

Integrated Training Collaborative Meeting

July 9, 2012

Agenda

1. Welcome, Announcements, and Celebrations

Attendees:

Corey Herd Cassidy, Radford University (SP/L)
Mary Swiggum, Lynchburg College, PT
Dianne Koontz-Lowman, retired from JMU, full-time student
Patty Eitmiller, Infant Educator and SC in Alexandria
Deana Buck, Integrated Trng Collaborative
Bonnie Grifa, Early Childhood Mental Health Coordinator
Dana Childress, Integrated Trng Collaborative
Lynn Wiley, Director, T/TAC at GMU
Carol Burke, LSM Rockbridge
Adrienne Frank, Child Development Resources, Director, Parents as Teachers Program
Cathy Cook, JMU T/TAC (Early Childhood)
Stacey Jackson, LSM Staunton/Waynesboro
Jen Newton, JMU faculty member

Announcements:

- Creating Connections to Shining Stars is next week! Whoo Hoo!
- CDR has been funded by the VDH, Home Visiting program, to hire new staff.
- I&TC of Staunton/Waynesboro has a new staff member on board.
- One of Dianne's former students is employed at a university.
- Gracyn is in Germany visiting her friend, Louisa.
- Annie graduated from high school and Emma graduated from college.

2. State Activities

- SpecialQuest – state work continues. Worked on video project with videographers to develop “Liam’s Story” and they are also working on a second one on inclusive practices. The second one is at the draft stage. We incorporated video elements and interviews.
- Dana is co-leading a DEC Special Interest Group (SIG) with a colleague from Greece (graduate student). The focus of the work is about special instruction and how it is used across the country. Currently there are 18 people who have expressed interest in the SIG. The group is self-directed and may explore the development of competencies for special instructors.
- The training staff collaborated with a DEC Special Interest Group (SIG) on Professional Development to create training materials regarding the new Part C regulations. Portions of these materials were used in the recent webinars provided by Kyla Patterson at the end of June.
- Virginia received a “Doing What Works” (DWW) grant that will focus on implementation of activities related to social emotional development and behavior. Virginia has too many classrooms (preschool and elementary) that expel children because of behavior. We

currently rank 10th in the nation for expulsion rates with young children in schools. This grant, which combines materials from the Center for Social Emotional Foundations of Early Learning (CSEFEL) and DWW, will give us a chance to work with schools to get training and technical assistance to improve practices that lead to reduced suspensions, improvement in achievement, etc. The goal is to have sustained efforts for change at the elementary level. Phyllis Mondak, Department of Education 619 Coordinator, has created a work group to assist with implementation of the DWW grant. Bonnie Grifa, Early Childhood Mental Health Coordinator, will also be instrumental with this great. A copy of the logic model for the DWW project is attached.

- Cori chaired the JMU Content Teaching Academy June 25-29. The topic was inclusive practices.
- VDSS is interested in funding CSEFEL training for child care providers of infants and toddlers within the next two years.
- Virginia Cross-Sector Professional Development (VCPD) group is working to implement a network of 5 professional development consortia. More info to come.

3. National Activities

- See above

4. ITC Scope of Work (past contract)

A. Updates/Scope of Work (copy of completed Work Plan attached)

- Module Updates-During this contract year, we developed modules on autism, IFSP 101, two hearing modules, and social-emotional development. We also have the prematurity and data modules almost completed. (NOTE: IFSP 101 will be updated to reflect new Part C regulations.)
- Talks on Tuesday (ToT)-These monthly webinars have been held on the first Tuesday of each month. Webinars are archived and posted to the EIPD website shortly after the live version. Please follow this link for all ToTs: http://www.eipd.vcu.edu/talks_tuesdays.html
- Video work-The training team has worked to enhance our video library during this contract year. Videos include topics on the importance of EI, service coordination, efficacy of training, and advocacy. See: <http://www.eipd.vcu.edu/videos.html>
- Blog-Dana reported that she has been working with Rebecka to launch a new blog entitled, "EI Strategies for Success." Currently there are 4 articles posted and Dana is working with additional writers to add to the blog. Please submit feedback or ideas for topics to Dana at dcchildress@vcu.edu. Members discussed potential topics for blog:
 - Reading babies' signals and self-regulation (possibly Mary Swiggum?)
 - Communication: Tips for communicating with kid and how to model for families (Corey Cassidy)
 - How to interact with and value families (building relationships, good listening, and valuing opportunity to be in families' homes (Jen Newton?))

- CCSS Conference – This year’s theme is “Connecting the Dots” from research to practice. John Almarode is keynote; Dathan Rush and M’Lisa Shelden are doing seminar on coaching and then f/u sessions the next day; Dr. Harrington is doing CoPA at the Beach; Mary Mackrain is doing session on infant/child mental health. Professional development staff used new social media tools to successfully promote the conference this year. Registration is full. Cori will follow up with ITC Committee members who have signed up to assist at the conference.

B. Faculty/EI Collaboration Committee –This committee was formed in 12/12. We surveyed faculty, LSMs and infant program directors, and students to find out more about how to support preservice (building the workforce capacity). Dana has been summarizing the data from the surveys. Response rates: 11 faculty members in EI/EC programs from 5 universities. The majority of faculty and students indicated that the percentage of students’ program that related to early intervention was 11-25%. Barriers and challenges noted included: 1) faculty reported not wanted to burden local EI systems; 2) limited placement options in EI particularly in summer months; 3) Amount of travel to get to EI sites; 4) Lack of placement procedures; 5) local systems currently overwhelmed, overworked and understaffed-hesitant to add students. Responders also noted that students often lacked knowledge about early intervention prior to their placement. Dana will provide summary of final findings to ITC members and we will investigate options during this current contract year.

5. Review of FY 2013 Draft Scope of Work

- ITC staff shared the draft scope of work for this contract year. This scope of work has been shared with Part C staff and meeting will be held August 15th to finalize. Final work plan will be posted on EIPD website. Members are encouraged to contact Cori if they have questions, concerns, or comments about information that was shared at the meeting.

Member Comments following review of new work plan:

- Support discussion with LSMs about faculty preservice work. Good idea to share information about the surveys and ongoing work with LSMs at the 9/25/12 LSM meeting.
- How can we work to integrate CSEFEL work? Should we bring faculty trainers together from 2011? How can we reach faculty from 4 year institutions?

6. Other Business-None

Next meeting: October 15th from 10:30-noon
Dial in: 1-866-842-5779, passcode 287-353-3701#