

Combined meeting for the Central Susquehanna Valley (CSV) and Northumberland County Local Interagency Coordinating Councils
(LICC)
Nov 5, 2007

Attending: Patty Edwards (Snyder Union Mifflin Child Development (SUM CD) Head Start and Early Head Start Director), Pam Miller (Parent Child Home Project), Brenda Miller (Parent Child Home Project), June Young, (Parent to Parent (P2P), Northumberland County), Kellee Rumbough (parent), Jan Salwocki (Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) Preschool Supervisor), Jessica Bower, Department of Health (DOH), Special Health Care Needs Consultant), Diane Roman (Northumberland County Early Intervention Coordinator), Gayle Schlesinger (Northumberland County Head Start), Denise Wehr-Wetzel (Snyder Union Mifflin Child Development), Victoria Shaffer (Pennsylvania College of Technology nursing student), Ruth Brewer (Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit Preschool Social Worker), Peggy Dimmick, Danville Head Start Health & Disabilities Coordinator), and Becky Laubach (Columbia/Montour/Snyder/Union (CMSU) Early Intervention Supervisor).

Announcements: 1) Bloomsburg University is sponsoring Kathie Snow. Specific details are being worked at but most likely she will come for an all day event to be held at the university sometime in the spring. There will be no charge for the event and parents, current college students and professionals will be invited to attend. Kathie is a parent who challenges those in her audience to think differently about individuals with disabilities. Her website is www.disabilityisnatural.com. The event is in the early stages of planning. 2) The Children's Museum in Bloomsburg has received a grant to develop a program specific to infants and toddlers. They have begun planning their program which will provide opportunities for parents to model interactions and play experiences with their children. Developmental information will be available for parents. The program is hoped to be up and running in the spring. 3) Department of Health has flu vaccines available for those aged 6 months and up. The vaccines are free. Contact the health department office in each county. 3) Northumberland County United Way will survey Northumberland County families regarding transition to school. The purpose of the survey is to determine what improvements in the process need to occur. Snyder/Union Early Childhood Engagement has developed a photo album of school buildings that children will be going into. Danville Head Start does something similar for kids going into kindergarten (includes teachers, rooms and so on); they are looking repeating the process for entry into Head Start. 4) Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit has hired Ruth Brewer as a preschool social worker.

Discussion: 1) After a lengthy discussion, the group agreed to form two committees to work on parent education and participation. The first committee will work together on the Kathie Snow event. Kellee reports that there are a group of parents from the Bloomsburg Family Resource Network formed to help plan the event. This committee will work in conjunction with the parent group. The following volunteered for the committee: Kellee, Jan, Jessica and Becky. The second committee will focus on planning the preschool event at Knoebel's. Each year, Knoebel's opens only the Kiddieland area of their park for parents and young children. This provides a wonderful opportunity to teach parents with young children how to positively experience the amusement park especially if

the child has multiple needs that require some adaptation for the park. Those volunteering for this committee: Peggy, Diane, Gail, Pam, Brenda and June. 2) The group also set meeting dates for the coming year. Meetings will be held the first Wednesday of the month from 12:30 – 2:30. Dec 5th will be held at the Early Head Start Family Center in Mifflinburg, Jan 2nd at Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit in Montandon, Feb 6th at St. Luke's Church in Bloomsburg, Mar 5th at Grove Presbyterian Church in Danville, April 2th at the Northumberland County Family Center in Sunbury and May 7nd at the Early Head Start Family Center in Mifflinburg. 3) The group also discussed community resource information that is available to agencies and families. Special Kids Network is mapping community resources in both Williamsport and Selinsgrove. It is understood that next year additional communities will be mapped. Also, Pa Families Inc has a listing of resources. The group talked about developing a resource packet once a year that would include those efforts already in existence.