

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

# Approved

ZOOM Meeting Minutes  
July 20, 2023  
12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Guests</b>
Robyn Miller, Au.D.	Catherine Paige	Stephen Polacek
Patty Muldowney	Emily Kelleher	Louise Rollins
Jamie Perry, MD		Jennifer Willis
Thomas Horejes, Ph.D.		Sarah Ellis
Danielle Previ, Ph.D.	<b>Maryland Department of Health (MDH)</b>	Amy Gaskin
Marny Helfrich	Tameka Thomas	Connely Leis
Mara Clement	Stacy Taylor	Kate Breen
Jonathan Walsh, MD	Lauren Whiteman	Claire Buxton
Margaret Hargrove		
	<b>ASL Interpreters</b>	
	Anessa Hughes	
	Jacqueline Duff	

### **Call to Order**

Chairperson Robyn Miller called the meeting to order.

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

Chairperson Miller shared meeting etiquette reminders with the Council.

Dr. Horejes addressed the Council about the accessibility of technology via their cameras, emphasizing the potential benefits of turning cameras on during meetings. He highlighted the improvements in managing visibility now that ZOOM is more accessible and encouraged attendees to turn on their cameras for this meeting. He also suggested various viewing options. Chairperson Miller elaborated on-screen adjustments that can enhance the experience and expressed how great it was to have all cameras on.

Announcements No announcements currently.

### **Approval of Previous Minutes**

Council members received previous meeting minutes from the April 20, 2023, Advisory meeting and the May 26, 2023, Ad hoc chairperson voting meeting in advance for review. Tameka Thomas shared the meeting minutes on the screen with the Council. She asked if there were any edits for those minutes. Patty Muldowney made the motion to approve the minutes, Dr. Jonathan Walsh seconded the motion, and no opposed motions. The minutes were approved.

### **Continued Business**

#### **Self-Share**

- Chairperson Robyn Miller introduced herself and her experience as an audiologist. Dr. Miller explained this new self-share section added to the agenda with the council that would allow members to share any information about themselves to the Council to get to know each other better.

- Vice Chairperson Dr. Horejcs introduced himself to the Council and mentioned he is happy to be working with the council.
- Tameka Thomas introduced herself to the council.
- Dr. Jonathan Walsh introduced himself to the council and gave a brief background of his works.
- Dr. Jamie Perry introduced herself to the council and gave a brief description of her work.
- Kate Breen introduced herself to the council and gave a brief description of her hearing loss diagnosis process.

### **EHDI Advisory Work Plan**

- Chairperson Miller explained the work plan that was created last year, and the different areas created that would be worked on as a Council and teams to help support families. She asked the council if there were any updates or questions regarding the plan. Tameka Thomas shared the link in the chat with the council if anyone needed to see what the actual areas were. Dr. Horejcs suggested this plan be discussed at the next meeting to re-invest how this EHDI Advisory work plan can be worked on.

### **MD Department of Health (MDH) Updates**

#### Membership Updates

- Tameka Thomas mentioned she sent out reappointment applications, has forwarded the information, and will keep the council updated.
- One parent seat is currently vacant.
- Katherine Breen has agreed to fill the vacant position of ODHH Director.

### **MD EHDI Program Updates**

#### Statistics

- Tameka Thomas shared the statistics on the screen with the Council. She reported a new follow-up staff member working with the EHDI program and an improvement in the stats. has already been noticed.

#### HRSA grant

- Council member Margaret Hargrove presented to the Council on behalf of the Beginnings MD Program. The HRSA grant and the State Health Dept. have helped to fund the program. She shared the Beginnings MD program's mission. She displayed and explained an example of a roadmap to language and literacy for children who are deaf and hard of hearing. Margaret shared the program objective with the council. Other states have proven that loss to follow-up can be reduced by providing parent navigators to families who, at the point of diagnosis, are assigned to families. Margaret explained the parent navigator's responsibilities to the Council. The online referral form and process was shared with the council.
- Louise Rollins of Hands and Voices introduced the Grant program Guide by Your Side (GBYS), which is funded by the HRSA Grant and the MD Dept of Health PHPA. She discussed a list of the program's goals with the council. They are a program based on direct feedback from families. Connely Leis, the GBYS MD State coordinator, explained their referral process and the goals for the future.

#### CDC grant

- No grant updates currently.

#### MD EHDI Health Literacy Plans

- Tameka Thomas announced to the council that the program is doing a facilitated health literacy review of available resources. Documents to help families navigate their next steps based on best practices.

### **New Business**

Chairperson Miller announced to the council that they are planning to invite the CMV Consortium MD Chapter to join the next meeting to present what they are doing related to CMV diagnosis and possibly some policy related to a new bill.

The council will re-visit the MD EHDI Advisory Council work plan at the next meeting. Items discussed at this meeting will be added.

Patty Muldowney informed the council that MSD (both campuses) are looking to host an open house for professionals in the field in October. Once flyers are available, she will forward them to the Council, and attending the open house was encouraged.

**Next MD EHDI Advisory Council meeting:** Thursday, October 19, 2023, 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM; the meeting will be virtual.

### **Adjournment**

Dr. Jamie Perry moved to adjourn the meeting. Tameka Thomas seconded the motion. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned.

