

# Maryland Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (MD EHD) Advisory Council

ZOOM Meeting Minutes  
July 18, 2024  
12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Guests</b>
Robyn Miller, Au.D.	Carolyn Mulvey Jenks, MD	Cheri Dowling
Thomas Horejes, Ph.D.	Patricia Muldowney	Connely Leis
Jamie Perry, MD	<b>Maryland Department of Health (MDH)</b>	Katie Huray
Jonathan Walsh, MD	Lauren Whiteman	Julie Steinberg
Margaret Hargrove	Stacy Taylor	Jocelyn Leung
Marny Helfrich	Noadya Legrand	Jen Willis
Danielle Previ, Ph.D.	Beverly Amofah	Nina Desell
Mara Clement	Bailey House	
Jennifer Bissett		
Joe Kelleher	<b>ASL Interpreters</b>	
Usherla DeBerry	Anna Rose	
Amy Gaskin	Sheryl Cooper	

## **Call to Order**

Chairperson Robyn Miller called the meeting to order.

## **Welcome, Meeting Etiquette Reminders and Introductions**

Chairperson Miller announced to the Council the meeting is being recorded. Etiquette reminders were shared with the Committee.

## **Approval of Previous Minutes**

The April 18, 2024, meeting minutes were shared with the Council for review prior to the meeting. Noadya Legrand asked the Committee if they approved of the minutes. Chairperson Robyn Miller had a suggested change to the minutes. Vice Chair Dr. Tommy Horejas made the motion to approve the amended minutes. Chairperson Miller seconded the motion and no opposed motions. Minutes were approved.

## **Announcements**

Noadya Legrand announced the departure of Council members Chairperson Robyn Miller, Margaret Hargrove and Dr. Jonathan Walsh. Their terms expired June 30th. The AG Bell and program Audiologist positions are not eligible to renew. Members will continue to serve until a successor is appointed.

Noadya Legrand welcomed to the Council Dr. Carolyn Mulvey Jenks and Amy Gaskin. The Committee introduced themselves to the new members and Amy Gaskin introduced herself.

The Committee was asked to think about nominations for the Council's new chair position.

## **Continued Business**

### **Feedback from the State Stakeholder Conference**

- Chairperson Robyn Miller asked Council members who attended the State Stakeholders

Conference back in May virtually or in person for any feedback. Vice Chair Dr. Horejes shared his feedback regarding live streaming that would need to be addressed prior to the next Conference.

- The Council discussed the online and in person Conference attendance and suggested options to improve.
- Chairperson Miller gave her positive feedback on the Stakeholders Conference to the Committee.

### **Self Share, Individual Updates, EHDI Work Plan news**

- Vice Chair Dr. Horejas announced to the Committee that he has put a pause on the Advisory Council Work Plan for now until a new coordinator is appointed.

### ***MD EHDI Program Updates***

#### MCHB Equity Workgroup

- The Office of Children and Youth with Specific Health Care Needs (OCYSHCN) is underneath the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) of MDH and that bureau has created an equity work group in order to find ways to improve programs within the bureau and make sure that services are equitable for the populations served. A demographic survey was created by the workgroup to get an inventory of who is on various Committees and Councils within the bureau including the EHDI Advisory Council. It is a very short survey and will be shared with Council members to complete.

#### HRSA grant

- The HRSA grant has been awarded to the Maryland Department of Health, who through a competitive process, awarded the American Society for Deaf Children (ASDC) to fulfill the family support requirements of the HRSA grant.

#### CDC grant

- The CDC grant received an extension (one year of funding) towards improvement to EHDI's information systems. The CDC sent out an upcoming Notice of Funding (NOF) coming out at the end of 2024. That would allow the opportunity to secure more funding for another year towards the EHDI information systems.

#### OZ Database

- The OZ database issues it was experiencing have been resolved. The program's Audiologist is being vigilant and making sure the database is running smoothly and the program's Epidemiologist is making sure data is being entered into the database sufficiently.

#### Statistics

- Lauren Whiteman presented the EHDI Programs new updated schematic statistics with the Committee. She shared statistics that are much easier to follow now. The 2023 total births screening stats, diagnoses and closed cases were shared and explained.
- Stacy Taylor shared with the Committee that the OCYSHCN is trying to provide increased outreach to pregnant people to provide awareness before they give birth about NBS across the board. It was asked of the Council to let them know of any professional organizations they may think would benefit from this outreach. The importance of the referral to family support was mentioned. Cheri Dowling shared that part of the ASDC (American Society for Deaf Children) grant will be used for extensive follow up family support.

### **New Business**

Lauren Whiteman shared with the Council the OCYSHCN MD EHDI Demographic Update slideshow of babies screened in MD. It is still an active project, but they wanted to share what was available now with the Committee.

Cheri Dowling informed the Committee that Connections Beyond Sight and Sound is hosting their

virtual Summer Institute August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am- 4pm. Two presentations will be offered both days. She will share the conference link in the chat.

### **Legislative Information/Updates**

No updates at this time.

### **Next MD EHDI Advisory Council meeting**

October 17, 2024, 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm; meeting will be virtual.

Council members held nominations for the Committee Chair position. Vice Chair Dr. Horejas was nominated. The nomination was accepted so nominations for his Vice Chair position were also held. The EHDI's administrative office shared some of the positions, responsibilities and duties with members. Dr. Danielle Previ self-nominated for the Vice Chair position. It was agreed among the Committee before moving ahead to wait to give any absent member to be nominated or self-nominate for the position(s).

The demographic survey discussed earlier in the meeting was shared in the chat for members to complete.

### **Adjournment**

Chairperson Robyn Miller moved to adjourn the meeting, Jamie Perry seconded the motion. Motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned.