



# Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) for Infants and Toddlers

## Family Engagement Committee Meeting Minutes - Approved 5.21.26

Virtual Meeting

April , 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.

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## Attendance

### Members

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

Marisol Vazquez (present)  
Lana Graber (absent)  
Tammy Sergent (absent)

### Staff (AzEIP)

Lisa Vallee (absent)  
Brittany Page (present)

Amanda Honeywood (present)  
Tanya Goitia (present)

### Public

None

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## Minutes

1. Call to Order 1:04pm
2. Public Member Notice
3. Minute Approval from March 19, 2026 Family Engagement Committee Meeting

- a. Alissa Eromae motioned to approve the minutes, Sonia Samaniego second the motion, all members voted in favor; minutes approved
4. Discussion Items/Topics
  - a. Welcome and introductions
    - i. Alissa Eromae announced that she will be moving out of state and stepping down from her role, sharing that the decision was last-minute and difficult, and expressing appreciation for her time with the group. Danielle Merrill thanked her for her contributions and noted that her resignation leaves the chair position open. Sonia Samaniego clarified that, since electing a new chair was not on the current agenda, the discussion and decision would be postponed until the next meeting.
  - b. Facebook Posts
    - i. The group discussed managing Facebook posts following Alyssa's departure, noting that she had been responsible for weekly article posts. Sonia offered to help temporarily, but suggested revisiting the topic at the next meeting when more members are present. Danielle shared that she has been posting event flyers, while Marysol volunteered to assist with article posts as needed. The group agreed to discuss roles and responsibilities further at the next meeting.
  - c. Community Feedback
    - i. The group discussed community feedback, highlighting a gap in awareness of AzEIP and the Child Find process among medical professionals, which limits how families learn about services. Members emphasized the need to better reach pediatricians and other providers through stronger partnerships, training opportunities, and outreach efforts beyond brochures. Ideas included engaging medical trainees, leveraging provider networks, and expanding workforce education. The group agreed to continue exploring ways the committee can support outreach efforts and address these gaps in future meetings.
  - d. Family Story
    - i. The group discussed planning for an upcoming family story, noting that Skyler, who previously expressed interest, has not yet confirmed due to her child's health issues. Danielle will continue following up with her while also reaching out to others on the list. Sonia suggested securing a backup speaker, and Marysol agreed to contact Lori Shook to identify potential participants, while also encouraging someone she knows to share despite their nervousness about public speaking. The group acknowledged the challenges of sharing personal stories and emphasized creating a supportive, low-pressure environment.
  - e. Application Process
    - i. The group reviewed a draft one-page document created by the development committee to simplify the ICC and subcommittee application processes and make them less overwhelming for families. Key ideas included using a parent statement instead of a resume, clearly outlining steps and timelines, and explaining what applicants can do while waiting for approval. Members appreciated the step-by-step format but suggested making it more visual, clearly distinguishing between ICC and subcommittee roles, and keeping it as simple and user-friendly as possible. They also discussed using an existing one-pager example as a model and agreed to provide further feedback and collaborate on refining the document.
5. Action/Follow-up
  - a. Addressing the open chair position, revisiting the Facebook posting process, and providing updates on the application process. Danielle confirmed she would share feedback with the development committee and include an example resource for reference.

6. Public Comment none
7. Next Meeting: 05.21.26 8:30am
8. Adjourn 1:44pm

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