

ACDHH & EHDI Committee In-Person Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2026
(Minutes are not considered final until approved at the next meeting.)

Date: Thursday, January 8, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: ACDHH Board Room

I. Call to Order

- **Co-Chair:** Latrina Harris-Lewis
- **Time:** 10:04 AM

II. Roll Call

- Attendance of members, guests, and support staff

First Name	Last Name
Fran	Altmaier
Bibi	Ashley
Annie	Converse
Katie	Rawlings
Germaine	Graham
Amber	Hansen
Latrina	Harris-Lewis
Heidi	Klomhaus
Dani	Merrill
Kelly	Randall
Wendy	Steuerwald
<u>Guests</u>	<u>And Support Staff</u>
Rob	Voreck (ACDHH Community Services Program Manager)
Carmen	Green Smith (ACDHH Deputy)
Kendra Benedict	Director for Early Learning Program for ASDB

- Absent Members
- Present Members
- Guest Members

Absent Members:

- Amber Hanson
- Bibi Ashley

III. Approval of Minutes

- **Review and approval of previous meeting minutes:**
 - ACDHH & EHDI Committee Virtual Work Session Minutes – Dec. 11, 2025
 - **Revision noted:** Wendy Steuerwald – supportive of early intervention provider and newborn hearing screening supervisor.
 - **Motion to approve:** Germaine Graham
 - **Seconded:** Wendy Steuerwald and Katie Rawlings

IV. Old Business

- **Committee Membership & Representation**

Discussion on adding new roles to the committee:

- **Early Intervention (EI) / Early Learning Provider (ELP) Candidates:**

- Laura Hocknull
- Kendra Benedict, PhD
- Lisa Ring
- Meghan Lorentz
- Mary Engstrom
- Pia Benson

- **Newborn Screening Technician (NBST) Candidate:**

- Coleen Haws

- **Committee Discussion Highlights:**

- EI/ELP representation should include active teachers and supervisors across Arizona, including rural areas and the Navajo Nation.
- NBST representation critical for supervisory oversight and continuity in screening.
- Lisa and Laura were discussed as potential co-team to attend meetings on rotation and support broader perspectives.

- **Voting Outcome for Adding Positions:**

- Voted yes for two positions: Heidi, Germaine, Katie, Dani.
- Voted no: Fran, Wendy
- Abstains: Latrina and Annie
- Four votes = for two positions implementation

- Motion passed to add two new EI/ELP positions and one NBST position to the committee.

- Decisions by voting on which specific candidates shall be offered to fill the positions will be made at the next work session/meeting on February 12, 2026.

Action Item:

- Co-chairs to contact all EI/ELP candidates regarding interest.

V. New Business:

ACDHH Family Services Updates:

- Feedback reviewed on updated “Journey Through Screening and Beyond” timeline magnet.
- Updates included new logo, branding, italic tagline “Supporting and identifying children who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or DeafBlind.”
- Suggestions: Adjust icons for clarity; consider portrait format with QR code on bottom; update AZEIP spelling.
- Draft videos viewed (filming held December 17 at Desert Voices Preschool).

Action Items:

- Give updated suggestions to Spencer.

VI. Next Steps & Assignments

- Contact prospective candidates for interest and roles once we vote.
- Finalize family survey distribution and promotional materials.
- Order postcards with QR code to survey.
- Continue review and updates for video series and resource packets.

VII. Upcoming Meetings, Reminders, & Future Agenda Items

Next Meeting: February 12, 2026 – Virtual Zoom Work Session

Reminders:

- Submit new agenda items to Latrina Harris-Lewis or Fran Altmaier prior to the next meeting.

VIII. Community & Professional Updates

- **Heidi Klomhaus** provided updates:
 - Discussion on potential funding opportunities for continued work, including:
 - Burton Barr Library
 - City of Phoenix Families First Resource Center
 - **Annual Family Picnic – Save the Date:**
 - April 5, 2026, at McCormick Stillman Railroad Park

IX. Public Comments

- **Kendra Benedict:** Thanks committee for allowing space to share; emphasized importance of ASDB representation at the table.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Fran Altmaier

Seconded: Heidi Klomhaus

Time: 12:06 PM