

# LICC MEETING MINUTES

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## Combined meeting for the Central Susquehanna Valley (CSV) and Northumberland County Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)

Jan 6, 2016

Those present at today's meeting: Diane Roman, Northumberland County EI; Pegi Keller, CSIU; Terri Locke, CSIU; Pam Ianiero, Danville Head Start; Jen Higgs, Include Me; Diana Verbeck, Danville Child Development Center; Renea Poust, Danville Child Development Center; Lisa Woodring, SUM CD Head Start; Patty Edwards, Northumberland Head Start; Susan Zeiders, EITA; Donna Pauling, Nurse Family Partnership; Becky Laubach, CMSU EI

Jen Higgs provided a presentation on Include Me. A brief history was provided as well as a review of how Include Me came to focus on the younger ages. Jen reviewed for the group what she is able to do – trainings (provided at a cost), discussions with parents, onsite technical assistance to both schools and early childhood programs (at school age, the assistance is child specific) – also provided at a cost. Jen handed out her business card to those attending.

Team discussed two outreach ideas that Jen shared from Bradford/Sullivan's group. The first idea focused on a placement that displays agencies on the edge with space in the middle for children to draw. The placement had been given to local restaurants with a pack of crayon per placement. The second idea pertained to a calendar that contained information pertaining to specific agencies with a quote from a participating family. Also included in the calendar were several pages containing developmental milestones/activities to complete the calendar year. Families received the calendars as well as programs such as WIC. The group agreed to further discuss these at the March meeting. Also, mentioned to include developmental websites on the calendar, potential funding sources were mentioned. Jen will also talk more with Bradford/Sullivan about both outreach opportunities and share the information at the March meeting.

It was mentioned that the North Central Parent to Parent Coordinator position is available. Those interested can contact Parent to Parent of PA.

Group discussed family engagement from the initial contact through staying involved with the various early childhood programs. Nurse Family Partnership has found that Hispanic families tend to not finish their program. They have looked at where their outreach occurs and identified areas such as location of healthcare, advertizing, use of Spanish speaking professionals for outreach targeted to Spanish speaking population (same increase has not been seen in the professional sector as has occurred in population) and the varying dialects within a language. Group identified several reasons as to why families disengage: commitment to program (systems are demanding), attendance, risk of reporting, poverty, value difference, requirements, and programs are complicated. The emphasis on using routines when carrying out program guidelines is challenging when the family has no routines and hard then for the families to carry out strategies. Group mentioned importance of providing families with resource information when they learn the family plans to move – this would provide the family with contact information for programs in the new area.

Sue Zeiders shared that EITA continues to work with OCDEL in promoting areas that OCDEL has identified as part of their state goals. Literacy and social emotional development are two areas of focus. Collaboration between programs within the early learning/early childhood community continues to be emphasized and encouraged.

Next Meeting: **March 2, 2016 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at Northumberland County BH/ID office.**