



Minutes September 9, 2005

The meeting was held at King’s Family Restaurant, Route 8, in Franklin. Agencies represented were as follows:

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| ▪ <i>Catholic Charities</i> | Rita Anderton |
| ▪ <i>Child Care Information Services</i> | Candy Reina |
| ▪ <i>Oil City Area School District</i> | Yvonne Paranick, Mareeta Durney |
| ▪ <i>Parent</i> | Veronica McCauley |
| ▪ <i>Regional Counseling Center</i> | Susan White |
| ▪ <i>Riverview Intermediate Unit</i> | Heidi Girty |
| ▪ <i>Venango County Early Intervention 0-3</i> | Penny Thompson, Staci Shawgo |
| ▪ <i>Venango County MH/MR</i> | Jim Sandok |

The meeting was called to order by Veronica McCauley, Co-Chair.

Minutes of the July 8, 2005, meeting were not available at the time of the September meeting. Meeting minutes can be viewed at the Venango County Early Intervention web site (<http://home.usachoice.net/vcei>).

Old Business

Candy Reina shared information on the Welcome Packets for parents. She still needs 100 brochures from each agency. Ideas for gifts were discussed. The packets will include a magnet displaying the LICC website and telephone number.

New Business

The Health and Safety Fair plans have been tabled until October 2006.

The 4-H Fair is considering a Child/Family Day, according to Brad Stallard. There is a need for more agencies to participate in the annual county fair.

Yvonne Paranick announced that Children’s Day at the Cranberry Mall is scheduled for Sunday, April 2, 2006.

Heidi Girty reported that the LICC budget has been approved by Riverview Intermediate Unit 6.

Heidi Girty was nominated to serve as Co-Chairperson for 2006.

Program Reports

Penny Thompson of **Venango County Early Intervention** reported that they have many new referrals.

Jim Sandok of **Venango County MH/MR** noted that as of October 1, 2005, the Medical Assistance loophole will be restructured. There will be a sliding scale which will now require a co-payment.

Susan White indicated that the **Regional Counseling Center** has many new programs including a Lifestyles Group, Relationship Group, and a Women’s Group. Parents’ Anonymous will now be called the Family Support Network Alliance and will meet twice a month.

Candy Reina of **Child Care Information Services** stated that there is a waiting list for services, and funding sources continue to be a challenge.

Many books were given to CCIAS by Michelle of First Book.

Candy also reported that the Early Care and Education Board will distribute copies of the Ages and States Questionnaire to parents, along with a postage-paid envelope to return them to Early Intervention. Cards will be color-coded and will be a unique way to track referral sources.

Yvonne Paranick explained that the **Oil City Area School District** is creating a Health and Wellness program. The website for Nutrition, Exercise, Water and Sleep (NEWS) is <http://www.actionbasedlearning.com>.

Also, the district's full day kindergarten program is serving 195 students, which is the largest class in the past 10 years.

Mareeta Durney, also representing **Oil City Area School District**, shared that she recently attended the Governor's Institute for Parent Involvement, along with four parents and two children. The focus was on collaborative boards, home and school projects, and services for community agencies.

Rita Anderson of **Catholic Charities** announced that her agency offers pregnancy testing, counseling, referrals, diapers, wipes, and formula. This is available 4 times each for both the mother and father of the child. No income guidelines are in place, and the couple needs to spend about 20 minutes with Rita to access these services.

NEXT MEETING:

Friday, November 18, 2005, at 11:00 a.m.
King's Family Restaurant

