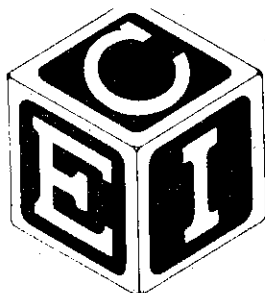


THE



NEWSLETTER

Texas Interagency Council on Early Childhood Intervention

NO. 3

NOVEMBER 1982

ECI PROFILE

LIZ HARTMAN, CHAIRPERSON

As the ECI Program begins its second year, it is timely to introduce the new chairperson of the Texas Interagency Council on Early Childhood Intervention, Liz Hartman, and to view the program's accomplishments and goals from her perspective.

Liz Hartman is a woman who cares. Actively and intelligently cares. Before the ECI Program began, she worked vigorously for the enactment of Senate Bill 630. With her appointment as public representative to the Texas Interagency Council for Early Childhood Intervention, she gave time, energy, and skill to establishing the new ECI Program. Now, as chairperson of the Council, she is devoting even greater energies to guiding ECI in reaching its goals.

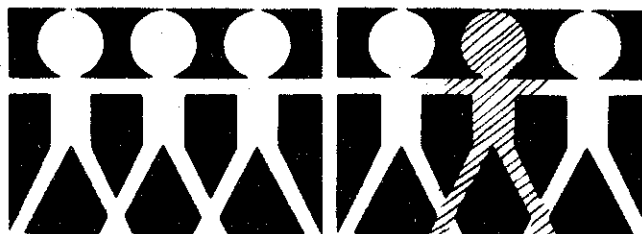
Along with a number of others, Liz had some doubts about ECI's potential for success under a multi-agency administration. Now she is quick to point out that the Council, though representing four separate agencies as well as the public, served as one body in setting up the program. "At the Council's first meeting we had a raw piece of legislation," she notes. "We had the responsibility for implementing a system to get funds out in the field, to develop a system of checks and balances. But," she adds, "our main concern was always children and families. We had to set up a mechanism for implementing ECI, but we never forgot the ultimate goal--serving the children and families who need help."

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ALL ABOUT ECI

THE POSTERS

Noticed any children lately? That's the question asked on the eye-catching new ECI posters. Featuring a graphic representation of children in black, red, and white, the posters have space to fill in the local telephone referral number (either the Education Service Center or the SSI-DCP office in your area).



They are appropriate for placing in windows or on bulletin boards at grocery stores and libraries, health clinics and day care centers, and anyplace else where they might attract passers by. Posters are available without charge from the ECI office.

NON-CIRCULATING

NTSU LIBRARY

THE EXHIBITS

You may have heard about the ECI exhibit. Some of you may even have seen it. Now, at last, people throughout Texas will have a chance to learn about ECI through the handsome display that tells, in pictures and text, what the program is all about.

The exhibit features appealing young children, their pictures framed by orange and gold against a deep brown background. It is displayed on a folding board that fits on a 6-foot long table. If an electric outlet is handy, the light at the top can be turned on to show it off to full advantage. The plan is to distribute an exhibit to each Education Service Center by the first of the year. These will be the central points from which parents and professionals can borrow the exhibit for showing at conferences, workshops, meetings, or malls. In some areas the demand will be high, so it would be best to schedule the exhibit as soon as dates for using it are definite. Check with your regional service center to find out if the exhibit is available. It's a fine way to let everyone know about ECI.

THE CATALOGS

Someone has scooped The Newsletter. Requests have been pouring in for ECI's continuing education catalogs, and we didn't know anyone even knew about them. It is still a bit early--the booklets are in press--but we'll describe them to you so you'll know what good things are ahead.

The catalogs are collections of annotated information about training materials that are available on a dozen topics related to early childhood development and intervention. They include extensive bibliographies of available books, videotapes, and films and include annotations, suggestions for use, prices, and addresses of where to obtain the materials. Some also include samples or suggestions for staff training sessions.

Topics are:

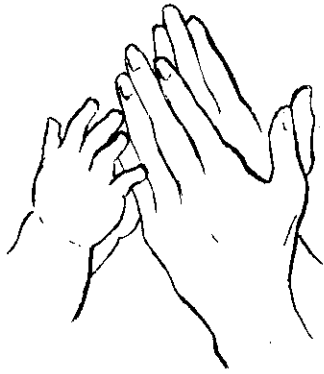
Child Development and Learning	Materials and Equipment
Physical and Sensory Development	Programs and Curriculums
Parenting the Young Handicapped Child	Working with Adults
Language and Cognitive Development	Team Process/IDP
Case Management and Family Counseling	Classroom Management
Identification, Screening, Assessment	Developmental Therapy

The booklets were prepared by the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory, Austin, under the direction of Joyce Evans, Ph.D.; and the University Affiliated Center for Developmentally Disabled Children, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas, under the direction of Barry L. Borland, Ph.D.

