

SICC General Meeting—Virtual
October 7, 2021
1:00-3:30pm
Agenda

- I. Welcome, Remarks & Introductions: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:00-1:05)
- II. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:05-1:10)
 - A. Anna Benshoof approved, Eric Ebersole second meeting approval
- III. Announcements & Public Comment: If you would like to speak, please notify Brenda Hussey-Gardner via email at bhussey@som.umaryland.edu (1:10-1:15)
 - A. Kristin Murphy- CTE in Columbia is no longer available. If you are aware of a facility that offers seating for 30-50 with a hybrid option, please notify Brenda.
 - B. A vote will be held in December to determine the format of the next meeting
- IV. SICC Report
 - A. Legislative Update: Eric Ebersole (1:15-1:30) Children's health concerns which impact the directing of funds and keeping them viable for childcare including children of school-age during the pandemic.
 1. HB 392- Requiring Family Child Care Homes, Large Family Child Care Homes, and Child Care Centers to provide Early Childhood Screening and Assistance is in its third read.
 2. HB597 made it possible for Child Care and Preschools to offer probationary employment for those not fully through the certification process yet. Passed the third read.
 3. Grant program to make possible for new DC and existing to ramp up with matching funds from the counties.
 4. Childcare made it easier for boys and girls clubs and YMCA to have childcare—had a lower standard passed with guidance for security.
 5. HB776 Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Project- passed again
 - a) The program, receiving 2 million dollars annually, sends experts to schools to help with children and train staff.
 - b) The study from MSDE demonstrated the need for additional support. Del. Ebersole is crafting legislation to expand the ECMHC Project.
 - B. SICC Initiatives
 1. PIE Update: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:30-1:35)
 - a) Working with CTE on initial steps on ways to use the referral system and/or the future Community Portal for improved communication between the pediatricians, families, and providers.
 - b) New initiative between pediatricians, MITP, and WIC to build stronger communication. Provided contact information for WIC: MDWIC.org; 1-800-242-4WIC; MDH.WIC@Maryland.gov

- c) Collaboration with MD Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
 - (1) MSDE DEI/SES, Howard County IT, and CTE presented on the MIPT on Oct. 5th. Recording will be posted on MDAAP's website.
 - (2) Pediatricians requested more open communication and feedback after they submit referrals.
 - (3) A suggestion was made for MSDE/MITP to provide pediatricians with a follow up regarding barriers to communication (e.g., FERPA regs) and steps planned for enhancing communication.
- d) Collaboration with CRISP
 - (1) Frequently, families enrolled in MITP do not always provide contact information for their child's pediatrician.
 - (2) CRISP has a directory of pediatricians. Brenda will ask if the directory can be made available to MITP to give providers the opportunity to more easily communicate with pediatricians.
- 2. Infant Mental Health Task Force Update: Cyndi Lessner (1:35-1:40)
Cynthia.lessner@maryland.gov
 - a) Provided background information on the development of an Infant Mental Health Framework.
 - (1) Gap analysis led to the development of the Framework.
 - (2) A draft framework was shared.
 - b) Invitation for new committee members to join the November meeting.
- C. Review of June Joint Meeting Minutes & Establish Any Action Steps (1:40-2:00)
 - 1. Need for a technology task force
 - a) The initial purpose discussed was to transition paper documents to all electronic records in EI
 - b) Cindy Lessner has a DEC group that began meeting to look at priorities and costs surrounding technology.
 - c) It was recommended that the formation of an SICC task force consider working in a collaborative manner with the DEC task force to avoid duplication of efforts and to learn from one another.
 - d) Motion was made to establish an SICC Technology Task Force.
 - (1) Vote was held and motion passed.
 - (2) FloJean Speck and Mary Manning-Falzarano agreed to co-chair the SICC Technology Task Force.
 - e) If you are interested in joining the task force, please contact
 - (1) fspeck@marylandfamilynetwork.org
 - (2) mary.manning-falzarano@montgomerycountymd.gov
 - 2. Medicaid billing continue to reimburse virtual service provisions
 - a) Discussed whether or not there was a need for a related SICC Task Force.
 - b) It was noted that there is a Bill on telehealth continuing reimbursement for virtual visits.

