

**UNIVERSAL NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM
MINUTES – MARCH 17, 2011**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Maryann Swann, Chair
Stephen Seipp, AuD Vice Chair
Donna Cain
Cheri Dowling
Mary Ann Richmond

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sharon Duchesneau
Shari Knudson
Mary Mussman, M.D.

GUESTS

Jennifer Bentley, AuD
Olga Polites
Lisa Kornberg
Sue Griebler
Stacy Taylor
Louise Colodzin

STAFF PRESENT

Tanya Green

STAFF ABSENT

Erin Filippone

WELCOME

Council Chair Maryann Swann opened the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 20, 2011:

The minutes were not approved. Concerns that there were statements made by Dr. Mary Mussmann at the previous meeting were not included in the minutes. Dr. Mussman spoke about working on a packet of information regarding Maryland School for the Deaf Family Services. Statement also made by Stacy Taylor that sometimes counties are making decisions for families was not mentioned. Mary Ann Richmond feels the information is valuable and wants their comments included in the minutes. Steve made a decision to postpone the vote for approval of the minutes from the January 20, 2011 minutes since Dr. Mussman was not present to clarify her statement. Once Dr. Mussman has clarified her statement, the minutes will be revised and voted on for approval.

DIRECTORS REPORT:

Tanya Green reviewed the current status of the Infant Hearing Program and stated that the application for CDC Grant FOA DD11-1101 has been completed and will be submitted on March 18, 2011. The CDC 2009 Data Survey was submitted.

The Infant Hearing Program is currently working on a new HRSA grant application (FOA: HRSA 11-038).

A site visit to Sinai Hospital was made by Erin Filippone and Tanya on February 11, 2011. The purpose of the site visit was to provide database support/training to the hospital staff and to answer questions. Tanya presented at Towson University on March 9, 2011 to a class of 2nd year AuD students, providing information regarding the Infant Hearing Program.

Dr. Jennifer Bentley and Erin have developed a revised draft of the UNBHS Member Guidelines.

A nomination letter has been received from AG Bell requesting nomination of Ms. Olga Polites as the new AG Bell board member. Dr. Susan Panny has agreed to volunteer her services to the UNBHS Advisory Council as its AAP EHDI Chapter Champion. The Advisory Council will have open discussions regarding the duties of the Chapter Champion and the process for making this position official.

Infant Hearing Program Statistics:

<u>Data</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Total births	71,282	13,491
at L2	662	455
at L3	81	15
have HL	80	1
ref'd to ITP	52	1

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Steve Seipp announced that he will resign as Vice Chair and as a member of the Hearing Advisory Council. He suggested Jennifer Bentley, AuD as the audiologist replacement. Dr. Seipp will continue to participate in the Advisory Council and will continue to serve as Vice Chair until the approval process for the new Vice Chair is completed.

Maryann Swann stated that her first term as Chairperson of the Hearing Advisory Council will end in June, 2011. She stated that volunteers are welcome to come forward who may be interested in the position of Chairperson. Maryann said that the bylaws suggest a two-year term for the Chairperson and that she feels that it is a healthy approach to follow the bylaws.

Discussion regarding the possible duties of the AAP EHDI Chapter Champion: The proposed role of the Chapter Champion would be to help reduce loss to follow-up/loss to documentation by serving as a liason between physicians and the EHDI community. The Chapter Champion would communicate to physicians the importance of follow-up to failed or missed newborn hearing screenings. The Chapter Champion would, along with the Advisory Council, also develop educational materials to be distributed to the medical community.

Sue Griebler asked how would the information be delivered to parents. She suggested providing hospitals with a comfortable way of informing parents of hearing screening results and information.

Stacy Taylor suggested a series of events of identification including identifying a parent volunteer with a friendly voice (a child who is deaf or hard of hearing) who would call other parents whose babies have been newly identified as having a hearing loss. Lisa Kornberg indicated HIPPA regulations which would possibly prevent this type of an action.

Sue Griebler stated that stage 1 would be the technician, the person who delivers the message. Sue suggested that it would be helpful if there were informational materials to present. Louise Colodzin added that every hospital works differently and mentioned that if the Council is interested, an effort could be launched to determine how each hospital is conducting hearing screenings, providing information to parents, etc. Lisa Kornberg stated that it would be a great job for master's degree level intern to go to all Maryland birthing hospitals to see what the screening process is. Steve Seipp suggested that Tanya contact Towson University to determine if there is interest in having graduate students conduct this effort (possibly conduct a survey to gather this information). There was a suggestion to show information that parents are receiving from hospitals at the next Council meeting.

Tanya requested assistance with the planning of this year's Annual Stakeholder's Meeting which will be planned for a date in June and Cheri Dowling and Olga Polites volunteered to assist with the planning.

There was information sharing from those who attended the Annual EHDI Conference in February, 2011. Tanya reported that during the individual Maryland state meeting, there was discussion about starting a Hands and Voices Chapter in Maryland.

There were stipends available to parents to attend the Annual EHDI Conference. Stacy Taylor was a recipient of one of the stipends and expressed her thanks. She shared her conference experience, indicating that the best part for her was Howard Rosenblum, a deaf attorney who was a plenary speaker. Stacy shared her pros and cons of the conference which were very helpful in the planning of future conferences. We gained some very informative feedback from Stacy.

Sue Griebler asked Stacy if she made comments to the conference which Stacy indicated that she did not. Maryann Swann stated emails have been sent to conference participants which contain electronic conference evaluation forms.

Dr. Bentley announced that NCHAM (National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management) will be holding a workshop to train pediatric audiologists. The training will be held in Pennsylvania in August, 2011. Dr. Bentley added that NCHAM will come to individual states to provide pediatric audiology training and wondered if there might be funding available for Maryland pediatric audiologists to attend this training.

Cheri Dowling provided a detailed report of the many outreach efforts in which she is involved. Cheri indicated that the workshops she arranges are held state-wide. Louise and Cheri spoke about the challenges that are faced with regard to holding workshops in Montgomery County. Cheri said that you often have to pay for everything in Montgomery County, including the use of public libraries and public school buildings. Louise stated that Montgomery County is facing so many frustrations. Working parents are unable to participate. Cheri added that sometimes a lack of funding may prevent the possibility of serving food at a workshop. Maryann Swann said this goes back to the role of the Chapter Champion and the need to investigate connections with families. Louise emphasized the physician is perceived as an authority figure by parents. Stacy said that as a parent, she did not initially know about the 1-3-6 protocol. Stacy said she knows someone with marketing experience who may be interested in working pro-bono to develop informational materials to promote parent awareness.

Cheri also handed out copies of the February and March, 2011 newsletters from the Family Resource and Support Center as well as brochures and flyers for upcoming workshops. Cheri stated that anyone can be added to her mailing list by contacting her.

Cheri Dowling and Lisa Kornberg provided updates from recent legislative sessions. The Permanent Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program Bill (Senate Bill 754) passed the House and the Senate and is awaiting the Governor's signature.

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

Membership: An MSDE representative is needed; It was suggested that we ask Tom Stengel if he is interested in serving

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

State Steering Committee - March 18, 2011

State Summit – Mostly webinars on April 28, 2011 and October 5, 2011 (focus will be on families and professionals working together) – Cheri will be one of the presenters on October 5th

MEETING ADJOURNED

Council Chair Maryann Swann adjourned the meeting at 2:35pm.

NEXT MEETING

12:30 pm on Thursday, May 19, 2011 at the Hearing and Speech Agency