

SICC General Meeting February 6, 2020 Minutes

Attendance: Anna Benshoof, Cynthia Bouchard, Pamela Bush-Jones, Marcella Franczkowski, Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Cecilia Leger, Mary LaCasse, Cyndi Lessner, Rachel London, Michele McCoy Jones, FloJean Speck, Valerie Ashton-Thomas, Christy Tirrell-Torbin, Gloria Valentine, Anna Maria Wilms Floet

Excused: Roikensha Craig, Elizabeth Hall, Elizabeth Snyder, Peaches Wilson

Guests: Wes Campbell, Angela Gebert, Mai Hall, Mary Manning-Falzarano, Patricia Muldowney, Kristin Murphy, Tatiana Owens, Terri Ridenour, Michelle Steelman, Sheila Umayam, D’Lisa Worthy

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

I. Welcome, Remarks & Introductions: Brenda Hussey-Gardner

- Brenda called the meeting to order at 1:02pm.
- All attendees to this SICC meeting, in-person and by phone, introduced themselves.

II. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes: Brenda Hussey-Gardner

- The previous meeting minutes from December 2019 were approved at 1:10 pm.

III. Announcements & Public Comment: Brenda Hussey-Gardner

- The upcoming Executive Meeting has been changed to March 9, 2020.

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

A. Membership Update: Brenda Hussey-Gardner

- There are currently 3 parent vacancies and 1 legislative vacancy.
- The council nominated 2 parent member nominees to be approved by the governor: Kristin Murphy (Harford County) and Mai Hall (Howard County). Each nominee introduced themselves and shared their motivation for joining the council at this time.

B. Legislative Updates: Rachel London

- Rachel provided an overview of the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council and the 2020 legislative session. The General Assembly is currently in session until April 6, 2020. Rachel discussed the budget and relevant aspect to funding and support for early intervention programs and children with disabilities. The DDC shares priority bills its website (https://www.md-council.org/policy/policy-legislation/#Legislative_Overview) every Friday.
- A brief summary of the following bills was provided:

- SB0637: Children-Therapeutic Nursing Program-Funding
- HB0184 (SB0783): Special Education-Judicial Actions-Attorney's Fees and Related Costs
- HB0839 (SB0539): Labor and Employment-Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program-Establishment
- HB0847: State Coordinator for Autism Strategy and Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism-Related Needs
- HB0984 (SB0976): Developmental Administration- Program Changes and Required Reports
- HB0396: Child Care Centers-Early Childhood Screening for Developmental Disabilities

C. Infant Mental Health Task Force Updates: Cyndi Lessner

- Cyndi discussed the challenges the taskforce has had identifying an agent that would serve as an ideal "fit" for the taskforce mission. The taskforce will move forward with its plan once immediate priorities are met.
- She also discussed looking at early childhood through home visiting and other stakeholders to target prevention when addressing discipline and inequity in K-12.

D. AAP Updated Screening Guidelines: Anna Maria Wilms Floet

- Anna Maria reviewed a recently published article with the updated early childhood screening guidelines released by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). She shared that the article discussed the importance of administering early childhood screenings. She proposed inviting the lead author of this article, Dr. Paul Lipkin, to an upcoming general meeting.
- Brenda proposed if the author is available, to extend the invitation for the joint SICC and LICC meeting in June 2020.
- The new AAP guidelines on screening will be posted on the SICC's website. Below is the article shared in the meeting:
 - AAP 2020: Promoting Optimal Development: Identifying Infants and Young Children with Developmental Disorders through Developmental Surveillance and Screening

V. Division of Early Childhood Updates: Cyndi Lessner

- Cyndi announced Maryland State Department of Education received the Preschool Development Birth-Five Renewal Grant (PDG B-5) to continue strategic planning and system development for the state's early childhood system.
- Cyndi also announced MSDE was also awarded the Pritzker Award for the next year, which will be used to support collaboration and equity in early childhood.
- Finally, the FY21 budget will look to expand access to high quality early childhood education, workforce development, provide more funding for family support and Judy centers; and improving quality

VI. Break

VII. Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services (DEI/SES) Early Childhood Updates: Pam Miller and Janette Guerra

- Pam and Janette jointly made the following announcements:
 - Part C/Part B SPP/APR submitted
 - Part C Federal Application Released: Posted on MSDE website by 3/1/2020
 - Maryland OIFSP and Online Referral Updates
 - Pam announced all counties have received at least one referral through the Online IFSP tool
 - Working with John Hopkins University (JHU) on reports to be in place by July 1, 2020
 - Maryland IEP (Preschool Component) Updates
 - Early Childhood Inclusion Grant-Due 2/14/2020
 - B-K Child Find Landscape Webinar 2/26/20
 - Ongoing TA to Local B-K Systems
- Part C: Infants and Toddlers Program
 - Pam disseminated the updated Birth-K information booklet, which was proposed to be posted online for greater access. Janette encouraged the council to keep family stories in mind for continuous updates.
 - The Maryland Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EDHI) and the Maryland Department of Health will reinvigorate collaboration with stakeholders to improve access to early hearing health.
 - MSDE received guidance from the IFSP User group to provide access to providers at the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) and the Maryland School for the Deaf (MSD).
- Part B 619: Preschool Special Education
 - Janette restated data collection will be reported differently beginning July 1, 2020 in which 5-year-olds who are in preschool and those in kindergarten will need to be separated. MSDE and local programs need to develop a process on how to report the children in the system.
 - MSDE will be reviewing grants for local school systems, public agencies, institutions of higher education, and non-local school systems in the coming months.

VIII. Part C SSIP Evaluation Activities: Pam Miller

- Pam recounted Year 4 of the Part C State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP).
- MSDE worked with AnLar, Inc. for the second year to complete the evaluation activities such as evaluating the progress of the SSIP; interviewing with each of the identified counties; disseminating surveys to local leadership and staff; and collecting data on SSIP activities, TA provisions, and fidelity of evidence based practices.

IX. Implementation of the Routines Based Interview: How the RBI and EcoMaps Support

Teachers' Competencies for Supporting Challenging Behaviors **Kent County & Washington County**

X. MSDE Initial Response to the VLBW Recommendation: Marcella Franczkowski, DEI/SES Assistant State Superintendent

- Continuing our Efforts: Strategic Implementation of a Comprehensive Early Childhood System of Services
- MSDE will begin to review the following in its recommendation of initial next steps:
 - Build monitoring capabilities into MOIFSP Database System [family choice]
 - Pilot monitoring capabilities based initially on LITP request
 - Continue collaboration with partners (pediatrics, NICU follow up, etc.)
 - Gather the implications for monitoring babies between 1200-1500g who are not already eligible for the program
 - Gather the implications for potentially serving 200+ babies per year between 1200-1500g

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

Meeting adjourned at 3:31pm

SICC UPCOMING MEETINGS

Executive Meetings (1:00-2:00, Call)
March 5, 2020

General Meetings (1:00 – 2:30, Zoom)
April 2, 2020

Joint Meeting (10:00-2:00, CTE or Zoom)
June 4, 2020