

**MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH ● BUREAU OF EARLY INTERVENTION**



**Early Hearing Detection and Intervention in Mississippi (EHDI-MS)
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

February 22, 2019 ● 12:00 – 3:00PM

LOCATION: MSDH Underwood Auditorium, 570 Jackson, MS

PRESENT	MEMBERS	AFFILIATION	ROLE
X	C.G. Marx (Chair)	<i>Univ. of So. Mississippi</i>	Audiologist/Personnel Prep
	Alyce Stewart	<i>MS State Dept of Health</i>	Title V: Newborn Screening
	Ashley Grillis	<i>UMMC, Audiology Clinic</i>	Audiologist
X	Augusta Bilbro	<i>MS State Dept of Health</i>	Title V: CYSHCN Program
	Ben Wagenknecht	<i>State Office of the DHH</i>	Adult DHH
	Callie Daniels	<i>MS Hands & Voices</i>	GBYS Deaf Guide
X	Charlotte Warfield	<i>Magnolia Speech School</i>	Early Interventionist
X	Christina Perigoe	<i>Univ. of So. Mississippi</i>	Personnel Prep
	Christopher Spankovich	<i>UMMC, Audiology Clinic</i>	Audiologist
	Claude F. Harbarger	<i>UMMC, ENT Clinic</i>	ENT
X	Haley Rishel	<i>Univ. of So. Mississippi</i>	Early Interventionist
	Jane Luter	<i>Univ. of So. Mississippi</i>	Personnel Prep
	John McMahon	<i>MS Hands & Voices</i>	GBYS Deaf Guide
X	Julie Seawright	<i>MS Hands & Voices</i>	GBYS Parent Guide
X	Kaye Carr	<i>SKI*HI Early Intervention</i>	Early Intervention Provider
	Kim Ward	<i>Univ. of So. Mississippi</i>	Audiologist/Personnel Prep
	Kolesha O' Quinn	<i>State Office of the DHH</i>	DHH Family Member
	Krista Guynes	<i>MS State Dept of Health</i>	Home Visiting Program
X	Laura Gremillion	<i>MSD: SKI*HI Early Intervention</i>	Early Interventionist
	Leigh Ann Leonard	<i>Forrest General Hospital</i>	Newborn Hearing Screener
	Lori Ates	<i>MS Hands & Voices</i>	GBYS Parent Guide
	Marilyn Johnson	<i>MS State Dept of Health</i>	Title V: MCH Block Grant
X	Rebecca Lowe	<i>University of Mississippi, Speech & Hearing Clinic</i>	Speech & Hearing Clinic/Personnel Prep
	Sandra Edwards	<i>Mississippi School for the Deaf</i>	Early Intervention Provider
	Susie B Phillips	<i>American Academy of Pediatrics, MS Chapter</i>	AAP Chapter Champion
X	Valecia Davis	<i>MS State Dept of Health</i>	Part C of IDEA
	Valerie Linn	<i>Magnolia Speech School</i>	Early Intervention Provider
	Virginia "Austin" Harrison	<i>American Academy of Pediatrics, MS Chapter</i>	AAP Chapter Champion
	Wendy Rosas-Altieri	<i>MS State Dept of Health</i>	WIC Representative
	Ykeya Springer	<i>MS Hands & Voices</i>	GBYS Parent Guide

Additional Attendees:

EHDI PROGRAM STAFF	ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS
Stacy Callender, <i>EHDI-MS Director</i> Lakeisha Unger, <i>Hearing Follow-up Coordinator</i> Skyler Jackson, <i>Hearing Follow-up Coordinator</i> Marty Chunn, <i>Learning Collaborative Facilitator</i>	

MINUTES

Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order by C. G. Marx, Chair, at 12:30 p.m. All participants were welcomed and introduced themselves.

