May 14, 2020

2 PM MST/4 PM EST

**Attendance:**

**CDC:** Marcus Gaffney

**DSHPSHWA:** Linda Hazard, Marcia Fort

**HRSA:** Bethany Applebaum, Maea Banks, Sarah Beth McLellan, Treeby Brown, and Michelle Koplitz

**NCHAM:** Karl White, Mandy Jay, William Eiserman, Karen Munoz and Alyson Ward

**AAP:** Christina Boothby and Müge Chavdar

**H&V:** Janet DesGeorges and Lisa Kovacs

**LEND:** Maureen Johnson

1. **COVID-19 Updates.** Each group provided a brief update regarding activities and impacts of associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and EHDI.
2. **H&V:** H&V is continuing to update the list of COVID-19 resources on their website. Janet discussed the Coffee Break Webinar on FL3 Language and Literacy Tip Sheet as part of the Better Speech and Hearing Month webinars and added that Lisa will be doing a Family to Family Support webinar later this month incorporating some of the FBO models specific to DHH.
3. **AAP**: AAP is collecting and sharing all publicly available data from states on child COVID-19 cases. Christina will share the link. AAP is doing a series of webinars on COVID-19 to help provide guidance and recommendations for medical care providers. In addition, AAP is doing a weekly FaceBook live conversation for families specifically related to COVID-19.

# Müge reported AAP was awarded $6 million to improve access to care via telehealth models in response to the COVID-19 pandemic from the Department of Health and Human Services. The project will develop methods to increase access to telehealth services and improve the telehealth infrastructure in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. **HRSA**: HRSA has updated resources for children with special healthcare needs and has provided additional funding to increase telehealth capabilities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# AUCD/LEND: This week’s COVID-19 call included safety tips from the California Council and advice about how to support COVID-19 patients return to the community after hospitalization. Maureen reported there is an upcoming series of COVID-19 webinars related to how UCEDDS and LEND can partner with state and local special education systems during this and future pandemics.

1. **CDC:**  The CDC continues to discuss a plan to address some of the concerns around the end of 2019 and the 2020 data, the impact of COVID-19, and the ability to conduct screening, rescreening and follow up diagnostic testing as well as the difficulty meeting the 1-3-6 benchmarks.

Marcus shared that CDC’s website will do a feature about how EHDI systems are responding to COVID-19 including some examples of what states are doing.

1. **DSPSHWA:** Linda expressed concern that parents want to wait until COVID is over to make appointments with medical providers. She shared how Vermont’s largest center is handling COVID-19 and seeing patients as follows: “All staff are wearing masks during the work day when with patients or outside of our personal offices. We are leaving 10-15 minutes between patients for disinfecting the area.  We are shifting the appointment times of patients and having them sit in their cars until we call them to enter the building as we are minimizing the use of the waiting area.   We glove when working with any hearing aids or patient devices.  And of course, hand washing and foaming.”

Linda requested a one page handout that could be customized for states on what medical providers are/will be doing to keep babies and parents safe and protect them with COVID-19.

A group discussion followed which included the following additional ideas for such handouts:

* appointment confirmations could include what the medical provider is doing to keep safe
* specific questions to ask medical provider such as cleaning protocols, equipment sterilization procedures, how often facility is disinfected, etc.
* what to do if clinic is closed; how to get on waiting list for future appointments, etc.
* emotional angst such as “if I wait, is my baby at risk for delay?”, “If I decide not to go can I reschedule?”, etc.
* include short testimonials by parents
* what can parent do to help start working with their child while waiting for an appointment
* Christina will look through healthychildren.org for infographics.
* Marcus agreed to review past CDC tip sheets for parents as well as some of the work being done with other newborn screenings for suggestions.

Other suggestions should be sent to Janet and Alyson for a draft.

One thing to consider is what is going to happen 6 months from now and how can these materials or guidance apply if a second COVID-19 wave causes states to close again.

1. **NCHAM:** The Better Hearing Screening Month webinars have gone extremely well. Karl reported NCHAM is working with people at NewSTEPS to present a virtual meeting on May 21st with people from bloodspot screening, newborn hearing screening and critical congenital heart disease. This virtual meeting will discuss challenges, barriers and solutions during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

NCHAM continues to update resources on our website to provide support for providers and leaders.

**Resources shared during the meeting:**

* <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/coronavirus-frequently-asked-questions#children>
* <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/children-and-covid-19-state-level-data-report/>
* <https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/coronavirus-faq.asp>
* Telehealth Best Practices: <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/guidance-on-the-necessary-use-of-telehealth-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/>
* Addressing Racial Inequities During COVID 19 Webinar: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_9ozzK21S8&feature=youtu.be>
* May 19 Webinar: <https://www.aucd.org/template/event.cfm?event_id=8657&id=379&parent=379>
* RadioMD Podcast about COVID19 and CYSHCN <http://radiomd.com/show/healthy-children/item/42283-how-the-covid-19-pandemic-impacts-kids-with-special-healthcare-needs%A0>
* AUCD's National Center on Disability in Public Health Shares COVID-19 Emergency Response Information: <https://www.aucd.org/template/news.cfm?news_id=14761&parent=16&parent_title=Home&url=/template/index.cfm>?
* Recorded HealthyChildren.org Facebook Live conversations from AAP <https://www.facebook.com/pg/healthychildren/videos/?ref=page_internal>
* nTIDE Special Report – Implications of COVID-19: <https://unh.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HFo1tTYtQLmVauumRPL_DA?mc_cid=3e3f9ec985&mc_eid=faa2d3f704>
* <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/guidance-on-providing-pediatric-well-care-during-covid-19/>
* <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/tips-tools/ask-the-pediatrician/Pages/Is-it-OK-to-call-the-pediatrician-during-COVID-19-even-if-Im-not-sure-my-child-is-sick.aspx>
* Tips for preparing for a telehealth visit: <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/health-management/Pages/Telehealth-Services-for-Children.aspx>
* AAP Tips on Physician Wellness: <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/#Physician>

**The next EHDI Partners Meeting about COVID-19 is scheduled for Thursday, May 28th at 2 PM MST/4 PM EST.**

Join the Zoom call <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/762766429?pwd=UWxhSGlrWHBkL2RjYlFneDFBQUpjZz09>

Meeting ID: 762 766 429; Password: 081660

Join by phone only (669) 900 6833