

Part C RDA Stakeholder Meeting Phase III-Year 4

October 30, 2020

Amy Bunnell, Julie Docter, Cole Johnson,
Sue Bainter, Cindy Hankey, Janice Lee



Agenda

- RDA Overview
- Stakeholder Recommendations for next 5 Year State Systemic Improvement Plan cycle
- Family Survey Feedback
- Wrap Up; Next Steps



It's been
a rough
week, but
I made
it...How
about you?

Adaptations Were Necessary

“EI went Virtual”

✓ EDN COVID-19 Resources

<http://edn.ne.gov/cms/edn-covid-19-resources>

✓ Trainings went virtual

**COVID-19 aside,
end of 5-year cycle created
opportunity to make changes
in RBI/Functional Outcome
Training.**

Strategy #1: RBI

Routines-Based Early Intervention (RBEI)

Routines-Based Interview (RBI)



Functional IFSP Outcomes



Quality Routines-Based Home Visits

RBI Training Changes

More emphasis on:

1. RBEI as Nebraska's model for EI.
2. Inter-relatedness of three strategies.
3. Fidelity - no shortcuts.
4. Getting "needed" information before ending the RBI.
5. The "routine" is critical.
6. What to do with family priorities.



**RBI Boot Camps
went virtual!**

Virtual RBI Boot Camps

- 3 Boot Camps offered this fall using the Zoom platform:
 - 45 participants
 - 15 regions represented

For Virtual Boot Camps, we:

- Increased the stipend for families.
- Offered opportunities for families to practice using Zoom prior to the Boot Camp.
- Offered a choice of phone or computer; several families used phones.

What Did Families Say?

- No one reported technical difficulties during the interview.
- Some families commented on the convenience of not having to leave home to do the interview.
- Parents consistently reported that they felt positive about their RBI Boot Camp experience - no difference between F2F and virtual Boot Camp evaluations.

What Did Boot Camp Participants Say?

- 80% of participants would participate in virtual training again.
- 30% had technical problems.
- 100% were confident they could successfully complete an ecomap, RBI, and write functional outcomes, as well as would recommend the Boot Camp to others. This is the same feedback as F2F.



**Strategy #2:
Functional IFSP
Outcomes**

Outcome Training Changes

More emphasis on:

1. An outcome for each priority (or an explanation).
2. Information needed to write an outcome (concern, routine, family's desire--measurement).
3. Measurement.
4. Guidance about writing an outcome as a child or family outcome.

