

# ACDHH & EHDH Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** January 9, 2025

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Location:** ACDHH Conference Room, 100 N 15th Ave #104, Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Meeting Called to Order:** 10:07 AM

**Chairperson:** Latrina Harris-Lewis

## I. Roll Call

### Present:

- Latrina Harris-Lewis (Chair)
- Fran Altmaier
- Annie Converse
- Dani Merrill
- Amber Hansen
- Melissa Klamann
- Kelly Randall
- Bibi Ashley
- Germaine Graham
- Dr. Wendy Steurwald
- Katie Fizz

### Absent:

- None

### Guests:

- Carmen Green Smith
- Rob Voreck
- Joe Huynh

## II. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (December 12, 2024)

- **Minor corrections were made**
- **Motion to approve minutes:** Amber Hansen
- **Seconded by:** Fran Altmaier
- **Action:** Approved unanimously

## III. Finalizing the Family Survey:

- **Discussion:**
  - Reviewed the latest version of the family survey and discussed final adjustments.
  - Discussed the branching structure for families with referrals or special needs.
  - A suggestion was made to improve wording of questions to make them neutral and unbiased.
- **Action Taken:**
  - Latrina Harris-Lewis agreed to revise wording based on suggestions and share the updated survey.
- **Timeline for Survey Finalization:**
  - The committee agreed to finalize the family survey by February 2025 and proceed with distribution.

## IV. Educational Video on Newborn Hearing Screenings

- **Update on Video Production:**
  - A discussion took place regarding the content and the inclusion of Deaf family members and real-life stories.

- Feedback was shared about the need for clear communication of video content, particularly around costs.
- **Action Taken:**
  - Filming for the video will begin by March 2025, with a partial video to be reviewed in the March meeting.

## V. Resource Compilation

- **Discussion:**
  - The committee continued working on compiling resources for the parent toolkit for newborn hearing screenings.
  - Chicana Por La Casa was highlighted as a resource for inclusion in the toolkit.
- **Action Taken:**
  - Resources were reviewed, and suggestions were made to add more resources, including community-specific resources.

## VI. Review of Personal Stories and Experiences

- **Discussion:**
  - Katie Fizz was scheduled to share a personal story about newborn hearing screenings but had to leave early.
  - Committee members discussed updates and improvements to the case studies presented.
- **Action Taken:**
  - Katie Fizz will share her personal story at the next meeting.
  - The committee agreed to continue collecting and refining personal stories for future presentations.

## VII. New Business

- **Introduction of Guests:**
  - **Rob Voreck** – Community Services Coordinator at ACDHH
    - Rob has been with ACDHH for just under a year and is still familiarizing himself with the organization's operations.
    - He is a parent of two children who are both Deaf and hard of hearing and who have gone through the newborn hearing screening process.
    - Rob shared the following personal experiences:
      - **First Child's Experience:**
        - The nurse appeared visibly upset when discussing the results of the screening.
        - As a parent with a Deaf wife, Rob had an idea of what the results might be.
        - When he asked the nurses about the results, they responded by saying, "We have to wait for the doctor," indicating a potential referral to an audiologist.
        - Rob noticed that the nurses were cautious and apprehensive about delivering the news, which contrasted with how most parents might react, often feeling overwhelmed and uncertain about next steps.



- **Additional Discussions:** Further conversation regarding potential committee members for DeafBlind and Deaf Plus communities to be discussed in February.

## IX. Upcoming Meeting

- **Plans for the February 2025 Meeting:**
  - Family Survey: Finalize and assign tasks for completion.
  - Educational Video: Continue progress on filming the video, with a possible review of a partial video by March 2025.
  - Toolkit Resources: Continue gathering additional resources for the toolkit.
  - Committee Membership: Further discussions on adding new members, particularly from the DeafBlind or Deaf Plus communities.
  - EHDI Conference in March 2025: Discuss attendance and preparations for the EHDI conference, including any related tasks for the committee.
- **Next Work Group Meeting:** February 13, 2025, via Zoom
- **Next Public Meeting:** April 10, 2025
- **Action:** Latrina Harris-Lewis will send out calendar invites and Zoom links for both meetings.

## X. Closing Remarks

- **Chairperson's Final Comments:**
  - Latrina Harris-Lewis thanked everyone for their participation and contributions.
  - Shared a document regarding federal discussions on EHDI and areas that could be improved.
  - **Action Taken:** Distributed the document for review and discussion.
- **Group Picture:**
  - Latrina Harris-Lewis suggested taking a group picture, as it had not been done in previous meetings.
  - Everyone gathered for the picture at the end of the meeting.

## XI. Public Comment

- No public comments were offered during the meeting.

## XII. Adjournment

- **Motion to Adjourn:** Amber Hansen
- **Seconded by:** Annie Converse
- **Action Taken:** Meeting adjourned at 12:07 PM

**Minutes Prepared by:** Latrina Harris-Lewis

