Qualifications and Training Subcommittee

Jan 21st, 2021

6-7 meeting notes

***Attended:*** Sue Petersen, Cindy Koch, Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell, Jonathan Artteaga

***Absent:*** Todd Luther and Margie Propp

***NDE/ NCDHH TA:*** Sue Czaplewski and Jessica Larrison

***Interpreter:*** Sharon Sinkler

***GOALS:***

* 1. Identify qualifications of language professionals with knowledge of the use of evidence- based best practices in American Sign Language (ASL) and English and present reports at Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meetings.
  2. Determine if the language assessment evaluator and language professional, as stated in the law, should be the same person.
  3. Define roles of the language assessment evaluator and language professional who can advocate, whether the language assessment evaluator can be an advocate in the process.

***Subcommittee ideas***: First find out who in Nebraska has the assessment qualifications to assess children’s language development. Have each professional be fluent in the modality for each child (ASL, SEE, English) and not use a third party (interpreter or signing para).

IF they decide a group of people are not the way to go but local areas instead, find qualified people per child’s modality and offer them training in the assessments chosen. Looking at having Special Education teachers, Teacher of the Deaf, or Speech language pathologist provide testing. They would also like to see a Neutral Deaf person provide feedback on the assessments. The concern about the neutral party is sometimes parents might be leery of a new person coming in so the team said if that is the path, they decide they will introduce the person right away to the family so they can build the relationship with the Deaf adult along with the other provider.

NDE will sent out the survey they send out to teachers a few years ago about which test most of them use and their explanation of when to provide the test. We will also send this out the assessment subcommittee to work on which assessments they deem necessary and help this subcommittee determining who should provide the assessments.

The group asked the NCDHH send out other states LEAD-K documents so they can compare them and pull from them and change other to fit Nebraska.

***Future meetings***: The group decided that set meeting days and time would work best as to not have so many doodle polls being sent out. They couldn’t meet on Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday nights as they have other obligations. This left Monday and Wednesday nights. The group picked Wednesday nights from 6-7. They decided to do the second Wednesday of the month so we can have good time before the next meeting to review other LEAD-K documents and find out who in Nebraska is qualified already.

***Next meeting:*** Wednesday February 10th, 2021 from 6-7 PM