

## Minutes from the January 2, 2008 joint LICC meeting

Attendees: Jan Salwocki, CSIU Preschool; Barbara Wert, Bloomsburg University; Crystie Fritz, CMSU; Jen Hipps, Danville Child Development Center; Beth Cherwenski, Community Engagement Columbia/Montour Counties; Brenda Miller, Parent Child Home Program; Pam Miller, Parent Child Home Program; Jessica Bower, PA Department of Health; Julie Panczyszyn, Special Kids Network; Melisa Engel, Parent to Parent of PA; Bill Erickson, OCDEL; June Young, Parent to Parent ; Delle Moyer, Columbia Sullivan Head Start; Diane Roman, Northumberland County Early Intervention, Kellee Rumbough, Parent and Lisa Woodring, Snyder, Union, Mifflin Child Development/Head Start

### Community Events

- January 26, 2008 – Children’s Health Fair at the Susquehanna Valley Mall  
Sponsored by Evangelical Community Hospital from 10:00 AM  
- 2:00 PM
- January 8 & - Developing Healthy Relationships and Staying Safe  
15, 2008 Trainings, Center for Schools and Communities, Camp Hill  
(see attachment for details)
- January 12, 2008 - Early Care and Education Professional Development Mini-  
Conference – Danville Area Middle School, 8:00AM –  
4:00 PM, \$15 registration, register at [www.pakey.org](http://www.pakey.org),  
For more information call Mary Mahoney Ferster at  
966- 8194
- January 25 & - Competence and Confidence Partners in Policymaking –  
26, 2008 Parent Advocacy Training, Country Cupboard, Lewisburg  
Contact Diane Perry 215-204-3031 or email  
[dperry@temple.edu](mailto:dperry@temple.edu)
- February 23, 2008 - Children’s Fair at the Columbia Mall, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- February 28, 2008 - Bloomsburg Family Resource Network 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM  
St Luke’s Church in Bloomsburg contact Kellee Rumbough  
at 389-0397 or e-mail [krumb@ptd.net](mailto:krumb@ptd.net)
- March 11, 2008 - Annual Kindergarten Transition Conference at Bloomsburg  
University
- April 3 & 4 2008 - Conference: Autism: Trends, Methods, Real Life;  
Community Arts center, Williamsport, for more information  
email [www.conferenceandwalk.homestead.com](http://www.conferenceandwalk.homestead.com)
- April 5, 2008 - Autism Walk & Picnic: It’s Time to Move, South  
Williamsport Park, for more information email  
[www.conferenceandwalk.homestead.com](http://www.conferenceandwalk.homestead.com)
- May 28, 2008 - Early Childhood Conference, St Luke’s Church,  
Bloomsburg

## **Program Updates**

Bloomsburg Family Resource Network – Kelly Rumbough

Kelly shared information from Mentors for Self Determination an organization to assist families and individuals with disabilities access services provided through the Mental Retardation System in PA and to achieve goals of self determination. Their website is [www.mentors4sd.org](http://www.mentors4sd.org)

Parent to Parent – Melisa Engel

Melisa distributed a brochure with the new Parent to Parent phone number, 1-888-727-2706.

The Special Kids Network – Julie Panczyszyn

Julie shared a flyer describing services. The Special Kids Network can be reached by calling 1-800-986-4550; TTY: 1-877-232-7640; or on the web at: [www.helpinpa.state.pa.us](http://www.helpinpa.state.pa.us). She also shared information on the PA Elks Home Service Program. To find out more about this program contact Patricia Connor at 814-781-7860 or visit their website at: [www.paelks.com/files/Homeserv.htm](http://www.paelks.com/files/Homeserv.htm)

Community Engagement – Mary Mahoney Ferster

Mary shared copies of the Kindergarten Information Packet that will be distributed to families of school age eligible children in Snyder and Union Counties through child cares, Head Starts and Early Intervention programs. Mary also encouraged programs to contact her with their program information to be included in the upcoming issue of the Community Engagement Report Card. Mary can be reached at 966 – 8194.

CSIU Preschool – Jan Salwocki

Jan reported that the transition to school process is scheduled to begin with February meetings to be held at school district locations. Parents will receive invitations via mail. A Task Force meeting was held in late December to explore the need for integrated behavioral health services at the early childhood level. It was determined that pilot groups, Danville Head Start and Columbia-Sullivan Head Start (Bloomsburg location), would be targeted for initiation of the process. Phil Keating, Administrator for CMSU MH-MR services and Stephanie Hackenburg, Behavior CSIU Behavior Consultant, spearheaded the formation of the Task Force to parallel a similar initiative they are working on with the school age population. Essentially, the idea is to provide a more coordinated system of behavioral support through well trained staff operating under a single point of contact utilizing a continuum of supports provided in program and at home. Foundational to this service system is the implementation of program-wide positive behavioral supports for all children. The Task Force will continue to meet to discuss the creation of a position to support this process.

Department of Health – Jessica Bower

Jessica urged anyone who has not yet gotten a flu shot to contact their local Public Health Center for a free immunization. She also reported that January is Birth Defects Prevention Month. Jessica distributed March of Dimes brochures on the importance of Vitamin B in the prevention of birth defects. She also shared information on a mini grant application for small organizations providing services to families and individuals with autism.

Bloomsburg University – Barbara Wert

Barbara reported that the Department of Exceptionality Programs received a grant from the Campus-Wide Committee on Human Relations to bring Kathy Snow, disability advocate, to the University. Her topic will be “Disability is Natural & the Use of Natural Supports “. The CSIU and the LICC will help fund Mrs. Snow’s visit. The program will be open to BU students & faculty, families of individuals with disabilities and the staff who support them. A spring date will be announced when it has been confirmed.

### **Old Business**

Reviewed discussion from the November meeting: parent involvement, purpose of the LICC and meeting format. While the group is always committed to fostering parent involvement and increasing parent membership, it was established that the advisory role of the LICC to the general operation of EI programs was not necessarily appealing to most parents. It was decided that the group would establish committees, some standing and some as needed, to allow for individuals to participate in various ways with mailings and e-mails being suitable alternatives to actual meetings. Committee time would be allotted at each LICC meeting as well as time given for status reports. Anyone attending an LICC meeting continues to be welcome to bring information to share or to distribute. Additionally, the LICC will explore the possibility of providing 2 yearly parent trainings.

### **New Business**

Discussion was held on changing the LICC meeting schedule to an every other month schedule with the group in favor of this change. The LICC requirements call for 4 meetings to be held yearly. Since we have already had 3 meetings this fiscal year, we will make this change. Remaining discussion was on increasing parent involvement. Some suggestions given included: giving the parent options for involvement – meeting attendance, receiving minutes via e-mail/mail, reissuing an invitation to join the LICC a few months after a child has been enrolled in an EI program.

### **Committee Meeting Time**

The Parent Education and Participation Committee and the Family/Preschool Events Committee met briefly following the general meeting.

**Next meeting: March 5, 2008 Grove Presbyterian Church, Danville 12:30 PM**