

**New York State Early Intervention Coordinating Council
Provider Workforce Capacity and Rate Setting Methodology Task Forces
Meeting Minutes – April 23, 2026 1:00pm-3:00pm**

Agenda Item	Discussion				Action Items																																
<p>Welcome</p>	<p>The following task force members and advisors attended the meeting. P= Provider Workforce Capacity Task Force member, R= Rate Setting Methodology Task Force member</p> <p>X= Present</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="394 329 1682 997"> <tr> <td>-</td> <td>Heidi Bond (municipal representative) P, R (Otsego)</td> <td>-</td> <td>Leah Esther Lax (parent member) P, R</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>Raymond Bowman (State Agency) R</td> <td>X</td> <td>Lidiya Lednyak (co-chair & Municipal Representative) P, R (NYC)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>Bonnie Catlin (state agency) R</td> <td>-</td> <td>Tracy Lyman (discretionary) P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-</td> <td>Joy Connolly (state agency) P</td> <td>-</td> <td>Lynn Shea (discretionary seat/provider) P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-</td> <td>Brigitte Desport (Personnel preparation or Training) P, R (NYC)</td> <td>X</td> <td>Angella Timothy (State Agency) P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>Julie Opalecky (Rochester) P, R</td> <td>X</td> <td>Elina Tsenter (State Agency) P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>Steve Held (provider representative) P, R (Suffolk)</td> <td>X</td> <td>Marina Yoegel (co-chair & municipal representative) P, R (Westchester)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-</td> <td>Roxana Inscho (Advisor) P (Rochester)</td> <td>-</td> <td>Patricia Zuber-Wilson (State Agency) P</td> </tr> </table> <p>Department of Health staff present: Peter Baran, Diane Ginsburg, Deborah Gutierrez, Michael Iorio, Kelli Lyndaker, Ken Moehringer, Raymond Pierce, Jessica Simmons, Kimberly Smith, and Dr. Shu-kung Tai.</p> <p>Guests: Paula Van Meter (Public consulting Group- PGC) <i>Albany</i>, Jean Zhang- Director of Operations <i>Westchester</i></p> <p><i>All references to the Department refer to the New York State Department of Health, Bureau to the Bureau of Early Intervention, and Program to the Early Intervention Program.</i></p>				-	Heidi Bond (municipal representative) P, R (Otsego)	-	Leah Esther Lax (parent member) P, R	X	Raymond Bowman (State Agency) R	X	Lidiya Lednyak (co-chair & Municipal Representative) P, R (NYC)	X	Bonnie Catlin (state agency) R	-	Tracy Lyman (discretionary) P	-	Joy Connolly (state agency) P	-	Lynn Shea (discretionary seat/provider) P	-	Brigitte Desport (Personnel preparation or Training) P, R (NYC)	X	Angella Timothy (State Agency) P	X	Julie Opalecky (Rochester) P, R	X	Elina Tsenter (State Agency) P	X	Steve Held (provider representative) P, R (Suffolk)	X	Marina Yoegel (co-chair & municipal representative) P, R (Westchester)	-	Roxana Inscho (Advisor) P (Rochester)	-	Patricia Zuber-Wilson (State Agency) P	
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<p>Task Force Update</p>	<p>Meeting convened by Raymond Pierce at 1:03pm.</p> <p>Provider Workforce Capacity 1:00pm-2:00pm</p> <p>1. Bureau of Early Intervention Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data analysis of children remaining in Early Intervention beyond their 3rd birthday • Academic Program Approval Process Update • Registered Behavior Technicians Guidance • Update on Special Instruction transition guidance 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau will find out how much it will cost to move to a center-based program. • The Bureau will provide the data by service type and 																																

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	<p>2. Task Force:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Westchester County Data analysis- children remaining in Early Intervention beyond their 3rd birthday. • Meeting with State Education Department – Presentation Review <p>3. Discuss: City University of New York research team recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dear Colleague Letter • Measurement Incorporated. Training Modules • New workforce • Micro- Credentials 	<p>county to show how many children will benefit from this policy change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau will send out a listerv on Academic Program Approval Process Update. • The Bureau is waiting for approval before sharing information on the Update on Special Instruction Transition Guidance. • The Graduate Program Approval Process listserv will be distributed to stakeholders. • The Workforce Capacity Task Force will assist the Bureau in crafting a communication to introduce this new program. • The Bureau will continue to review taskforce recommendations on use of Registered Behavior Technicians. • The Bureau will provide feedback related to the qualified personnel along with supervision guidance to the full

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	<p>Rate Setting Methodology 2:00pm-3:00pm</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Summary of the Rate Setting Methodology work 2. Summary of motions sent to the Governor 	<p>Early Intervention Coordinating Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau will send a follow up message to the Office of Professions and person in charge of Teacher Certification at State Education Department. • The Bureau will provide information regarding the rate increase and allocations regarding the current budget at the June 18, 2026, meeting. • The Bureau will evaluate current trainings regarding competency areas that are missing and see if new trainings need to be developed.
<p>Future Agenda Items</p>	<p>Agenda items suggested by Task Force members for future Task Force meetings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau will discuss the trainings regarding competency areas that are missing and see if new trainings need to be developed. • Bureau staff from Training and Technical Assistance Unit will attend the next meeting. • Julie Opalecky (Provider Workforce Capacity Task Force member) would like the opportunity to share a perspective from the field as an independent provider. • Discuss simplifying the 16 rate regions, changing increments for rates, and service coordination capitation rates at full council meeting in June 2026. 	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned by Steve Held at 2:24pm.</p>	