

## LOW INCIDENCE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

11/25/19  
10:00-12:00

### **Attendance:**

Sascha Etienne  
Mylene Foster  
Kelli Hunter-Sheppard  
Mara Kunitz  
Ernie Martinez  
Lynn Miskiel-Chair  
Lissett Robayna  
Barby Sanabria  
Kathleen Vergara

### **Goals that were accomplished in the 2018-19 school year:**

1. Outreach with Early Steps was developed to help streamline the process from Part C birth -2 into Part B 3-5 years.  
Partnered with the community agencies and PreK to improve and streamline the identification process  
Ms. Miskiel reported efforts to share information to facilitate the Part C to B transition particularly in obtaining audiograms for review prior to the child turning 3 years old.
2. Enhanced quality of Language instruction in program schools with students in K-5. All program sites have a sign language interpreter in order to improve the language instruction with the teacher of the deaf. Long term investment. New curriculum is being implemented (Fairview Learning).  
  
Administrators are informed about the learning strategies and provided look fors for good instruction prior to beginning at their location.
3. Training has increased exponentially for the interpreters as well as itinerants and program sites.  
  
Cortical Vision Impairment has been brought to the attention of the vision itinerants and they have been provided with more training in this area. Students with this diagnosis are becoming more identifiable due to new technology.
4. Southwest Senior High opened a new program for students who are Deaf.

### **General Discussion:**

There is a concern expressed that we may not be finding all students that meet eligibility for the Dual Sensory designation are not being identified.

Follow Up: Use the State Technical Assistance Papers to increase training for staffing specialists to recognize appropriate placement for students with Low Incidence eligibilities.

A discussion about the disparities in academic performance of Low Incidence student population was discussed. Analysis of data for students with Low Incidence disabilities showed academic deficiencies which increased greatly as the student moves through the grade levels. Challenges are apparent.

Follow up: Focus on instructional strategies that will assist both ESE and General Education teachers with working with students that are visually impaired, deaf (sensory impaired).

Mr. Martinez asked, which students are the focus of this committee? It was explained that the Low Incidence groups including students who are DHH, Vision Impaired, Dual Sensory and TBI.

Ms. Foster explained that a number of students come from families that do not have language at home (parent speak other languages but the students have no manual language). This greatly impacts language acquisition as parents are normally the child's first teachers.

Discussion regarding Goal 2-Teacher training:

Ms. Vergara asked how are we going to support the teachers in the general education. It was agreed that we should provide instructional staff with strategies, materials and trainings.

Discussion regarding Goal 3-Transition:

Transition Specialists that work with students who are DHH would benefit from exposure to Deaf Culture and other various organizations that support post secondary options.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm

**Next Meeting:**

**December 17, 2019**

**1:00-3:00pm**

**University of Miami Mailman Center For Child Development**

**1601 NW 12 Ave**

**Miami, FL 33136**

**Room 5003**