



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

MISSISSIPPI FIRST STEPS EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM

State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Meeting

January 11, 2019

8:30 am-4:00 pm

Table with 4 columns: Present, SICC Members, Affiliation, Role. Lists attendees such as Brittany Herrington, Candice Taylor, Carlen Henington, etc.

* ex officio

Additional Attendees:

- Anissa Pace, MSDH, Local Early Intervention Program Coordinator
Carey Bates, MSDH, Early Intervention Quality Technical Assistant Central Region
Lakeshia Unger, MSDH, EHDI-M, Hearing Follow-up Coordinator
Miranda Richardson, MSDH, Early Intervention Data Manager
Pamela Kendrick, MSDH, Early Intervention Monitoring Coordinator
Paulita Childs, MSDH, Local Early Intervention Program Coordinator
Skylar Jackson, MSDH, EHDI-M, Hearing Follow-up Coordinator
Stacy Callender, MSDH, Part C Coordinator
Stephenie Bailey, MSDH, Local Early Intervention Program Coordinator
Michelle Masterson, MSDH, Local Early Intervention Program Coordinator
Dr. Beryl Polk, MSDH, Director Child & Adolescent Health
Dr. Gerri Cannon-Smith, MSDH, Pediatric Consultant Child & Adolescent Health
Valecia Davis, MSDH, Early Intervention Operations Director
Valerie Linn, Director, Magnolia Speech School

State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Minutes

Approved: April 12, 2019

Kelly, McCulla, *Graduate Student, Mississippi State University*
Nan Slaughter, *Yaha Soft*
Roy Su, *Yaha Soft*
Erin Hawley, *Yaha Soft*
Daniel Guo, *Yaha Soft*

MINUTES

Welcome/Introductions (B. Herrington)

B. Herrington opened the meeting at 8:36 am. She welcomed all SICC members and attendees. All participants provided brief introductions.

Review and Approval of Minutes (B. Herrington)

Minutes from the November 13, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved as written by the SICC motion by J. Parker and second by N. Thompson).

EI Data System Presentation (V. Davis, S. Callender, Yaha Soft Representatives)

An overview of where Part C is in the data system process was provided by Valecia & Stacy. Stacy outlined the RFP process and indicated that we are currently ahead of our target date. Roy Su and Erin Hawley provided a brief description/overview of how the new system would look indicating functions and accessibility of EI staff from administrative to provider. The vendors were made available to the ICC and the following questions were addressed:

- What level of detail can be included in the reports?
 - Reports can be as detailed as desired, depending upon the data points.
- Will there be a home page for parents?
 - That can be done, but that is not in the request as this time.
- Will the new system be able to interface with the current Part B data system?
 - Part C is able to share the required information with Part B now, but they will not have access to the new system.
- How is the data to be stored/housed?
 - The data will be housed via Amazon.

Committee Reports (B. Herrington)

The following updates were provided on the work of the committees:

- ***Personnel Preparation Committee:*** J. Parker, Chair, reported the state team has been approved for Intensive TA to develop a comprehensive system of personnel development with the first meeting to take place at the end of January. Julie also attended the ECPC Leadership Meeting at DEC and provided updates on the EI Master's program via the MSU extension service with the first cohort beginning in the spring. Valecia and Stacy spoke to all of the work that the CSPD has already accomplished and how entering the Intensive TA process will lead to our state better servicing the needs of children and families. Ronjanett addressed the level of involvement and comprehensiveness of the ECPC leadership group and the hard/detailed work that has gone into the process.
- ***Public Awareness Committee:*** L. Rolison, Chair, reported the Public Awareness committee is "finally coming together." The group met to discuss the report to the Governor and Lori provided an overview indicating that it would include a section on Parent's perspectives, funding sources, program growth and enrollment by area/regions, number and

children/families served. Lori asked the EI office for assistance with graphs/charts. The following questions were asked of the PAC:

- What is the purpose of the report to the Governor?
 - Stacy informed the group that it is a requirement to share the APR data and the purpose of the Public Awareness committee is to create a more meaningful document that will be better received.
- Is there a due date for submission?
 - Stacy and Miranda informed the group at APR data must be submitted by February 1 and the SICC Chair must sign off on the data.
- Will the report identify current challenges to the MSFSEIP?
 - There will be a section that details success and challenges.

D. Young suggested that the committee review the most recent report issued by the CCAC for inspirations, formatting ideas, etc.

- **Transition Committee:** No report.
- **Retention/Recruitment:** D. Young informed the group that Medicaid will have a limited role in this group due to legalities. R. Blakeney stated the same. Dorothy informed the group that MS is an “Any willing provider state” meaning that patients have provider choice and cannot be forced into specific providers. A comprehensive rate study was suggested in order to more effectively discuss the provider shortage in the state. The top insurance carriers in the state are hesitant to share information regarding specific rates, as they are concerned that others may be trying to legislate cost. Stacy informed the group that the purpose for the inquiring into rates is to better assist the MSDH in addressing the need to increase POLR rates. Ryan requested information regarding the most commonly billed EI services to assist in determining appropriate reimbursement rates.

Dorothy Young shared information regarding the Integrated Care for Kids waiver that the MDOM will be applying for. If awarded it will allow all Medicaid kids in Hinds County to be tracked for 7 years. MDOM has twenty-one signed partners in this process and it will provide for a single assessment to be shared among the entities. This will allow for care in a tiered manner. This process will allow for better behavioral/mental health care of children. The tentative date for the award date is 2020.

SICC Business: (B. Herrington)

Dr. Cannon-Smith provided a presentation on the need to decrease the lead level from 15 mg per dl to 10 mg per dl for automatic eligibility for EI services. Upon completion of the presentation, the following questions were asked:

- What are leading causes of such high lead levels in children?
 - Infrequent screenings, older homes, remodeling that stirs up lead dust.
- How would the change in eligibility level amount impact the number of children referred for EI services?
 - Currently there are 250 children served in EI due to lead, but it could increase that number by 6 -10 additional referrals monthly.
- Do neighboring states share data regarding high lead levels, especially border counties?
 - Yes.

Stacy explained the current lead home visiting process and how it would assist in increasing the number of referrals.

Brittney placed the decrease in lead level number to the floor for a vote. Properly motioned and second (Carlen and Ronjanett). Motion voted and passed by SIC.

Public Comments:

No public comments were offered.

Program Update

The following updates were provided by the Program personnel:

- **Staff Changes:** V. Davis introduced new EI staff (P. Childs) as the new Training Coordinator to the central office team. Thanked LEIP Coordinators for their continued hard work and commitment to EI.
- **Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP):** S. Callender notified the committee that the Part C Grant Application will be delayed until January 17, 2019. She reported that the allocations will be based upon state birth rates and poverty level. She also notified group that a diagnosed condition list was provided by Dr. Cannon-Smith and that she has also shared the list with Dr. Buttross who will share at the next AAP meeting.
- **EI Monitoring Updates:** P. Kendrick more onsite monitoring will be provided to local programs.
- **EI Data Updates:** M. Richardson provided the SICC with more recent APR data. Upon completion of presentation, the following questions were asked:
 - Why are the target area set so high?
 - The target area is set by federal guidelines. The national averages for natural environments was also provided to assist in providing context to where our state ranks.
 - Are we accurately capturing the exit scores of the children who come in and out of the program?
 - No.
 - Is there a standard form that can be used to capture exit scores?
 - The problem is not the form, it is how the providers are scoring the children. Even with continued training it is still inconsistent.

Adjourn

The SICC Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.