

## CoPA Meeting Minutes

### 3/24/14

#### Members Present:

<b>Cori Hill</b>	Early Intervention Training Specialist, Partnership for People with Disabilities; CoPA Facilitator
<b>Dana Childress</b>	Early Intervention Professional Development Consultant, Partnership for People with Disabilities
<b>Susan Clarke</b>	PWC Infant & Toddler Connection
<b>Cathy Cook</b>	T/TAC at JMU
<b>Kris Ganley</b>	T/TAC at GMU
<b>Deb Horan</b>	Infant & Toddler Connection of Hanover
<b>Beth Pruitt</b>	Child Development Resources; Northside CoPA; Meeting Facilitator
<b>Frances Rudd</b>	Infant & Toddler Connection of Chesterfield
<b>Kristen Weatherford</b>	T/TAC at ODU

#### **ACT Early Update:**

- Deana not present for call – recovering from elbow surgery. Beth updated group about the audio conference that she and Deana did recently as part of the Infant & Toddler Specialist Network for child care providers around the state. Half the phone conference was devoted to sharing ACT Early information (Deana) and half the phone conference shared ideas and thoughts about what to do if you (child care provider) has a child who looks like he/she may have ASD or may be at risk of developing ASD.
- Someone on the CoPA conference inquired about whether that conference call will be available to anyone else in the form of a podcast?? Beth was not sure.

#### **Virginia Autism Council (VAC):**

- VAC met last week – updates:
  - VA Tech's Center for Autism Research (VTCAR) was again cited as a great resource for families dealing with or concerned about ASD in that region. The Center has a clinic that offers free comprehensive assessment for children as young as 2 years old. They also provide resources and information related to follow-up services for both children who do have and who don't have ASD including area psychologists and developmental pediatricians. VTCAR link:  
<http://www.vtcar.science.vt.edu/research/VTCARRegistry.html>
  - **The Carrington Autism Resource Center** at Averett University in Danville, VA is another great resource for families that is not being used very much. They are willing to support families with children with ASD that live in that area.  
<http://discover.averett.edu/autism>

- **ARC of VA's New Path** program is another resource. Erin Croyle is the EI Support Specialist and Debra Holloway is the Director of Training and Technical Assistance. They have information on their website related to many topics for families with children with special needs including information about the Medicaid Waivers. <http://new-path.thearcofva.org/>

**Autism Implementation Grant:** Right now they are focused on a training grant to train personnel in using the ADOS to aid in the early identification of ASD. They are looking to create a 3-tier approach: 1<sup>st</sup> tier: pediatrician; 2<sup>nd</sup> tier: neurodevelopmental peds; 3<sup>rd</sup> tier: multidisciplinary specialists. Dawn Hendricks will be providing MCHAT training and Dr. Oswald will be providing ADOS and ADIR training. Last month it was reported that they will be choosing three areas within the state to provide this training. Presently, Norfolk and Roanoke have been chosen and the committee continues to look for a third site. Deana is involved with this – she may be able to update us at our next phone conference (May).

### **Early Intervention Institute**

- In an effort to provide continuing education opportunities for EI providers (because EI providers are required to get professional training hours for EI recertification) in the absence of Creating Connections to Shining Stars there is going to be a one-day professional training and education “event” in October of this year. Coaching experts Drs. M’Lisa Shelden and Dathan Rush have been invited to be keynote speakers. Rough outline right now looks like whole group session on coaching from 9-12 and then breakout sessions from 1-4.

### **Other Discussion/Comments**

- **Rebecca Landa Videos:** Following a discussion from last phone conference on the videos about comparing young children with and without autism that Rebecca Landa has made, (<http://www.essentialbaby.com.au/toddler/toddler-health/what-autism-looks-like-in-toddlers-video-20140117-30yff.html>) it was suggested that someone spend some time on the Kennedy Krieger (KK) website prior to today’s conference to see if there might be any other resources on that site (KK) website. Deb Horan spent some time on the website over the past couple months and reported that she did not find any other autism resources that would be helpful for our group.
- **Face to Face CoPA meeting:** Frances and Beth agreed to work on this

Today’s facilitator was Beth Pruitt and Note-taker was Deb Horan

Next call: **Monday, May 19, 2014 3:00-4:00 pm**