

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

Minutes January 16, 2020

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Guests</b>
Jennifer Reesman, Ph.D., Chair	All members present	Nina DeSell
Marny Helfrich	<b>Maryland Department of Health (MDH)</b>	Dawn Marsiglia, Au.D.
Kelby Brick, Esq., CDI	Tanya D. Green	Cheri Dowling
Patty Muldowney	Jed L. Miller, MD	Olga Polites
Robyn Miller, Au.D.		
Mara Clement		
Margaret Hargrove		
Tina Backe		
Meagan Ackerman		
Allison Balsley		
Brian Reilly, M.D. (phone)		

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Dr. Jennifer Reesman.

### **Welcome and Sharing of a Story**

Chairperson Reesman shared a story about access to records and information. Dr. Reilly discussed helpfulness of parents having the ability to utilize online portals to view their child's medical records.

### **Approval of Previous Minutes**

The minutes from the October 17, 2019 meeting were voted on and approved with one correction, to add Dr. Brian Reilly to the members present list.

### **Old Business**

#### ***Newborn Hearing Screening Protocols/Best Practices Document Update***

The Best Practices document's content has been finalized and the document is close to being released.

#### ***Membership Update***

There is one vacant board member position (one of two parent positions). The Council welcomes its newest board member, Ally (Allison) Balsley who is the recently appointed Maryland Association of the Deaf representative. Ms. Balsley was in attendance at the meeting and shared her background with the Council.

The attendance policy for MDH Secretary appointments was shared with the Council.

#### ***MD EHDI Program Update***

##### **Statistics**

Program statistics were provided and discussed. It was suggested that additional EHDI stakeholders be invited to a future Council meeting for a discussion about how to improve the statistic of the number of parents who decline early intervention services. It was also suggested that stakeholder agencies collaborate to determine the reasons parents decline services.

#### ***MD EHDI HRSA Grant Update***

Dr. Bradford Harris of Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital and his staff are participating in the second Learning Community cohort of the grant. He and his staff are learning more about the EHDI process in Maryland and how to engage with the EHDI system for better outcomes for children who are identified as deaf or hard of hearing.

The current HRSA grant ends March 31, 2020. An application was submitted for a new funding opportunity from HRSA with hopes of learning the application status during March, 2020.

#### ***MD EHDI brochure***

No update

### ***Parent stipend for 19th Annual Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Meeting***

A parent stipend will be offered by MD EHDI with the use of HRSA funds. More information will be provided to Council members.

### **New Business**

The Joint Committee on Infant Hearing (JCIH) issued a new position statement at the end of 2019. The position statement will be shared with Council members for review to prepare for discussion at the April meeting.

### **Nominations for Council Chair and Vice Chair**

Patty Muldowney was nominated by Kelby Brick for the Council Chair position and accepted during the October, 2019 meeting. At today's meeting, Margaret Hargrove nominated herself for Council Vice Chair. Mr. Brick asked Ms. Hargrove about AG Bell and the view that deaf people need to be eradicated. Ms. Hargrove stated that view is not in agreement with her personal views and that AG Bell focuses on supporting young children with hearing loss and families in their choice about what's best for their child.

Allison Balsley was nominated by Patty Muldowney for Vice Chair, and declined. Meagan Ackerman was nominated by Patty Muldowney for Vice Chair and accepted. A request for information on Vice Chair duties was made by one of the nominees, and Chairperson Reesman provided an overview. Chairperson Reesman or Tanya will provide additional information on vice chair duties. Chairperson Reesman stated that the vote will be held at the April, 2020 meeting.

### **Legislative updates**

No updates

### **Announcements**

19th Annual Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Meeting, March 8-10, 2020  
Kansas City, MO

ASL Weekend - January 25-26, 2020  
Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia

Annual MD EHDI Stakeholders Conference – May, 2020  
Hearing and Speech Agency, Baltimore

**Next MD EHDI Advisory Council meeting:** Thursday, April 16, 2020, 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM, Hearing and Speech Agency; park in the rear lot.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Reesman.