

MEETING: The Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Advisory Council

DATE: 10-19-2015 Time: 9:00 – 12:00pm

Attendees Committee Members: AJ Van Tassel, Amy Williamson, Bill Hudson (Co-Chair), Cindy Moran, Deb Charlea Baker, Linda Hazard (Chair), Missy Boothroyd, Patricia Thompson (minutes), Sharon Henry, Sherry Sousa, Spenser Weppler, Stuart Soboleski, Susan Kimmerly, Daniellle Howes

Additional Attendees: Cory Brunner (interpreter), Virginia Clark (interpreter), Patricia Thompson (minutes).

Next Meeting: November 12, 2015 to be held at the Vermont Agency of Education 219 North Main Street, Suite 402 Barre, VT 05641

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	DECISION
Note taker assignment	Patricia Thompson	
Welcome and Introductions-	<p>Linda Hazard welcomed the council and the Governor’s Office has not appointed anyone yet for the 2 available positions; Superintendent and Teacher of the Deaf.</p> <p>Brief individual introductions were made around the room.</p> <p>Linda Hazard gave an overview of the Vermont Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (VTEHDI) including federal funding sources.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. HRSA – In the current grant agreement HRSA funds \$250,000 per year. The HRSA agreement is focused on quality improvement for meeting screening by 1 month, diagnosing hearing loss by 3 months and entrance into Early Intervention by 6	

months of age. The following pilot projects fall under the HRSA agreement and include primary care providers, homebirth midwives and Early Head Start providers. VTEHDI works in collaboration with the stakeholders to reduce lost to follow up in Vermont for hearing screening and diagnosis.. The HRSA grant funds a small portion of the Parent Infant Program under 9 East Network.

2. 2CDC- In the current cooperative agreement the VTEHDI program receives \$150,000 per year for management and enhancements to the database. Vermont is known as a progressive state and has a fully integrated database at the Health department including electronic birth records, electronic death records, immunizations, lead, newborn screening and newborn hearing screening.
3. State Funding- Currently VTEHDI receives \$40,000 per year from newborn hearing screening fees.

Susan Kimmerly gave an overview of the services that fall under 9 East Network- Parent Infant Program (PIP) and the school based consulting services. The state grant from Depart of Education, Funding from HRSA VTEHDI grant and Medicaid fund Early Intervention. 9 East Network had PIP advisers and Consultants back up and working by the third week in October of 2014 after the closure of VDDHH. The staffing for both programs were the same staff members from the Vermont Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. A new database has been designed and implemented.

<p>Discussion of New Council Name</p>	<p>Set forth by the Senate Government Operations Committee letter the Advisory Council has to respond by January 15,.</p> <p>Discussion by Council regarding name. The consensus was to name the Council: The Vermont Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Council”</p> <p>Motion to approve name – AJ Van Tassel 2nd the motion – Sharon Henry Discussion – none All present and on phone – In favor Motion Passed- Linda Hazard</p> <p>After discussion of mission statement changes were made to the Amy Williamson would like to see DeafBlind represented in name of Council. Name would now be-</p> <p>The Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Advisory Council.</p> <p>Motion to add DeafBlind to council name-Amy Williamson 2nd the motion - ??? Discussion Vote- 6 in favor, 6 opposed AJ Van Tassel withdrew his vote making in 6-5 Motion passed – Linda Hazard</p> <p>New Name-</p> <p>The Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind</p>	<p>LH – Suggested looking at what’s available in the State of Vermont now. Subgroups will be- Birth to 22 services – Linda H., Susan Kimmerly, Cindy Moran Adult Services – Bill Hudson and Missy Boothroyd Elderly Services – AJ Van Tassel and Debra Charlea Baker</p> <p>Each subgroup will present a 15-20 minute presentation at the 11/12 meeting. Please share presentation with group beforehand so that others can address the subgroup.</p> <p>New Name –</p> <p>The Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Advisory Council</p>
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	Advisory Council.	
Mission Statement	<p>Specific words the council wants to see in the mission statement- equality, adversity, awareness, access and integration, Discussion regarding mission and vision. Very important to keep the name simple. The group’s work is going to be the most important.</p> <p>“The mission of The Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Advisory Council is to improve the lives of all Vermonters who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or DeafBlind by recommending policy that promotes diversity, equality, awareness and access.”</p> <p>AJ Van Tassel motioned to make the Mission Statement above as final. Spenser Wepler 2nd the motion Motion Passed-Linda Hazard.</p>	<p>Mission statement –</p> <p>Final Mission Statement</p> <p>The mission of The Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Advisory Council is to improve the lives of all Vermonters who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or DeafBlind by recommending policy that promotes diversity, equality, awareness and access.</p>
Identify Sub-Committees	<p>Next meeting work on identifying sub-committees so that the group can move forward with identifying gaps and recommendations for quality improvements outlined in the f the Senate Government Operations Committee letter.</p> <p>Amy Williamson suggested four working groups Birth to 3, 3 to 22, adults and elderly. Suggestion to review what is currently available in the state and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Identify Sub-committees</p> <p>Responsible for Reviewing Current Services</p> <p>Birth to 22 services – Linda H., Susan Kimmerly, Cindy Moran</p> <p>Adult Services – Bill Hudson and Missy Boothroyd</p> <p>Elderly Services – AJ Van Tassel and Debra Charlea Baker</p> <p>Each subgroup will present a 15-20 minute presentation at the 11/12 meeting. Please share presentation with group beforehand so that others can address the subgroup.</p>

Building a Highly Effective Team	Linda H.- Next meeting there will be a short presentation of building a highly effective team..	Team building exercise
Wrap-Up	Spenser W. – Opened up topic of potential stipends for volunteers, and higher consultation. The Senate letter did not mention a fund but funding would be a good idea to get further input. Susan Kimmerly Motion for Meeting to adjourn AJ Van Tassel – 2 nd Motion Motion passed	Discuss stipends with Monica Hutt