

**Integrated Training Collaborative
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2010**

Members Present:

Cheri Beverly	Dana Childress	Cori Hill	Beth Tolley
Lynn Blythe	Bev Crouse	Ann Janey Schultz	Mary Vorhees
Deana Buck	Adrienne Frank	Deb Smith	Lynn Wiley
Carol Burke	Corey Herd	Karin Spencer	

1. Welcome, Announcements, and Celebrations-Members introduced themselves.

- ❖ Welcome to new members! Deb Smith is an Infant and Toddler Specialist through the Virginia Head Start Training and Technical Assistance office. Deb reported that she is excited about new funding for additional programs, particularly in Early Head Start. Also joining us was Anne Janey-Shultz, Manager for the Head Start Training and Technical Assistance Center. Anne is particularly interested in developing a TA network so that various groups providing professional development are not each “reinventing the wheel.”
- ❖ Virginia’s 7th Annual Early Childhood Conference, Shining Stars, will be held July 14th-16th in VA Beach. There will be an EI strand and all are encouraged to attend and share this information. The call for proposals is now available at: <https://acrobat.com/?d=xXYfgovFNrBl2ARCYoRnEQ> We hope ITC members will consider submitting a proposal.
- ❖ Deana reported that the Partnership is working with the University of Delaware on an AmeriCorp grant to host AmeriCorp members to volunteer in inclusive childcare centers. AmeriCorp is an organization in which adults over the age of eighteen provide voluntary services while gaining experience. After the volunteers complete one year of service, they are eligible for an education stipend. There is also a “Senior Corp” for senior citizens to volunteer.

2. Interagency Updates

- ❖ Head Start-Anne reported that the annual Head Start conference will be held in Chesapeake March 23-25. All are invited to attend. More information is available at <http://www.headstartva.org>
- ❖ Cheri reported that JMU now has a dual licensure program with many more students. These students will all need infant/toddler placements as part of their educational experience. Members suggested that Cheri might contact Eva Thorp at GMU as she has developed some creative strategies for student placements. Lynne B. also reported that they have had success with 2 play groups, one at a library and one at a recreation center, offered for all children. They have partnered with Healthy Families for one of these groups. Lynne indicated that she would be willing to talk with Cheri about students possibly assisting with these activities. Karin reported that Bunny Jarrett and Lorelei Emma at GWU have developed some play group ideas which might be useful. Mary reported that UVa is placing students with the local I &TC program but students are going to child care centers as part of their placement. Carol reported that she will share this information through CoCoA (Council Coordinators Association) if Cheri will provide a brief summary of what this type of placement would require (number of hours, weeks, additional paperwork requirements, etc)
- ❖ Race to the Top Fund-Deana reported on this initiative which provides competitive grants to states that develop innovative educational reform. Virginia has applied. For more info, see: <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/index.html>

- ❖ Deana reported that the Infant and Toddler Specialist Network is hosting regional conferences entitled, “Celebrating Infants and Tots” this spring. These conferences will explore quality care for infants and toddlers. For more info, see: <http://www.va-itsnetwork.org/index.php/its-training.html>

3. ITC Current Work

- A. Membership**-Part of our grant activity is to expand membership to colleagues, family members, etc who are interested in supporting the work of the Collaborative. Current members were encouraged to consider additional people, especially preservice faculty, family members, and providers who we might ask to join us. Our goal is to reduce the “silos” in which people operate in a vacuum regarding their own agency or agenda. **Please contact Cori if you have suggestions of people to invite.**
- B. ITC Retreat**-We would like to plan a retreat to discuss the roles and goals of the ITC focusing on how to facilitate what a comprehensive system of personnel development (CSPD) looks like for the EI workforce. We also want to consider how we tie to the VICC CSPD and other early childhood professional development activities across Virginia. It was suggested that a retreat be held in May or later (after universities are finished with this school year.) Cori will send a meeting wizard for potential dates. **We will need volunteers to help with planning. Please contact Cori if you are willing to assist.**
- C. Collaboration with Infant-Child Mental Health Committee**-Cori reported that Virginia’s Infant-Child Mental Health Committee which was convened as part of the Smart Beginnings Plan (Health goal), is collaborating with the state of Michigan to adopt their framework for a tiered credentialing process for infant-mental health providers. Interested providers will apply to become an infant-mental health provider at various hierarchal tiers. Providers can move up the tiered system by participating in additional training, professional development, etc. Additionally, this committee is in discussion with TACSEI (Technical Assistance Center on Social-Emotional Intervention) and CSEFEL (Center on the Social-Emotional Foundations for Early Learning), hoping to purchase individualized technical assistance to assist Virginia in developing a statewide social-emotional/mental health system. **UPDATE: Someone had asked if Medicaid funds could be used to pay for services by these credentialed mental health providers. Bonnie Grifa reports that they are at the initial stages of exploring with DMAS how to getting these services reimbursed through Medicaid.**
- D. Kaleidoscope (revisions and trainings)**-Cori reported KI and KII revisions have been delayed pending the system transformation activities. A stakeholders committee will be formed in the very near future to review KI and KII competencies with the EI competencies. We will also seek input regarding adult learning strategies for KI and KII. Upon completion of the content revisions, pilot KI and KII trainings will be scheduled. **Please let Cori know by 2/5 if you are interested in participating in this work.**
- E. Professional Development Surveys**-As part of our work with the Professional Development ARRA funding grant, two surveys were sent (one to all certified EI providers and one to identified leaders (local system managers and

program/clinical directors) to garner information regarding priority professional development content, preferred methods for adult learning, and use of technology. Stakeholder groups assisted in the development of the surveys. ITC members received a draft summary of each survey. This information will be utilized to assist in building all professional development activities.

- F. Communities of Practice in Autism (CoPA)**-Cori reported that Belinda Hooper presented a poster session at DEC in New Mexico related to CoPA. Cori and Belinda also provided a concurrent session at the annual Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) in Washington. Additionally, Belinda, Maureen Conroy and Cori have submitted an article on CoPA. Locally, the CoPAs continue to meet although it has been somewhat quiet during the holiday season. Be sure to check the CoPA website for meeting minutes and resources for each locality: <http://www.infantva.org/pr-ITC-CoPa.htm>
- G. Leadership Academy**-A leadership academy will be held on April 12 and 13 at the Hotel Roanoke. Participants will include local system managers, infant program/clinical directors, and state level representatives. Additional information will be available soon.
- H. Technology**-A goal of the ITC is to expand the use of technology to provide professional development activities. Deana and Cori have been meeting with a technology consultant from VCU to gain an increased understanding of available options.

4. ARRA Funding Professional Development Grant-

- A. Infrastructure**-The ITC will be the mechanism for professional development activities through this grant. The grant has additional professional deliverables for a two year period. The two professional development surveys are the first steps in this grant process to begin implementing a statewide CSPD.
- B. Positions**-This grant will have a full time training/curricula specialist and a half time technology position. Cori will notify members when job descriptions are posted.

5. Other Business-none

Next meeting will be in April 2010. Cori will send a meeting wizard to schedule.

Thank you for your time. Please be sure to note items in BOLD within these minutes and let Cori know of your interest. We will need LOTS of help!