participants first to avoid inappropriate or overly negative public comments.
 - d. Family Story -
 - i. Danielle reviewed the current process of contacting families, providing guidelines, and offering support with presentations. The group agreed that both print and digital flyers could help with outreach, and Marisol volunteered to support Spanish-speaking families in preparing and sharing their stories.
 - e. Application Process
 - i. The committee discussed upcoming membership updates, noting that Lana will join the next meeting and may bring additional family connections, while Tammy will transition from the transition subcommittee to the family engagement committee. Members then shared community feedback, including ongoing concerns from families about privacy and hesitation to allow service providers into their homes, as well as confusion when therapy recommendations from physicians differ from available AzEIP service hours. The group also identified the ICC application process as complex and potentially intimidating for both professionals and families, particularly due to resume requirements and unclear steps between subcommittee and governor-appointed roles. To address this, members agreed to prioritize developing a clearer roadmap of the application process, explore options for simplifying requirements such as resume templates, and revisit the committee mission statement at the next meeting when new members are present.
 - f. Review Mission Statement
 - i. The members will discuss this at the next meeting once all new members are able to join the next meeting.
5. Action/Follow-up
6. Public Comment
 - a. none
7. Next Meeting: 03.19.26 8:30am
8. Adjourn 9:20am

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