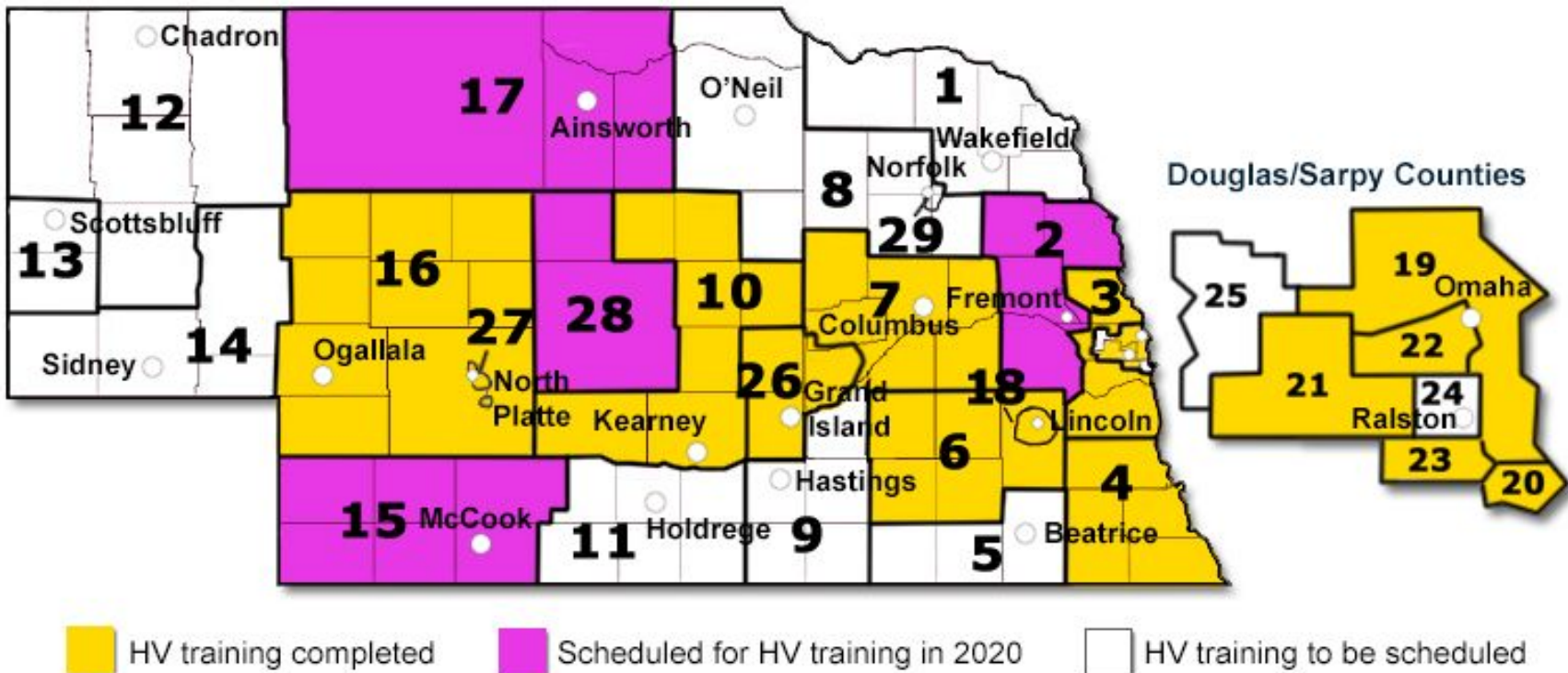


**Strategy 3:
Routines-Based Home
Visits**

Influence of COVID-19 on Getting Ready Approval/Fidelity

- All service providers and families needed time to accommodate to virtual visits.
- Non-cohorts trained in June of 2019 were in midst of initial approval.
- Cohorts working on fidelity checks: internal coaches completed checks, remainder of EI providers did not.
- Postponed June 2020 training; converting to virtual and offering during Winter/Spring 2020-2021.

Home Visit Training Status



New Resources for Routines-Based Home Visits

