

ACDHH & EHDI Committee Virtual Work Session Minutes - February 12, 2026

(Minutes are not considered final until approved at the next meeting.)

Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Zoom Meeting Online

I. Call to Order

Co-Chairs: Latrina Harris-Lewis and Fran Altmaier

Time: 10:05 AM

II. Roll Call

Committee Members Present

- Fran Altmaier
- Bibi Ashley
- Annie Converse
- Katie Rawlings
- Amber Hansen
- Latrina Harris-Lewis
- Heidi Klomhaus
- Dani Merrill
- Kelly Randall

Absent Members

- Germaine Graham
- Wendy Steuerwald
- Rob Voreck (ACDHH Community Services Program Manager)

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Meeting Reviewed:

ACDHH & EHDI Committee In-Person Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2026

Motion to Approve: Kelly Randall

Second: Dani Merrill

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Old Business

Committee Membership & Representation – EI/ELP Candidates

- Discussion continued regarding the five recommended EI/ELP candidates previously reviewed at the January meeting.
- Clarification was provided that appointed committee members serve as equal members and are not required to alternate attendance.
- The committee had previously approved **Lisa Ring (Supervisor – Northern Arizona)**.
- A vote was held to determine the second EI/ELP representative between:
 - Laura Hocknull
 - Kendra Benedict

Vote Results:

- Laura Hocknull – 6 votes
- Kendra Benedict – Remaining votes
- With six votes, **Laura Hocknull** was approved as the second EI/ELP representative.

Decision:

Lisa Ring and **Laura Hocknull** were approved to serve as EI/ELP representatives on the Committee.

Next Steps:

Latrina Harris-Lewis will:

- Send formal invitation letters to both approved candidates
- Provide meeting dates, times, and participation information

NBST Supervisory Role

Colleen Haws has been contacted and invited to participate as the NBST representative.

Next Steps:

- Latrina Harris-Lewis will follow up within one week if no response is received
- An update will be provided at the next meeting

If additional candidates become available, Fran Altmaier and Latrina Harris-Lewis will be notified for consideration.

V. New Business / Action Items

Family Survey

Updates were provided on the Family Survey initiative:

- ASL interpretation video clips recorded
- Spanish translations in progress
- Postcard with QR code being finalized
- Target distribution: April 2026
- Incentive purchased: AZDHS-branded stroller organizers
- Participation remains voluntary; families may optionally provide contact information to receive the incentive
- Committee reviewed images of the incentive item

Journey Through Screening and Beyond Materials

Updates provided regarding the timeline magnet and related materials:

- Designer (Spencer) developing three layout options (portrait & landscape formats)
- Final drafts pending
- Committee will review visual design, layout, and content placement upon receipt
- Alignment with updated ACDHH branding is being ensured

Action:

Latrina Harris-Lewis will follow up with the designer and share drafts.

Video Series Updates:

Two draft videos were reviewed:

- Diagnostic Evaluation Overview
- Early Intervention & Resource Overview

Updates included:

- Narration being re-recorded for quality improvement
- Deaf Mentor Program footage to be filmed in Tucson
- Authentic B-roll will replace placeholder stock video
- Non-authentic sign language stock footage will not be used
- Publishing deadline: March 31 (end of grant year)
- Discussion was held regarding representation of the Early Learning Program (ELP) and ASDB due to upcoming structural changes.

Action Items:

- Use ELP and Deaf Mentor Program websites rather than general ASDB references
- Bibi Ashley to provide updated website links
- Annie Converse offered coordination support
- Edits to be completed prior to final publication

Family Resource Booklet

- Continued updates and branding revisions underway
- Ensuring accurate placement and representation of ELP
- Binder and pamphlet versions remain in progress

VI. Community & Professional Engagement Updates

Heidi Klomhaus (Arizona Hands & Voices)

- Annual Family Picnic – April 4, 2026
 - Presenting Sponsor: Valley Toyota Dealers
- Board Retreat completed
- Continued partnership with Burton Barr Library
- Expansion discussions for additional Phoenix library locations
- Collaboration with Phoenix Children’s on literacy event
- Shared ELCO (Early Language Communication Option) resource for committee review

Latrina Harris-Lewis

- Business trip to Alabama to present at a conference (first week of March)
- EHDI Conference (third week of March)

Bibi Ashley

- Joined Board of National ASL Early Child Education (NASLECE)
- NASLECE Conference – San Diego (bridging Deaf schools and mainstream programs)
- Deaf Mentor Program ASL Immersion Camp (March)
 - Final year due to grant funding ending
- Promotional video link to be shared

Fran Altmaier – EHDI Grant Update

- Optimistic outlook regarding continued EHDI grant funding beyond March 31
- Awaiting official confirmation
- Continued funding would support committee initiatives and family programs statewide

VII. Upcoming Meetings & Reminders

Next Meeting: March 12, 2026
Virtual (Zoom)
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

- Latrina will confirm NBST participation status
- Magnet design update to be provided
- Submit additional agenda items to Latrina Harris-Lewis or Fran Altmaier prior to the meeting

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Heidi Klomhaus

Second: Kelly Randall

Time Adjourned: 11:38 AM