

Collecting and Documenting Language Outcomes: Three Statewide Models



Idaho Educational Services
for the Deaf and the Blind
Serving Idaho's Children Since 1906



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & WELFARE



University of Colorado
Boulder

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Supporting Programs and States in Collecting and Documenting Language Outcomes

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Early Language Outcomes lab (ELO) at CU-Boulder

Currently partnering with 12 early intervention and/or EHDI programs across the U.S.

Supporting programs in the collection and documentation of language outcomes

Contract model

Programs/states determine which services would be beneficial

Contracting with a 3rd party with an established infra-structure may be more cost effective

Logistics: State/Program's Role

- **State/program determines:**
 - Who will work with the child/family to complete the assessment(s)
 - How often the assessment will be completed
 - When the assessment will be completed
 - What assessments will be used (from list of possible options)

Logistics: State/Program's Role

- State/program:
 - Completes:
 - Brief coversheet
 - One or more developmental/language assessment(s)
 - Demographic form (can be adapted to suit program's needs)
 - Sends completed forms to ELO via:
 - Email attachments
 - Uploaded to a shared folder

Services Provided by ELO at CU-Boulder

- Training on assessment administration
- Assessments scored
- Written report of child's results provided (within 2 weeks)
 - Narrative report
 - Graphic display of results
 - Summary sheets

Services Provided by ELO at CU-Boulder

- Maintain and populate a database of program's/state's language outcomes
- Provide an accountability report characterizing state's/program's performance,
- Present side-by-side comparison to average performance across other ELO programs
- Explore health disparities
- Share a CSV data file (can be used as is or uploaded to other databases – e.g., EHDI database, student information system)

Language Assessment of Children Who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing in Louisiana aged 6 – 40 months