Link to Video library:

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/7327983>

3 Ways to Evaluate Effectiveness

Cohort Planning Region Teams (PRTs)

We have 7 Cohort PRTs in the state (out of a total of 28 PRTs).

Cohort 1:

PRT 1 - Wakefield (RBI/IFSP outcomes)

PRT 7 - Columbus (Getting Ready home visit)

PRT 22 – Westside

PRT 27 - North Platte

Cohort 2:

PRT 4 - Auburn

PRT 18 - Lincoln

PRT 19 - Omaha

PRT 21 - Millard

1. Fidelity Checks

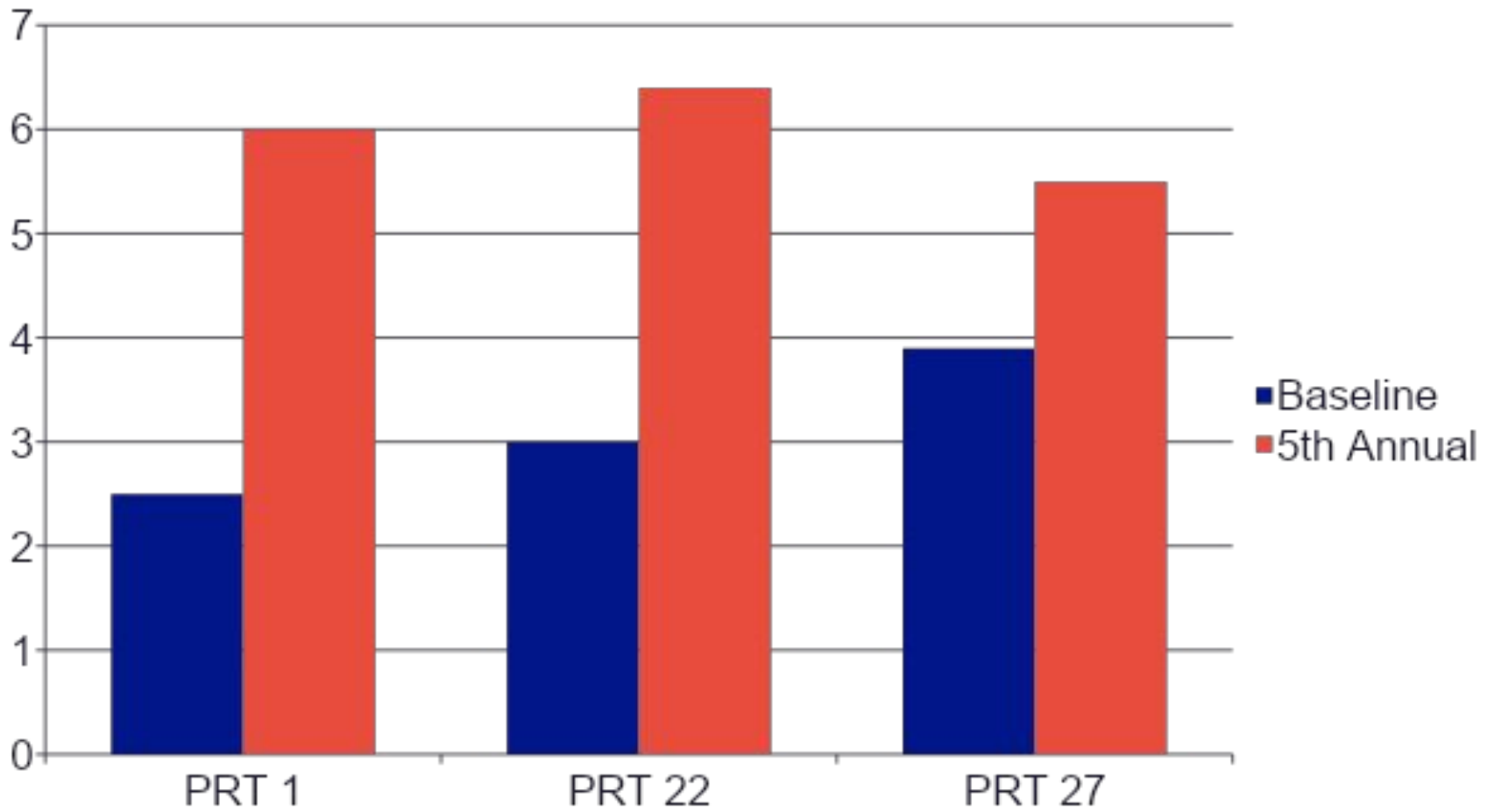
Coaches annually observe and score providers and services coordinators:

