



**BEST BEGINNINGS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
HOLIDAY INN; BALL ROOM
HELENA, MT
January 9 – 10, 2013**

Americans with Disabilities Act - The Department of Public Health and Human Services is committed to providing meeting access through reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact the Early Childhood Services Bureau at (866) 239-0458.

Public Comment - in accordance with 2-3-103 (1), MCA, the Department will hold a public comment period. Please note that this is the public's opportunity to address the work of the Best Beginnings Advisory Council

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Facilitated by: Kirsten Smith, Bloom Consulting

Wednesday, January 9, 2013

8:30 - 9:00

Welcome, Introductions, and Review Agenda

Debbie Hansen, Best Beginnings Coordinator

Patty Butler, Early Childhood Services Bureau Chief

- Patty Butler introduced Richard Opper, Director of Department of Public Health and Human Services
- Debbie Hansen gave housekeeping information
- Next Best Beginning Advisory Council Meeting dates:
 - April 11-12 (Thursday-Friday)
 - October 9-10 (Wednesday-Thursday)
- Patty Butler introduced Kirsten Smith, Training Consultant

9:00 – 10:00

Review Updated State Needs Assessment

- See presentation given by Kirsten Smith

Information Sharing with Jim Molloy, Senior Advisor to the Governor's Office

10:00 – 10:25

Confirm Practical Vision

"What do we want to see in a 3 – 5 years as a result of our action?"

Introduction of Guests:

- Chris Hettinger, fiscal advisor for council
- Best Beginnings Advisory Council members and organization/agency representation
- Introduction of guests and provided opportunity for public hearing and feedback

- Invitation and acceptance to participate in strategic planning workshop

10:25 – 10:35

Break

10:35 – 12:00

Contradictions workshop.

“What is blocking us from moving toward our vision?”

Gaps identified in state needs assessment were the starting place to discuss needs and underlying root causes of these issues. Individuals brainstormed on their own, and then broke into small groups and pull ideas together

12:00 – 1:00

Working Lunch

Christy Hill-Larson, Montana Pyramid Model Partnership for supporting young children and families

1:00 – 3:00

Develop Strategic Directions

Created separate strategic directions for advisory council committees to operationalize the practical vision for the shorter term future

Work included innovative, substantial actions that deal with underlying contradictions moving toward the vision?

4:45 – 4:55

Feedback on Today’s Progress

4:55 – 5:00

Public Comment

- Members of the public expressed their thanks for their involvement in this process.

Message for members:

- Winter storm warning in effect tomorrow
 - We will watch the weather

5:00

Meeting adjourned.

Meeting resumes at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday.



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Thursday, January 10, 2013

- 8:00 – 8:15** **Welcome/Announcements**
Debbie Hansen, Best Beginnings Coordinator
- 8:15 – 9:00** **Review and Complete Strategic Directions Work**
Facilitator: Kirsten Smith, Training Consultant
- 9:00 – 10:00** **Focused Implementation and Action Planning**
Define major accomplishments for year one for each strategic direction; develop first year timeline and assignments.
- 12:00 – 1:00** **Lunch (on your own)**
- 1:00 – 3:00** **Continued Focused Implementation and Action Planning Work**
- Because of the weather, many of the members went home before/after the lunch break.
- 3:00** **Public Comment**
- There was no public comment

The meeting adjourned early at 3:00pm due to the weather