- c) It was determined that there was no current need for a task force at this time.
- V. Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services (DEI/SES) Early Childhood Updates: Marcella Franczkowski (2:00-2:30)
- A. Highlights included:
 - 1. An introduction to the new State Superintendent, Mohammed Choudhry
 - 2. Compensatory Education Tracking System
 - 3. Learning Continuity Plans for Preschool IEPs
 - 4. S.U.P.E.R. Fellowship program: partnership with JHU's IDEALs to build leadership capacity
 - 5. Community Portal: partnership with JHU/CTE to develop a virtual portal to support communication between parents, providers, and the medical community
 - 6. Micro-credentialing program for IEP chairperson capacity building
 - 7. Customized professional learning and technical assistance: online portal hosting professional learning tools that are customizable for the local's implementation
 - 8. Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant pilot: partnership with DEC
 - a) Four locals found to be in need of consultation support for Infants and Toddlers experiencing mental health concerns.
 - b) Pilot program allows consultants to not just work in daycare settings, but with providers in the MITP.
 - c) Pilot begins October 2021.
 - B. State updates: Results driven accountability
 - 1. KRA is the test of the impact of Preschool education in Kindergarten readiness.
 - a) The data shows that there has been little to no change in meeting school readiness criteria.
 - b) The gap remains consistent with only 19% of children with disabilities ready for Kindergarten.
 - c) Only 50% of children without disabilities meet readiness standards.
 - d) Leads us to closely examine IFSPs and IEPs and how they address children and families' needs.
 - C. Blueprint for Maryland's Future
 - 1. Provided an overview of the impact of the Blueprint on early childhood
 - a) Publicly funded PreK with tiers of support based upon poverty
 - b) Increase in Judy Centers and Patty Centers
 - 2. It was suggested that a discussion be held at the next meeting regarding the data and what is impacting the results. Possible questions include:
 - a) What are the other states doing?
 - b) Is it the eligibility criteria?
 - c) Can you parcel out little b from 3-5?
 - 3. The Report Card can provide information from local systems

Maryland SICC

STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

Maryland State Department of Education
Division of Early Intervention & Special Education Services
200 W. Baltimore Street, 9th floor, Baltimore, MD 21201
(410) 767-0261
Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Ph.D., M.P.H., Chair

- a) We need to look at where there is no gap and determine why and how they have narrowed the gap.
 - b) By locals on KRA look for a slow rise between the ages of 3-5 year and determine what they did to make the difference. We are looking for performance with results.
 - 4. Brian will provide data review in December need to address the data points.
 - 5. If the SICC creates the questions, we will obtain the data.
- VI. Division of Early Childhood Updates: Cyndi Lessner (2:30-2:40)
- A. Maryland State PreK Expansion Grant
 - B. PreK expansion begins in FY 23
 - C. Webinar Series-MD State Pre-K Program
 - D. Increase in Judy Centers
 - E. Office of Child Care: American Rescue Plan Act
 - 1. Increased funding
 - 2. Planning to use the money to build and sustain the work
- VII. Community Portal: Cecilia Leger (2:40-3:10)
- A. Goals
 - 1. Better child and family outcomes, facilitate communication and collaboration among IFSP team members.
 - 2. Strengthen strategic partnerships
 - 3. Help ITP leaders and partners make data informed decisions
 - 4. Streamline case management
 - 5. Narrow the school readiness gap
 - 6. Education, communication, collaboration
 - B. Brenda recommended that Cecilia be part of the new Tech Task force and get their input.
 - C. Cynthia will reach out with additional ideas for input.
- VIII. DEC Recommended Practices: Mai Hall, aRPy Ambassador for Maryland (3:10-3:25)
- A. Orientation to the DEC recommended practices for improving outcomes for children and families
 - 1. Goal: Promote the use of the RP across the states services
 - 2. Overview
 - a) Practices represent the 'essential' 'biggest band' or highest leverage practices
 - b) Purpose, domains
 - B. Resources on ECTA <https://ectacenter.org/>
- IX. Meeting Adjourned at 3:30

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SICC UPCOMING MEETINGS

General Meetings (1:00-3:30pm)
December 2, 2021 (SPP/APR Data)
February 3, 2022
April 7, 2022

Executive Meetings (1:00-2:00pm, Call)
November 4, 2021
January 6, 2022
March 3, 2022
May 5, 2022

Joint Meeting (10:00am-2:00pm)
June 2, 2022