- RBI's; and,
- Getting Ready home visit approach.

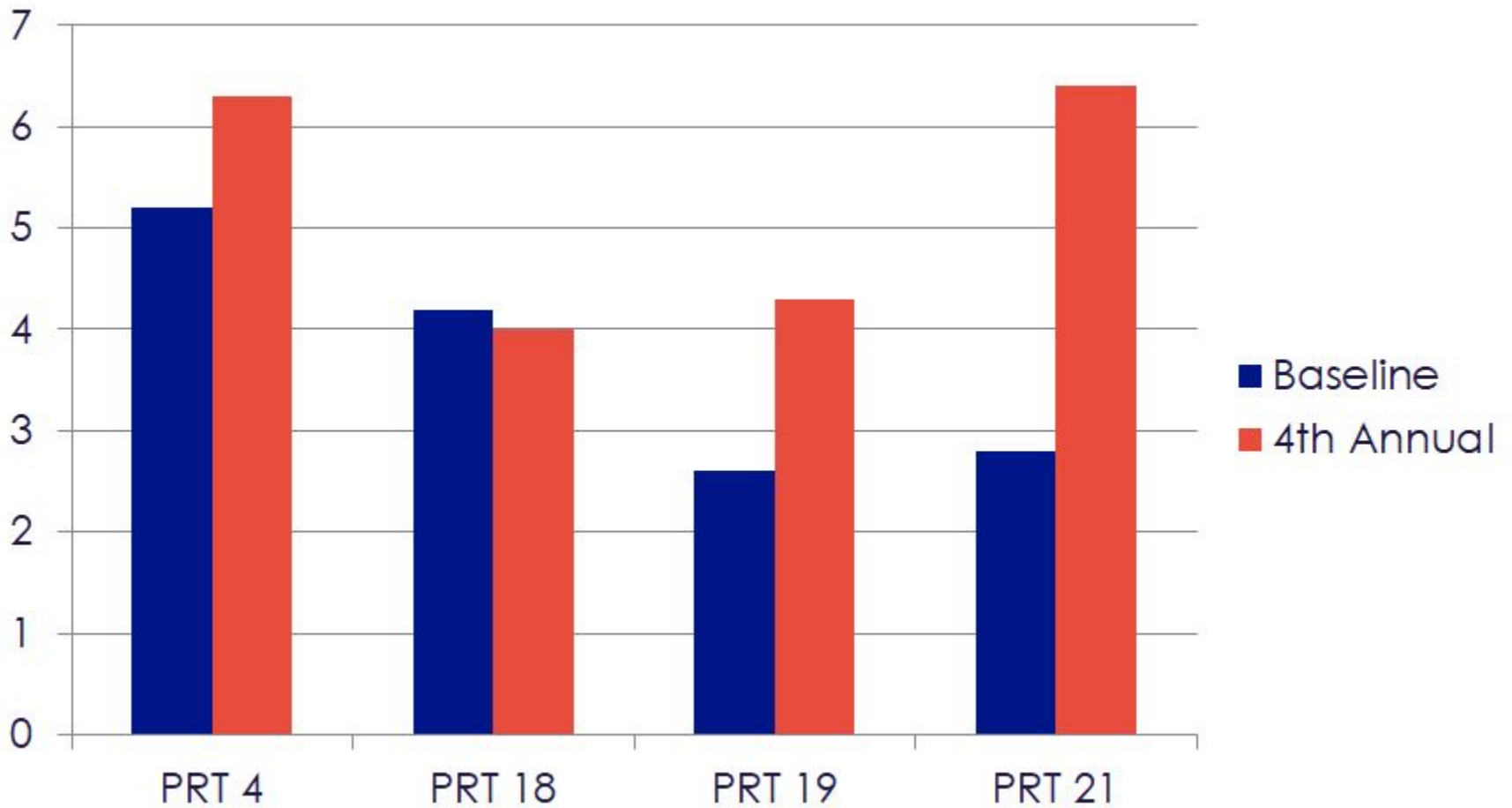
2. IFSP Outcome Analysis

IFSPs are provided by cohort regions annually, in order to analyze the quality of the outcomes (i.e. do they have routines, are they measurable etc.).

Cohort 1: Mean Total # Outcomes



Cohort 2: Mean Total # Outcomes



3. Research Studies

- ❖ For the past several years, EDN has partnered with Higher Education (UNL, UNO and MMI) to evaluate the impact of our 3 improvement strategies
- ❖ During the first years, the studies focused on the impact of the RBI and functional outcomes.
- ❖ For the past 2 years, the studies have focused on our 3rd improvement strategy- the implementation of the GR Approach.

Key Findings from 2019 Study of Getting Ready Approach in Home Visits

http://edn.ne.gov/cms/sites/default/files/u26/Kuhn_Higgins_Executive%20Summary_Nebr%20HV%20Report_2-2020.pdf

http://edn.ne.gov/cms/sites/default/files/u26/Kuhn_Higgins_HV%20quality%20report_3-11-2020%20FINAL.pdf

Evaluation of Quality Early Intervention in Home Visits

- Conducted in Cohort Planning Region Teams.
- Follow-up to previous evaluation.
- Use of Getting Ready Approach.
- Interviews with families, EI providers, and services coordinators.
- Reviewed written home visit plans.

Key Finding:

Communication “between” home visits varies in method, frequency, and focus across families and professionals. An effective method of communicating with families between visits is needed.

Recommendation: Develop guidance regarding “communication” with families (text, email, video, phone) **between** home visits for enhanced support.

Key Finding:

Some services coordinators were not sure how the GR approach related to them; specifically, when the family was thriving and did not need as much support. In addition, the frequency of co-visits was found to be high resulting in a loss of the services coordinator's function.

Recommendation:

Provide guidance about (1) the role of the SC within the GR framework and (2) the frequency and purpose of co-visits as part of service delivery.

Key Finding:

Some professionals from diverse regions reported increased coordination and time required for non-English speaking families.

Recommendation:

Collaborate with UNL to identify strategies for working with diverse families when using the Getting Ready Approach.

New & Exciting!

UNL proposal to implement:

*Coaching in Early Intervention (CEI):
Promoting Outcomes for Infants/Toddlers
with Disabilities through Evidence-Based
Practices*

Awarded by the
U.S. Department of Education (OSEP)
effective October 1, 2020.

Will be led by Dr. Lisa Knoche.

Family Outcomes

States are federally required to report annually on the percent of families participating in early intervention who report that they:

- 1) know their rights;
- 2) effectively communicate their children's needs; and
- 3) help their children develop and learn.

Family Survey

Considering -

- Reducing the number of survey questions to eight to meet federal reporting needs; and
- Adding five questions to evaluate effectiveness of Nebraska's RDA strategies.



Five Proposed Questions

- When my child entered early intervention, my team gathered information about my child's and family's usual daily activities and routines.
- My own words are used in writing my IFSP outcomes.
- During most home visits, I “practice” a chosen strategy/intervention within a daily routine.
- I know I can communicate with my early intervention service provider(s) between home visits if I have a question.
- My early intervention provider and I make decisions and plans together during most home visits.

Wrap Up and Next Steps

Today's feedback regarding the recommendations from Dr. Kuhn's study and additional questions in the family survey will be used to finalize our decision making process



Wrap Up and Next Steps

Tentative Agenda for 2021 stakeholder meeting:

- Setting of targets for the Annual Performance Report
- Update on Dr. Knoche's coaching in El grant award
- RDA updates

Thank You!

Julie Docter - julie.docter@nebraska.gov

Amy Bunnell - amy.bunnell@nebraska.gov

Cole Johnson - cole.johnson@nebraska.gov

