

SICC General Meeting

December 5th, 2019

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Minutes

Attendance: Valerie Ashton-Thomas, Anna Benshoof, Mike Berman, Pamela Bush-Jones, Roikensha Craig, Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Cecilia Leger, Cyndi Lessner, Rachel London, Michele McCoy Jones, FloJean Speck, Christy Tirrell-Torbin, Anna Maria Wilms Floet, Peaches Wilson

Excused: Marcella Franczkowski, Elizabeth Hall, Mary LaCasse, Elizabeth Snyder

Guests: Jennifer Ayers, Rachel Demma, Mai Hall, Mary Manning-Falzarano, Patty Muldowney, Sheila Myers, Tatiana Owens, Terri Ridenour, Melissa Romano, D'Lisa Worthy, Lisa Jarboe

Staff: Pam Miller, Janette Guerra, Shelley Downs, Marsye Kaplan, Sharice Lane, Brian Morrison

I. Welcome, Remarks & Introductions: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:00-1:05)

Brenda called the meeting to order at 1:05pm. All attendees to this SICC meeting, in-person and by phone, introduced themselves.

II. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:05-1:10)

The previous meeting minutes from September 2019 were approved with one error to be corrected. An attendee inquired if those minutes were emailed to the group; however, Pam stated they were not. Brenda stated the minutes will be posted to the website.

III. Announcements & Public Comment: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:10-1:20)

If you have an announcement or public comment, please notify Brenda Hussey-Gardner via email at bhussey@som.umaryland.edu.

IV. SICC Report (1:20-1:40)

Brenda reviewed the dates of the upcoming executive, general, and joint SICC meetings (please see at the end of the minutes).

A. Membership Update: Brenda Hussey-Gardner

1. David Starr and Curtisha Hopkins have resigned as members of the SICC. Brenda will send *Thank You* letters for their participation. She inquired if anyone has updated contact information for David Starr to send him a letter of gratitude for his service. Brenda announced 3 parent vacant seats in the SICC.

2. Brenda attended a recent Baby Leaders meeting and informed attendees about SICC vacancies for parent participation.

B. Legislative Updates: Rachel London

1. Rachel informed SICC that the state legislature will resume session January 8, 2020. She informed the SICC has traditionally submitted letters or asked for members or guests to testify on half of the importance of early intervention. Rachel asked for volunteers to be ready to engage in activities that support advocating for early intervention, including state funding increase for Infant and Toddler programs and Preschool Special Education programs. Any interested volunteers can email Brenda Hussey-Gardner or Rachel London at rlondon@md-council.org.
2. Rachel informed SICC of Developmental Disability Day is February 12, 2020.

C. Very Low Birth Weight Taskforce Update & Motion: Brenda Hussey-Gardner

1. Brenda reviewed the actions of the Very Low Birth Weight (VLBW) Taskforce. In 2018, the DEC released a position statement on VLBW and recommendations for early intervention criteria changes to accommodate this population's needs. Based upon this recommendation, VLBW taskforce members participated in virtual and in-person discussions regarding recommendations to MSDE to consider DEC's position that infants born <1500g become automatically eligible for early intervention services under the high probability eligibility criteria.
2. Brenda further explained SICC's acknowledgment of recommendations to MSDE would not equate to a mandate; however, the taskforce would encourage MSDE to consider the many factors that contributed to the recommendations
3. At 1:40 pm, the VLBW taskforce presented, then at 1:42 pm accepted a motion to MSDE for consideration, in light of the DEC position statement with this statement:
 - a. *The VLBW taskforce of the SICC, in light of the DEC Position Statement on LBW, would like to move that MSDE consider 1. Changing the high probability birthweight criteria of <1200 grams to <1500 grams or 2. Establishing a monitoring system for those infants born 1200 to 1500 grams who are found ineligible (e.g., do not have a >25% developmental delay or atypical development or other high probability medical condition such as Grade II/IV IVH, CLD, SNEC, PVL). We further move that MSDE consider the fiscal implication of these options on local programs.*
 - b. The motion will be officially presented by the SICC Chair to the Maryland State Department of Education's Assistant State Superintendent of the Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services, Marcella Franczkowski, the Program Director of the Maryland Infant and Toddler Program, Pam Miller, and

the Section Chief of Early Childhood Intervention, Janette Guerra

- i. Additional questions presented during this discussion:
 1. How have other states considered the early intervention criteria since DEC's updated its position statement?
 2. How can local programs accommodate decreased medical follow-up resources for this population?

V. Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Gap Analysis: Cyndi Lessner (1:40-2:00)

A. Cyndi presented the findings of the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) Gap Analysis which can be found at the link provided below in this section. She highlighted barriers and recommendations that are applicable across the state:

1. Barriers
 - a. Funding
 - b. Gaps in early childhood knowledge
 2. Recommendations
 - a. Building an IECMH systems level; creating a statewide framework for agreed upon definitions, guidance, and goals
 - b. Designing an IECMH professional development blueprint;
 - c. Pre-Service training/Professional development infrastructure & leveraging technology;
 - d. Awareness, Access, and Communications;
 - e. Evaluations of progress
- B. PDG B5 application has been submitted. Included expanding the IECMH.
1. Looking to the IECMH if they would be the advisory group for this work.

IECMH Gap Analysis Link

https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/system/files/filedepot/20/final.ecmh_report_08.08.19_final_1.pdf.

VI. Break (2:00-2:05)

VII. Preliminary Statewide Annual Performance Report—Stakeholder Review: Brian Morrison (2:05-2:35)

A. Brian Morrison of MSDE presented the preliminary data from the statewide annual performance report. The final report will be submitted by February 1, 2020. He reviewed the Infant and Toddler Program and Preschool Special Education compliance indicators, results indicators, and child find indicator data from this past year and last year (SY2017).

1. Maryland ITP demonstrated high level of compliance (>95%)
2. The state will re-set targets for the results indicators for the next three years. Brian will develop a survey which Pam will disseminate to local school systems/public agencies.
3. Pam discussed the expected national trends for the Part C child outcomes results indicator to decrease for states, such as Maryland, who are working towards fidelity of data collection.
4. The Child Outcomes Summary Technical Assistance Bulletin disseminated at the 2019 Professional Learning Institute (PLI) explains the SPP/APR data collection and calculations and is posted on the MSDE website.
5. Child Find indicators show 2018 data exceeded previous year and current state targets.

VIII. Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services (DEI/SES) Early Childhood Updates: Pam Miller and Janette Guerra (2:35-2:55)

- A. Pam and Janette presented a brief overview of the Early Childhood Imperative's Professional Learning Institute national and state session to the SICC. The highlights included:
 1. Distribution of a new MITP brochure for feedback from PLI and SICC (possibly use as a template for local systems);
 2. *Inclusion Indicators* at the national, state, local and early childhood environment levels;
 3. Announcement of the competitive grant *Effective Evidence-Based Inclusion Policies and Practices within a Comprehensive Birth – Kindergarten System* for LSSs/PAs to apply for funding and targeted TA on improving early childhood inclusion systemically at the local level;
 4. Reviewing the Child Outcome Summary "lens" to revise Technical Assistance Bulletin and IFSP process;
 5. Reviewing the importance of evidence-based practice integration with infrastructure changes as evidenced by Systemic State Improvement Program (SSIP) counties' work;
 6. Introducing EC's new focus of the various data landscapes which will analyze the relationships of integrated evidence-based practices (i.e., Assessment Data Landscapes, Child Find Landscapes, Natural and Inclusive Learning Environments Landscapes, IFSP/IEP Process Landscapes); and
 7. Introducing the process documents distributed to local leaders: IFSP process guide, IFSP & IEP Process Performance Indicators (PPI), draft pages of the preschool IEP's Present Level of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance (PLAAFP)

section (working with CTE to develop and release by March 2020).

IX. SSIP Presentation: Our Journey to Integrate the Pyramid Model in Early Intervention Services (2:55–3:25)

- A. The local leaders from the SSIP counties (Jennifer Ayers, Cecil County, Lisa Jarboe, Fredrick County, Mary Manning-Falzarano, Montgomery County) presented on integrating the Pyramid Model in their local Infant and Toddler programs. A highlight of the presentation was the system wide implementation of social-emotional screening.

X. Wrap-Up & Adjournment (3:25-3:30)

Meeting adjourned at 3:34 pm.

SICC UPCOMING MEETINGS

Executive Meetings (1:00-2:00, Call)

January 9, 2020

March 5, 2020

May 7, 2020

General Meetings (1:00-3:30, CTE)

February 6, 2020

April 2, 2020

Joint Meeting (10:00-2:00, TBD)

June 4, 2020