

**UNIVERSAL NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM
MINUTES – MARCH 15, 2012**

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	GUESTS
Jennifer Reesman, Ph.D.	Mary Mussman, M.D.	Maryann Swann
Kathleen Heck, Ph.D.	Stacy Taylor	Clare Johnson
Stephen Epstein, M.D.		Louise Colodzin
Jennifer Bentley, Au.D.		Lisa Kornberg
Olga Polites		Donna Cain
		Susan Panny, M.D., MD AAP EHDI Chapter Champion
		Cheri Dowling
		Lauren McGrath
		Angela Johnson
		Tara Duboski Finkle
STAFF PRESENT	STAFF ABSENT	
Tanya D. Green	Erin Filippone	

QUORUM PRESENT? Yes
(at least 4 board members constitutes a quorum)

WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 12:50 p.m. by Tanya Green, followed by the welcome and introductions. (The chairperson, Maryann Swann and co-chairperson, Steve Seipp, have both stepped down from their positions but will continue to attend meetings).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from the January 19, 2012 meeting will be approved at the next council meeting.

INFANT HEARING PROGRAM STATISTICS

****NOTE: "Year" = Calendar Year (Jan-Dec)**

**YEARLY STATS: As of 03-15-2012			
	CY 2011		CY 2012
TOTAL BIRTHS	70,732		13,339
IN PROCESS AT L2	412		319
IN PROCESS AT L3 (still need dx eval)	45		6
CONFIRMED HL (incl. transient HL/some not eligible for ITP)	106		1
DOCUMENTED AS REFERRED TO ITP	75		1

NEW BUSINESS:

Infant Hearing Program Staff Update: A second follow up coordinator was hired in February, 2012, however the position is now vacant again as the new hire had to resign suddenly and has moved out of state. A freeze exemption has been submitted and once approved, the search process will begin again to fill this vacancy.

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

Angela Johnson was awarded the NCHAM stipend to attend the National EHDI conference in St. Louis earlier this month. Angela has a child who has hearing loss and Angela has expressed an interest in serving on this council.

MEMBERSHIP: Congratulations to the following new council members who have received their appointment letters from the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D.:

Stephen Epstein, M.D. – Physician with expertise in childhood hearing loss

Kathleen Heck, Ph.D. – Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) representative

Stacy Taylor – Parent of a child who has hearing loss

Jennifer Reesman, Ph.D. – Mental health professional with expertise in deafness

Jennifer Bentley, Au.D. – Audiologist

Olga Polites – Alexander Graham Bell Association of MD

Mary Mussman, M.D. – DHMH representative (re-appointed for a 2nd term)

Tara Duboski Finkle has applied for the Maryland Association of the Deaf representative position. Approval is pending.

Angela Johnson has expressed an interest in the 2nd parent of a child who has hearing loss position. A letter has been sent to the Maryland School for the Deaf (MSD) President, Mr. James Tucker, requesting a recommendation for the MSD council member position.

Louise Colodzin stated that she has someone in mind who may be interested in the LEA council member position. Louise will provide Tanya's contact information to the potential member.

A chairperson and co-chairperson are needed. Dr. Jennifer Reesman expressed an interest in co-chairing the council.

National EHDI Conference 2012 / St. Louis, MO: The National EHDI Conference was recently held March 5-6. Some Maryland attendees included Dr. Panny, Cheri Dowling, Mary Ann Richmond, Stacy Taylor, Tanya, Theresa Thompson (Infant Hearing Program), Dr. Jennifer Bentley, Clare Johnson (Hearing Assessment Center), Angela Johnson (Parent of a child who has hearing loss), Dr. Edward Coll (Bethesda Naval Hospital) and others. At today's council meeting there was a brief period of information sharing from the conference.

Annual Maryland EHDI Stakeholders Meeting Update:

The Annual Maryland EHDI Stakeholders Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at the Hearing and Speech Agency.

The format of this year's stakeholders meeting will include an open meeting (available to all stakeholders) in the morning from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm which will include a continental breakfast. Speakers for the morning meeting will be Dr. Susan Wiley (Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center/ topic = children who have hearing loss and co-existing developmental disabilities), Wendy Jones (National Center for Cultural Competence/ topic = working with Latino families), Tanya Green (State of MD EHDI), and Cheri Dowling (the new Maryland parent to parent mentor program).