The catalogs should be available early in 1983. They will be distributed to each of the ECI-funded programs, the ECI state agencies, and the Education Service Centers. If you are interested in these materials, you can borrow them from your regional service center or local program. Feel free to make a copy of any information that you would like to keep.

We regret that limited resources prevent our publishing enough copies to provide to everyone who requests them. However, since they will be accessible and can be copied, we hope that you will find them useful. We plan to update them periodically, so let us know if you have any suggestions for additions or change.

"SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN THERE"



Children aren't the only ones who need help. Parents of handicapped youngsters--feeling isolated, suffering doubts, not knowing what to expect or where to turn--need help too. Pilot Parents is a program in which parents of children with handicaps provide emotional support and practical information on a one-to-one basis to parents of new or newly diagnosed handicapped youngsters. Parents are matched on the basis of type of disabling condition to assure that they are able to handle emotional as well

as information problems. The program provides the one thing that is beyond the ability of professionals: "someone who's been there." For more information about Pilot Parents, contact your local Association for Retarded Citizens or the Texas ARC office.

KALEIDOSCOPE '83

Mark May 4-6 on your new 1983 calendar for Kaleidoscope '83: The First Three Years of Life. The conference, to be held in San Antonio at the Marriott Inn-North, will provide a forum for communication, education, and advocacy for parents, practitioners, and professionals who are concerned about developmentally delayed children. Co-sponsored by the University of Texas School of Nursing at San Antonio, Project ABC, and Santa Rosa Children's Hospital, the conference is endorsed by ECI. The fee is \$75, and participants can earn 1.3 CEU's. For additional information, contact James Sorensen, Continuing Education Coordinator, UTHSCSA School of Nursing, 7703 Floyd Curl Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78284, or telephone 512/691-6481, ext. 283.

EARLY IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS

Public health nurses from around the state have responded enthusiastically to a series of workshops on "Early Identification of Handicapping Conditions" sponsored by the Bureau of Crippled Children's Services, Texas Department of Health. The workshops are being conducted by Donna Linthicum, R.N., M.S., and Melody Priest, M.L.A., L.P.T., of the University Affiliated Center for Developmentally Disabled Children, the University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas. Focus of the training, which includes both lecture and practicum, is on the Denver Developmental Screening Test and the Three Minute Developmental Neurological and Prescreening Examination. Future workshops are scheduled for Waco, December 10; Arlington, December 17; Houston, January 14; San Benito, January 27-28; and San Antonio and El Paso, early 1983 but not yet scheduled. If you are interested in attending an identification workshop, contact Dorothy Casey, R.N., at the Texas Department of Health: 512/458-7445.

TEXAS INFANT CONSORTIUM

If you are interested in intervention programs for young handicapped children, you might consider joining the Texas Infant Consortium, a statewide interdisciplinary organization concerned with making the public more aware of the importance of these programs. The group meets at least three times a year to discuss and carry out projects for serving birth-to-3 handicapped children. To join, send \$10 dues, payable to Teaching Texas Tots, to Dianne Garner, DEBT's Project SPIN, 1628 19th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79401.

ECI PROFILE

(Continued from Page 1)

Working within state government was new to Liz. As the public representative, she had to learn the intricacies of state government and about each agency and how it functioned. Among other things, she learned that "the rules are to protect the people of the state. I really believe that." For an example, she explains how the open meetings act makes it possible for anyone to attend Council meetings; there is nothing done behind closed doors. "The rules make sure that we never lose sight of why we are here."

As a Council member, Liz is well aware that if ECI is to continue, it must be effective and accountable. "It is the duty and responsibility of the Council," she says firmly, "to show that ECI is needed and that it is effective both fiscally and programmatically." One way she sees ECI accomplishing this is by pulling together existing resources, coordinating and cooperating in the best interests of the target population. Another is to develop the respectability and credibility of intervention, and to help communities learn that they can and should offer intervention services. A third is to evaluate ECI programs to identify the variables that make intervention most effective.

Liz Hartman is more than a Council chairperson; she is also a parent. She knows firsthand the emotional isolation, the hidden fears and worries of families of handicapped children. She sees her role as the public member of the Council as one of balance, with her experience as a parent providing an added dimension to the knowledge of the four professionals.

Concerned about families, Liz is committed to using ECI funds to create stable programs that provide family support. "It's not that parents of handicapped children don't have the same responsibilities as other parents," she points out. "It's that they have so many more." She sees ECI as helping families accept and cope with these responsibilities.

For Liz Hartman, ECI has brought many rewards, the greatest of which is seeing people giving and getting needed services, seeing ECI provide the intervention that prevents further handicapping in development and that leads to a more hopeful future. For her, that is what ECI is all about.



Merry
Christmas

THE ECI NEWSLETTER

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Program Coordinator: Pam Farley
Editor: Louise Iscoe
Graphics: Joan Bishop
Typist: Beverly Bronnenberg

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News tips and information invited.