Dana Hubbard, Program Manager

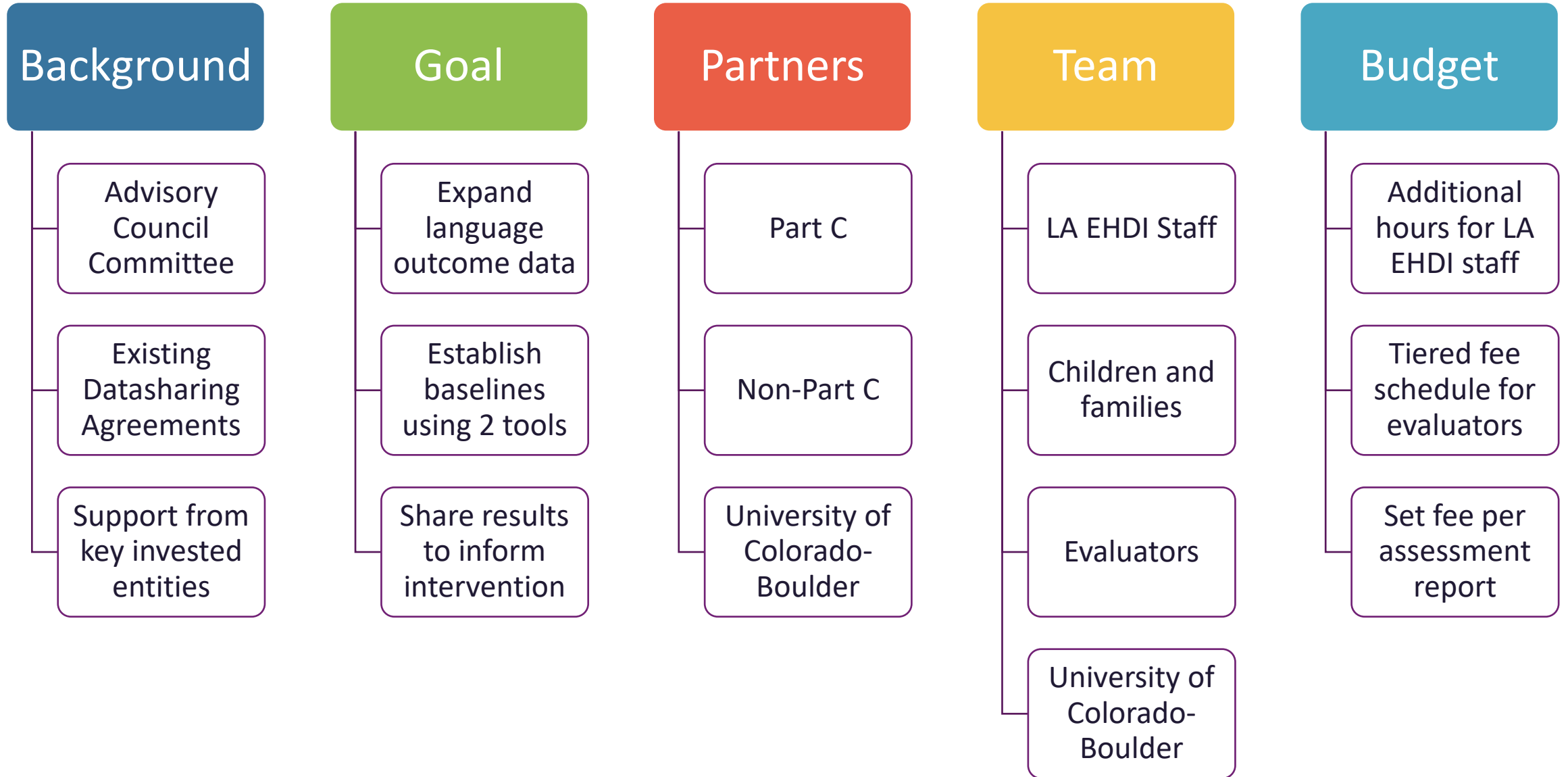
Terri Ibieta, Program Coordinator

Margaret Berry, Early Intervention Coordinator

Louisiana Early Hearing Detection and Intervention




How did we plan?



What was our process?

- Tasks
- Team
- Budget

Identify




- Scripts
- Tracking
- Contracts

Develop



- Virtual
- Demographics
- DAYC-2
- MBCDI

Train




- Families
- Evaluators
- Interpreters

Contact



- In person
- < 2 weeks
- Home

Assess




- Score
- Report
- < 2 weeks

Results

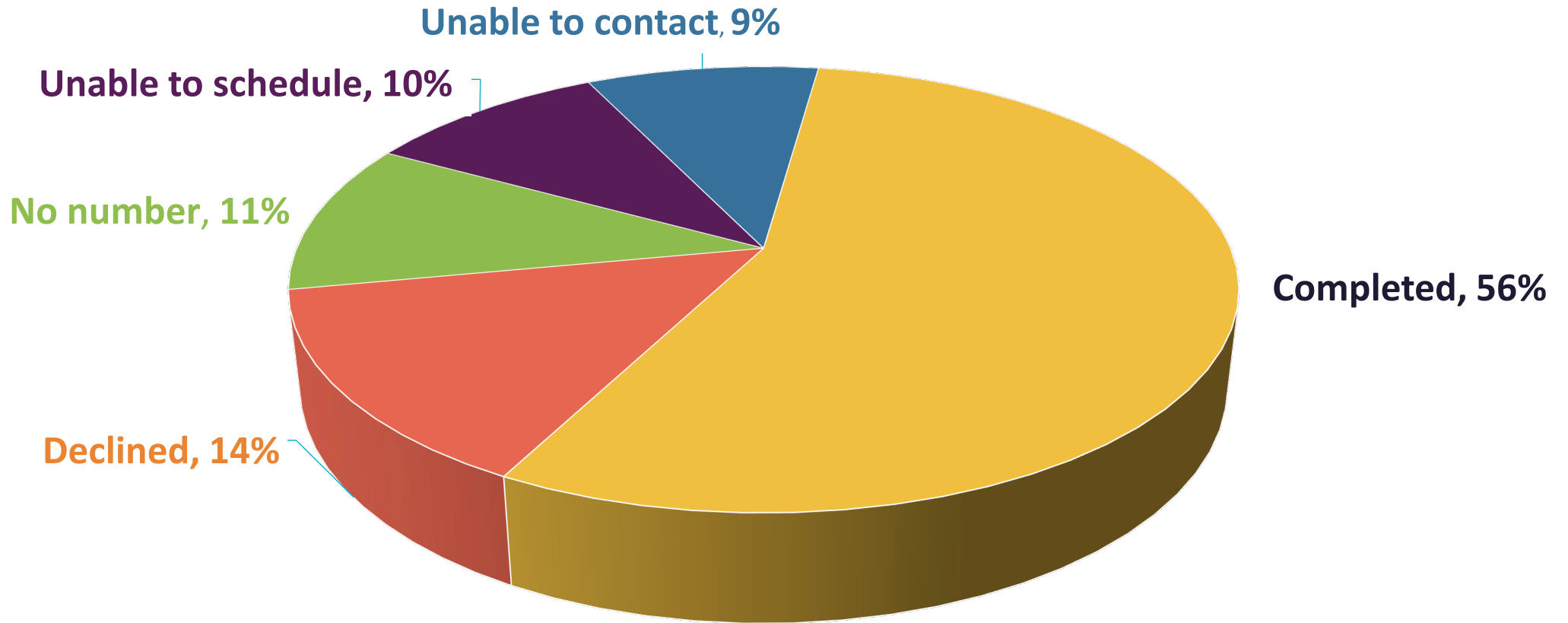


- Family
- Part C
- Non-Part C

Share



How many assessments were completed?



N=265

What did we learn?