The afternoon meeting will be held from 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm, and will include lunch. The tentative plan is for the afternoon meeting to be open to Hearing Advisory Council members and Infant Hearing Program Staff. The afternoon presenter will be Carrie Balian, B.A.; and the topic is "EHDI Marketing - Does it Really Make a Difference?" Participants will explore various models to learn what has worked in the past, and to discover ways to share a clear vision of what the Maryland EHDI program has to offer.

All attendees for the morning session must register in advance. Registration may be done online. Space is limited to 100 participants. CEU's will be available from ASHA and AAA. CEU's may possibly be available from the A. G. Bell Association. Dr. Panny will check in to the possibility of offering CME's.

CHAPTER CHAMPION UPDATE:

According to Erin Filippone, Maryland Infant Hearing Program audiologist, six new physician practices have recently registered to use the OZ eSP™ database.

Dr. Panny will consult with audiologist, Dr. Jennifer Bentley to observe and learn more about ABR testing.

Dr. Panny is applying for an EHDI Education and Training Award of \$2,500 which is being offered by the National AAP to reduce the rate loss to follow-up/loss to documentation.

Included in the proposed objectives are to increase the use of the MD Infant Hearing Screening Database by pediatric medical homes through the development of an MDAAP EHDI webpage, to market the usefulness of the database for individual patient management and population based surveillance, to offer direct user registration, database tutorial and recorded webinars with CME and through live on-site presentations with CME. An additional objective would be to increase pediatricians' knowledge about newborn hearing screening/follow up and the EHDI system in MD through a web page featuring recorded webinars with CME, useful links, downloadable print materials and through live on-site presentations with CME (grand rounds, presentations at AAP, health system/ other pediatric association meetings, medical school classes and visits to individual practices).

Funding is sought for the production of 2 webinars, which will be presented online in real time with a live online audience tuning in and which will be recorded and posted on the web page. The webinars will be approximately 60 minutes, including questions and discussion. Two possible webinar speakers are Dr. Terese Finitzo, an audiologist and co-founder of OZ Systems and Dr. Nancy Young, from Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, who would speak on the topic of later onset hearing loss.

Lisa Kornberg recommended that the webinars be closed captioned.

Workgroups Update:

Legislation and Regulation Updates: The workgroup participants have submitted their recommendations to the OGCSHCN legislative regulations review team.

Communications and Marketing and Promotion: Workgroup participants have provided edits to the Infant Hearing Program letters (missed birth screen, failed birth screen, out-of-hospital birth, risk factor). After considering all suggestions, the letters have been revised and approved by the Office for Genetics and Children with Special Health Care Needs. There will be separate letters for infants who missed the birth screen vs. infants who did not pass the birth screen. There will not be a separate out of hospital births letter, but rather a letter that is suitable for parents of infants who were born in the hospital or out of the hospital.

Volunteers were requested to be a part of a re-established **hearing screening protocols workgroup**. Dr. Bentley and Louise Colodzin volunteered to serve on this workgroup.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

American Sign Language Story Time at Baltimore County Library/Woodlawn Branch
2pm on Monday, March 26, Monday, April 23, and Monday, May 21

Open House - Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Campus – April 13 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

The Hearing and Speech Agency will offer two parent group sessions:

April 25 – choices in communication; parent panel will be included

May 23 – showcase of the programs offered; a panel will include representatives from the various programs

MEETING ADJOURNED at 2:15 pm.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

Following are the meeting dates for the remainder of the year:

There will not be a regular Council Meeting in May.

Annual Maryland State Stakeholders Conference: Thursday, May 17th

8:00 am - 12:00 pm at the Hearing and Speech Agency, 5900 Metro Drive, Baltimore

Registration is required. Additional information is forthcoming via email.

Thursday, July 19th: 12:30 pm - 2:30/3:00 pm at the Hearing and Speech Agency, 5900 Metro Drive, Baltimore

Thursday, September 20th: 12:30 pm - 2:30/3:00 pm at the Hearing and Speech Agency, 5900 Metro Drive, Baltimore

Thursday November 15th: 12:30 pm - 2:30/3:00 pm at the Hearing and Speech Agency, 5900 Metro Drive, Baltimore