

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, PhD, MPH, Chair
Kristen Murphy, PT, DPT, Vice-Chair

SICC General Meeting—Virtual April 7, 2022 1:00-3:30pm Minutes

Members: Anna Benshoof, Pamela Bush-Jones, Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Maryjo Harris, Cecilia Leger, Elizabeth Hall, Cyndi Lessner, Rachel London, Kristin Murphy, Samantha Ritter, Kristen Paul, FloJean Speck, Christy Tirrell-Corbin, Annemiek Wilms-Floet

Guests: Beth Boyle, Cindy Bouchard, Margo Candelaria, Megan Fleury, Deborah Gudger, Marsye Kaplan, Katie Klein, Linsey Malig-Mayhew, Mary Manning-Falzarano, Marie Marino, Dona Mullen, Lauren Mangrum, Cynthis Millikin, Brian Morrison, Koryne Nnoli, Andrew Pollock, Taadie Robinson, Lisa Shanty, Erin Simmons, Kathleen Toscano, Victor James Young, Gloria Valentine

- I. Welcome, Remarks & Introductions: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:00-1:05)
Sign-in via Smartsheet link presented in the chat
- II. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:05-1:10)
Meeting minutes from February 3, 2022 were approved unanimously via poll
- III. Announcements & Public Comment : If you have an announcement or public comment, please notify Brenda Hussey-Gardner via email at bhussey@som.umaryland.edu
 - A. Unite Us Referral Network: FloJean Speck (1:10-1:20)
 1. Creating an efficient system of care within the community
 2. Resource and referral platform that allows for multiple referrals in one system and tracks outcomes of referrals
 3. This network began as a veteran's organization but has expanded to healthcare, social service, etc. and is now in 42 states; has been in MD for 2 years, starting in Baltimore City, and is expanding
 4. Maryland Family Network would like to add current resources into the network
 5. Free accounts for up to 25 users
 6. Top services requested: employment, housing and shelter, food assistance, benefits navigation, income support
 7. Strong data reporting capabilities
 8. If interested in learning more, there are community information sessions twice per month; email FloJean Speck (fspeck@marylandfamilynetwork.org)
- IV. SICC Report
 - A. General updates
 1. Brenda submitted testimony on behalf of SICC to the House and Senate in support of MSDE-Aid to Education FY 2023 budget
 2. Survey for feedback on application for IDEA Part C federal funds was distributed
 - a) 9 responses collected so far

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- b) Will collect survey results through May 1 and share with Marcella Franckzowski
- c) Results will be presented at SICC/LICC joint meeting on June 2
- 3. SICC/LICC joint meeting: in-person or virtual?
 - a) 60% voted via poll for in-person; 40% voted for virtual
 - b) Brenda will look for a location for this meeting
- B. Membership Updates: Kristin Murphy (1:20-1:25)
 - 1. Seeking 2-3 SICC members to join the Executive Committee (must be SICC member; meet for 1 hour virtually on months that general meetings do not occur)
 - 2. Review of SICC bylaws (required composition of SICC)
 - 3. If interested in becoming SICC member, must be sworn-in by governor; term is 3 years; allows you to vote in SICC meetings
- C. Legislative Updates: Rachel London (1:25-1:35)
 - 1. Funding under Blueprint directed \$14.6 million to MD ITP
 - 2. FY23 budget has passed
 - a) \$2.8 million increase for autism waiver
 - b) End the Wait bill passed: requires MDH to reduce waitlist by 50% in FY24
 - c) Added \$40 million (\$10 million to MSDE for autism waiver; \$30 million in dedicated purpose account for future expenses—"fenced-off money")
 - d) DDA: more money to both children and adults waiting for services or currently receiving services through DDA, including 8% rate increase for DDA service providers, money for transitioning youth
 - 3. Other passed legislation
 - a) HB1255: prohibits seclusion in public schools and limits use of seclusion in non-public schools
 - b) Supportive decision making: establishes supportive decision making as a recognized way for people with disabilities to make decisions
 - c) Time to Care act: paid family and medical leave; would allow employees to receive 12 weeks of paid (wage replacement) leave when they have to care for themselves or others; going to Governor's desk next
 - d) Bill to fund (\$3.7 million) therapeutic childcare centers
 - e) Early Childhood bills in limbo: 1 would fund ECMHC project (awaiting a vote in the senate committee)
- D. Updated CDC Milestones: Annemiek Wilms-Floet (1:35-1:45)
 - 1. Journal of Pediatrics article: Evidence-Informed Milestones for Developmental Surveillance Tools (Zubler et al., March 2022); addendum to paper recently released
 - 2. Updates to CDC's Act Early campaign, which avoided "wait and see" approach
 - 3. 11 criteria for milestones and surveillance
 - a) Milestones= when 75% or more children are expected to demonstrate that milestone
 - (1) 159 milestones (41% of which were added; 59% were previously published CDC milestones)
 - b) Eliminate "warning signs"
 - c) Use plain language