What contributed to Successes?

- Early intervention coordinator already had rapport with families
- Teachers of the D/HH going into homes to complete assessments
- Seamless process from initial family contact to sharing of results with providers



What contributed to Challenges?

- Lack of good contact information
- Coordinating evaluations with Part C to avoid duplication
- Sharing evaluations with early intervention providers
- No funding in place to continue assessments

What are we doing now?



Sharing results of baseline assessments



Conducting second assessments of children assessed between October 2023 and March 2024



Conducting initial assessments of children newly identified or who could not schedule during first round

Language Assessment of Children Who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing in Wyoming aged 9 months to 5 years

WYOMING



Early Hearing Detection
and Intervention

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Wyoming Early Intervention Initiative (WEII)

Goal: Wyoming children receiving early intervention will have access to and participate in a uniform, statewide system for gathering and analyzing developmental outcome data for children who are D/HH.



Data will be used to inform intervention decisions and practices to improve early intervention on the individual and statewide level.

Developmental Assessments

Training

- September 2020
 - 3 pilot CDC Regions
- September 2022
 - 3 more CDC Regions
- January & March 2023
 - Expansion to all CDC Regions with children who are D/HH receiving EI services

Administration

- Part C and B EI Providers
- WEI Plus Coordinator
- CU - Boulder - ELO

Results

- Shared with EI providers, families, and Wyoming EHDI
- As of the end of January 2025, 203 assessments completed for 73 children who are D/HH

Developmental Assessments

Timeline

- Every 6 months from 9 to 33 months of age
- Annually at ages 4 and 5

Part C: 9 to 33 months

- DAYC-2
- MacArthur-Bates Communicative Development Inventories
- LittleEARS

Part B: 4 to 5 years

- DAYC-2
- Pragmatics Checklist
- Expressive One Word Picture Vocabulary Test
- Cincinnati Auditory Skills Checklist
- Minnesota CDI Letters and Numbers

Incorporating language outcomes in the Wyoming EHDI – Information System

- Release of information form through the ELO.
- Developed data fields in the WY EHDI-IS to capture results from all assessments completed
- First import of developmental assessment data was successful
 - 69 children who are D/HH ages 9 months to 5 years of age
 - 188 assessments

Next Steps

Building functionality into the WY EHDI-IS to generate reports for aggregate and child-specific data to track language acquisition outcomes at both a statewide and individual level

Analyzing factors affecting language acquisition outcomes

Providing additional training for EI providers on how to use assessment results to guide EI services for individual children

Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind Early Childhood Outcomes (ELO) Assessments Birth to 3

Paula Mason, Director of Outreach, DHH Services
Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind

Miranda Nelson, Program Specialist,
Idaho Sound Beginnings/Early Learning &
Development Idaho Department of Health and Welfare



IESDB: Collection and Documentation of Language Outcomes

- Partnership with the **Early Language Outcomes lab (ĒLO)** at the University of Colorado-Boulder
- Currently in the **3rd year** of participation
 - Year 1 through the CDC-supported ODDACE project
 - Years 2 and 3 through contract between IESDB and University of Colorado
- **Idaho Early Intervention Program: Birth to 3 Caseload**
 - **2023:** 139 children served | 74 assessments submitted
 - **2024:** 137 children served | 85 assessments submitted
 - **2025 (Current):** 141 children served

IESDB Assessment: Evaluators and Selected Instruments

Evaluations conducted by:

- Early Intervention Teachers of the Deaf who work with the family
- 7 Regional Offices
- Total of 10 Early Intervention Teachers statewide

Assessments administered:

- **At Program Entry:** DAYC-2
- **12 to 18 Months:** DAYC-2, MacArthur (or Communication Matrix), LittleEARS, VCSL (for families using sign)
- **32 to 36 Months:** DAYC-2, MacArthur Level III (or Communication Matrix), LittleEARS, VCSL (for families using sign)

Documenting Language Outcomes: A Multi- Partner Collaboration

Partners included in meetings to determine language outcome fields to include in the EHDI database

EHDI

IESDB

University of
Colorado-Boulder

Idaho Parent Advocacy
Group - HATCH

EHDI Coordinator worked with Hi-Track developer

Hi-Track developer created language outcome fields in
EHDI database

Documenting Language Outcomes: A Multi-Partner Collaboration

- IESDB sends completed assessments to ĒLO at the University of Colorado-Boulder
- ĒLO populates and maintains database of language outcomes
- ĒLO sends data in a CSV file back to IESDB
- IESDB and Idaho Sound Beginnings (EHDI) have MOA in place
- IESDB shares data file with Idaho Sound Beginnings
- Idaho Sound Beginnings will enter data into EHDI database
- Currently working toward the ability to have upload of the outcomes data file into the EHDI database (Hi-Track)