

CoPA Minutes  
for Meeting on  
January 26, 2015

**Members Present:**

- 1) Kris Ganley, T/TAC at GMU
- 2) Dana Childress, Partnership for People with Disabilities
- 3) Kimberly Boose, Infant & Toddler Connection of Chesterfield
- 4) Beth Pruitt, Child Development Resources; Northern Tidewater – **CoPA Facilitator**
- 5) Cathy Cook, T/TAC at JMU
- 6) Kristen Ingram, T/TAC of ODU
- 7) Carol Burke, Infant & Toddler Connection of Rockbridge
- 8) Frances Rudd, Infant & Toddler Connection of Chesterfield- **Note Taker**
- 9) Brandie Williams, Rappahannock Parent Education-Infant Development Program
- 10) Deana Buck, Partnership for People with Disabilities

**Partner Updates:**

- Frances Rudd gave a very brief follow-up of the Austim & Asperger's Syndrome Conference in Roanoke, Virginia on December 5, 2014 with presenters Dr. Temple Grandin and Dr. Jed Baker. Dr. Baker recommended the book *Early Start Denver Model* which is a comprehensive behavioral early intervention approach for children with autism, ages 12 to 48 months. The book *An early Start for Your Children with Autism* uses everyday activities to help children connect, communicate and learn. The conference was very informative.
- Suzanne Kucharczyk at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC-Chapel Hill will be the CoPA at the Beach speaker. Cori will meet with Suzanne at the beginning of February to talk about the details.

-Members are to send Cori an email with any questions they may have

Ideas the committee thought Kucharczyk might address-

-Discuss the APE (Autism Program Environment) rating scale which Kucharczyk helped develop

-Expand on how coaching might tie in with evidence based practices

-What has been identified as promising practices by the Institute?

-What changes has Kucharczyk seen over her time with the Institute?

- The March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting at the library in Richmond with Dr. Brooke Ingersoll is confirmed from 12-4 at the Tuckahoe Library.  
**Cori – Is there a RSVP for this event?**
- The subcommittee who meet with Heather Norton gave an update about how many children under the age of three are on the EDCD wavier. The goal being to try and get the EDCD wavier process to be consistent since some areas of the Commonwealth children are approved for the waiver while other children are denied. Karen Durst is going to speak with Catherine Hancock and follow-up with CoPA.
- Autism Society of Central Virginia Conference on April 18, 2015 with keynote speaker Jennifer O’Toole. Jennifer was diagnosed with Aspergers as well as her husband and their three children.
- Deane Buck gave an update on the ACT Early meeting. Deanne shared that there is a grant through ACE that will focus on three areas of the State (Norfolk, Roanoke and a third site that has not been named) focusing on more training on the M/CHAT.
- The Pre-school Administrator spoke at the VAC. There is a behavioral specialist in all pre-school classes in Virginia Beach.
- Legislative Information
  - Committee to look at least restrictive environment (LRE). LRE has not been looked at in 30 years.

Next meeting will be the face-to-face meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>. CoPA members will meet sometime around the meeting at the library. It was suggested that we might before the presentation maybe around 11am.

Facilitator for the next meeting: Kris Ganley  
Note taker not named

Submitted by Frances Rudd