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- d) Include information on how to act early if there are concerns
 - e) Easy to observe and use in different cultures in natural settings
 - f) Organized by developmental domains; shows progression with age when possible
 - g) Not repeated across checklists
 - h) Include open ended questions
 - i) Include info on developmental promotion
4. Brenda will work with MSDE to upload this paper to SICC website
 5. Paul Lipkin (KKI) is willing to talk with SICC if desired
 6. Response to paper: a lot of pushback from EI community
 - a) ASHA published response statement
 - b) Questions around how this impacts tools used and eligibility for Part C; will this cause confusion for parents?
- E. SICC Initiatives
1. PIE Update: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:45-1:50)
 - a) Following up on SICC recommendation regarding VLBW infants (1200-1500g) and use of tracking system
 - b) July 2020: tracking system launched; looking at this data is underway; presentation planned for joint meeting
 - c) MDAAP sponsored focus groups of parents to better understand types of information they are willing to share between agencies; Dr. Badawi will share these results at joint meeting
 - d) Meetings: first Friday of month, 12-1 PM via Zoom
 - e) Email Brenda if interested
 2. Technology Task Force Update: FloJean Speck (1:50-2:00)
 - a) Had a great response during meeting of ITP directors and tech staff
 - b) Will be putting tech survey together; by end of April, it will circulate to pilot group with a final survey going out by end of May
 - c) Email FloJean (fspeck@marylandfamilynetwork.org) or Mary (mary.manning-falzarano@montgomerycountymd.gov) if interested
 3. IECMH Task Force Update: Cyndi Lessner (2:00-2:10)
 - a) Working on systems framework around ECMH (pillars of CARING)
 - b) Planning to share a draft of framework in next few weeks and send out with a survey to seek feedback
- V. Division of Early Childhood Updates: Cyndi Lessner (2:10-2:20)
- A. ARPA funding
1. \$193 million for different initiatives throughout DEC, with \$19 million dedicated to ECMHC
 2. DEC is in process of trying to distribute money by looking at areas of need (e.g., building on strengths of ECMH system; expanding consultation program; Pyramid Model expansion; growing the field to increase number of consultants)
 3. Have been meeting with local ECACs and Job Centers to determine their needs

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- a) Desired more consistent professional development and coaching, communities of practice, more Pyramid Model, and enhanced Conscious Discipline
 - b) Conversations around helping children and families with trauma as well as lack of socialization opportunities during COVID contributing to an increase in behavioral challenges
 - c) Considering sustainability; looking at recommendations from latest IECMH evaluation and 2019 gap analysis
 - 4. With ARPA funding, there is also more money for childcare stabilization grants; just finished round 2 and round 3 is upcoming
 - B. Next state ECAC meeting May 4; hybrid model (AM: presentations; PM: workgroups) @ Howard County Community Council office
- VI. Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services (DEI/SES) Early Childhood Updates: Brian Morrison & Marsye Kaplan (2:20-2:30)
- A. FFY 2020 Annual Report Card Summary: Local Determinations and Assigned Tier of Performance Support
 - 1. Part C report cards just released; Part B upcoming (awaiting data validation)
 - a) 4 determination categories: meets requirements, needs assistance, needs intervention, needs substantial intervention
 - b) MD is required to provide local determinations for each LITP and school-age SPED program
 - 2. For past 3 years, MD has kept determination criteria the same; this year, USDE requested revision to baselines (increased number of results indicators for “meets requirements” by 1)
 - 3. 24 LITPs
 - a) Meets requirements: 14
 - b) Needs assistance: 8
 - c) Needs intervention: 2
 - d) Needs substantial intervention: 0
 - 4. Tiers of performance support
 - a) Universal (monitored every 4 years): 18
 - b) Target (monitored every other year): 5
 - c) Focused (monitored annually): Determinations: 1; SSIP: 4
 - d) Intensive: 0
 - B. DEI/SES staffing updates
 - 1. Erin Simmons (performance specialist), Koryne Nnoli (IDEALS fellow), Lisa Shanty (IDEALS fellow) have joined Early Childhood team
 - C. Impacting MD School readiness: 3-part data analysis series completed for ECSE teams
 - 1. Part 1: Reading the data (1/20)
 - 2. Part 2: interpreting and using the data (3/15-3/17)
 - 3. Part 3: using data to inform practices (3/31)
 - 4. Trainings were well-received

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- D. IFSP Extended Option
 - 1. Grant meetings today for CLIG and Part B
 - 2. Extended option IFSP grants
 - a) Extended Option IFSP
 - (1) Professional learning
 - (a) Narrowing the gap and changing the trajectory towards school readiness
 - (b) Focus on early academics and communication
 - (2) ELA training
 - (3) Incorporation of curriculum coaching into B-K home visits
 - b) Family engagement to improve school readiness outcomes
 - (1) Family support staff
 - (2) Professional learning to support school readiness for families and providers
 - (3) Adding resources to a lending library
- E. Moving forward with transformational opportunities
 - 1. Integrating of COS, ELA, and KRA information in IFSPs/IEPs
 - 2. Targeting high leverage SKBs that predict readiness
 - 3. Aligning outcomes/goals with critical readiness skills
 - 4. Enhancing early childhood education
 - a) Continued Pre-K expansion funding
 - b) Blueprint funded full day 3 and 4 y.o. programs
 - c) 27 additional Judy centers and 30 Patty centers
- VII. Blueprint Stakeholder Survey: Linsey Malig-Mayhew, Deputy Director of Community Engagement, Office of Communications and Community Engagement (2:30-3:30)
 - A. Gathering feedback for strategic plan/Blueprint pillars
 - B. 2 breakout groups (listening sessions) held during this meeting to gain SICC input on needs/challenges/goals
 - C. Survey that will guide education across state for many years; everyone should take and share survey with networks
 - 1. <https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/survey>
 - 2. Available in 7 languages; Amharic option coming soon
 - 3. Marsye has outreach toolkit and can spread this survey around
 - D. Tonight: roundtable on special education; all roundtables are livestreamed on YouTube
 - 1. <https://youtu.be/elD9Oon-C30>
- VIII. Wrap-Up & Adjournment (3:30)

Meeting adjourned at 3:24 PM

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SICC UPCOMING MEETINGS

Executive Meetings (1:00-2:00pm, Virtual)
May 5, 2022

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