Review and Approve Minutes

Meeting minutes from the November 30, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

Committee Reports

Committee Appointments:

R. Lowe and K. Carr were appointed to the Professional Development committee. L. Gremillion was appointed to the Family Engagement committee.

Bylaws Committee:

The EHDI-AC decided to table the discussion on the bylaws until the next meeting as V. Linn, K. Ward, and A. Grillis were not present. The following bylaws sections need to be reviewed:

- Percentage needed to establish quorum
- Minimum meeting attendance each year
- Any additional comments or feedback

Professional Development:

- A. Grillis and C. G. Marx are scheduled to present “Best practices and guidelines for identification and diagnosis of children with Hearing loss” at the upcoming Mississippi Speech-Language-Hearing Association Conference. C. Perigoe is scheduled to present “Sound test” at the MSHA Conference as well.
- C. Perigoe reported that Dr. Marietta Patterson is preparing to create a new program for deaf educators at the University of Southern Mississippi. If she is successful, she will create an advisory committee to assist in guiding the program. V. Davis asked that Dr. Patterson share how the EHDI program can assist in supporting her effort.
- Given the recent closing of the deaf education programs, EHDI stakeholders need to consider what we need for children who are DHH 10 or 20 years down the road.

Family Engagement:

- We need to engage more families in the Advisory Committee Meetings.
- H. Rishel reported she and Audiologist Courtney Turner met with hearing screening personnel at Memorial Gulfport Hospital. She noted the screeners could use handouts to explain to families the importance of follow-up with third (outpatient) hearing screenings and/or diagnostic evaluations, if needed.

Business

Billing of mandated hearing screenings:

The EHDI-MS shared information about families being sent bills for hearing screenings conducted by Peleton. Newborn hearing screenings are considered standard of care for newborns, not a stand-alone service with separate billing. The EHDI Advisory Committee

expressed concern that this practice was not consistent with State statute and would undermine the universal screening process. S. Callender will contact agency legal representatives, the Division of Medicaid, and the Department of Insurance to determine the legality of this practice and to express concern about it undermining the EHDI Program. C. G. Marx will reach out to hospitals using Peleton to determine the terms of their agreements. Depending upon the feedback from these sources, C. G. Marx may compose a letter from the EHDI Advisory Committee explaining the Committee has received multiple complaints from families who have been charged and how this is not consistent with EHDI requirements.

Delays in accessing diagnostic evaluations and timely reporting of all diagnostic results:

Some providers have refused to reschedule families who have failed to show for two appointments, no matter the reason. Other issues preventing timely diagnostics is that children are not being referred by pediatricians or children are rescheduled because they wake up or have fluid in their ears and are referred to an otolaryngologist. The greater the number of appointments the more likely the family is to miss one and the timelines are not being met. The EHDI Advisory Committee recommended policies and/or guidelines to address these situations adopted by the EHDI-MS Program and/or professional associations.

Program Updates

The EHDI-MS provided updates on changes to personnel. Chandra Laird has joined as the EHDI Data Clerk. The Outreach and Training Consultant positions are still open.

The EHDI-MS has submitted the first issue of an *EHDI Update* for agency approval. The intent is to issue this newsletter once per quarter with information about results, reporting practices, training, Advisory Council activities, and other information to improve communications with stakeholders.

The EHDI-MS requested feedback on proposed Policies and Procedures revisions. After any feedback is incorporated, the document will be submitted to the agency for approval. L. Gremillion recommended revising the language related to medical interventions as it could be misinterpreted as this equipment would be provided by the EHDI-MS Program under the MSDH rather than by their medical providers.

Preliminary information about the Hearing Screening and Follow-up Survey is available. Final results will be shared at the next meeting.

Announcements

- March 3-5 – National EHDI Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL)
- March 21-22 – The Children’s Center at USM: Hearing Now Summit (Hattiesburg, MS)
- April 1-2 – MS Speech-Language-Hearing Association (MSHA) Conference (Biloxi, MS)

Public Comments

No public comments were shared.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM.