

Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council (MIICC)
***Early On*[®] Michigan**
(Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
Michigan Department of Education
608 W. Allegan Street, Lansing, MI 48909
State Board of Education Room, 4th Floor
Thursday, February 8, 2018

Minutes

Members Present: Barbara Corbin, Reneé DeMars-Johnson,
Kristina Donaldson, Judy Goth-Owens, Cheryl Granzo,
Rachel Harmon, Lauren Heilman, Chandra Jones,
Laura McKechnie, Amy Miilu, Stephanie Peters,
Prachi Shah, Nicole Sodergren, Deana Strudwick

Members Absent: Clare Brick, Tiffany Kostelec, Nolana Nobles Bandy,
Senator Phil Pavlov, Rich Van Tol

Alternates Present: Kristen Carmany, Melissa Epstein, Tami Mannes

Staff Present: Kelly Hurshe, Colleen O'Connor, Barb Schinderle

Grantees Present: *Early On* Training and Technical Assistance:
Christy Callahan, Allan Knapp, Victoria Meeder,
Nancy Surbrook
Michigan Alliance for Families
Caryn Pack-Ivey
Wayne State University
Matt Case

Guests: Jennifer Bigelow-Stambaugh, Noel Kelty, Beth Kennedy

Call to Order: Chairperson Barbara Corbin called the meeting to order at
9:30 a.m.

Introductions: Introductions were made, and everyone was welcomed.

Approval of Minutes:

**A motion was made by Reneé DeMars-Johnson and supported by
Rachel Harmon to approve the minutes.
Motion carried.**

Approval of Agenda:

Barbara Corbin suggested a change to the agenda which included an update from
the *Early On* Foundation.

A motion was made by Reneé DeMars-Johnson and supported by Rachel Harmon to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

“Worth Mentioning:”

A recommendation came from the Parent Involvement Committee to start each MICC meeting with an activity that keeps children and families at the heart of what we do, helps the MICC members, alternates, grantees, and staff get to know each other better, and allows others to understand the different perspectives that make up the MICC.

Reneé DeMars-Johnson worked in the early childhood field for 20 years before coming to MDE. She has been at MDE for 22 years. Reneé feels it’s an honor to be Superintendent Whiston’s designee on the Council; and says her life growing up helped her find her voice in a way that honors and supports the diversity of young children and promotes social justice. Reneé is proud to lead the *Early On* team at MDE and appreciates their passion. She is also looking forward to becoming a grandmother this year.

Cheryl Granzo began her career as a speech therapist in the mid-80’s. She currently works for Ionia Intermediate School District (ISD) and was hired in as a speech therapist with the agreement to go back to school to receive her early childhood endorsement and teaching certificate. In her early days she worked with Jacque Thompson at MDE and Teresa Marvin. Teresa is a parent of adopted twins who received *Early On* services in Ionia County. Cheryl and Teresa spent many hours completing IFSPs and IEPs and realized the need for a combined form, which became a reality. Cheryl first became an alternate for Kathy Fortino on the MICC then was appointed in 2017. Her mantra is, “if it’s good for children and families, then do it.”

Updates:

Annual Performance Report (APR)

The APR was approved by the MICC in November and submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) February 1, 2018. The APR includes Indicators 1-10. Indicator 11 is the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and is due April 2, 2018.

MICC Member News

The Governor’s office reappointed Kristina Donaldson, Nolana Nobles Bandy, and Laura McKechnie to four-year terms expiring October 31, 2021. We have not heard whether new members were appointed to fill vacancies for a service provider and legislative representative.

Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC) Family Engagement Initiative

The LICC Family Engagement Initiative was created to increase communication between state and local parent leaders involved in *Early On*

(www.michigan.gov/earlyon) so that information, resources, and leadership opportunities can be shared. The second webinar on November 30, 2017, included 19 participants. The focus was the LICC Parent Handbook and sharing information about LICCs. Survey results showed that 100 percent of the participants felt they had a better understanding of how LICCs function and are comfortable sharing information with their LICCs. The next webinar is February 15, 2018, and the focus is on leadership activities.

Leadership changes

Deputy Superintendent Susan Broman retired at the end of January. Susan was with MDE for six years and was a strong, relentless advocate for early childhood education. Succeeding Susan will be Dr. Scott Koenigskecht, currently Superintendent at Ingham ISD. To allow Dr. Koenigskecht to transition thoughtfully from that role, he won't be coming on board at MDE until the beginning of August 2018.

Superintendent Whiston appointed Shulawn Doxie, who served as Susan's Special Assistant, to be the Interim Deputy Superintendent until August.

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation workgroup

The state of Michigan received the federal Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) grant in 2013 with the main goal of increasing access and quality of services for young children birth to five years old in their early care and education settings. In support of this goal, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) contracted with local Community Mental Health agencies to hire, train, and deploy Social Emotional Consultants (SEC) to work with child care providers to increase their overall capacity to recognize and meet the social emotional needs of young children.

With the end of Race to the Top funding looming in December 2018, the Great Start Operations Team (GSOT) developed a charge to facilitate a workgroup focused on sustaining this current SEC (Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC)) work and scaling efforts to include statewide access and broadening efforts to support home visiting, *Early On*, and other infant/toddler programs. The members of this workgroup are made up of interdepartmental, cross systems, state and local professionals who have been meeting monthly since the Summer of 2017.

Part C Application

MDE requests public comment on the proposed Michigan Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (aka *Early On*) Federal Fiscal Year 2018 application. The period of public participation extends from February 23, 2018 through April 27, 2018, with public comment accepted only March 13-April 13, 2018, 5 pm. A link to the draft application and public comment instructions will be posted at www.michigan.gov/earlyon on February 23.

Request for Proposals (RFPs)

Two RFPs: Support to the *Early On* Field and Qualitative Compliance Information Project were released. Applications were due to MDE by February 2, 2018 and will

be reviewed by a panel in late February. Selected applicants will be notified in April and will be in place by October 1, 2018.

Early On Foundation Update

Christy Callahan shared that in the Governor's Executive budget, he proposed \$5 million for *Early On*. The [Early On Foundation](http://earlyonfoundation.org) (<http://earlyonfoundation.org>) along with many organizations, such as the Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education (MAASE) and Michigan's Children, have been working towards the goal of obtaining state funding for *Early On*. The proposal identified that funds would be awarded on a competitive basis and would expect approaches to maximize resources through billing for Medicaid dollars.

The next step is for the Senate and House to separately consider the budget and decide what they'd like to support. Each will come up with their own budget and if there are differences, they have a consensus meeting and come up with an agreeable budget. From there, the final budget gets approved.

In the meantime, individuals are encouraged to talk to their legislators about supporting funding for *Early On* or sharing any thoughts or concerns regarding the funding proposal.

On February 14, 2018, MAASE is having a [Legislative Action Seminar](http://www.maase.org/Event.php?ID=274) (www.maase.org/Event.php?ID=274) in Lansing. Cheryl Granzo and Tami Mannes are leading a session about *Early On* which would be an opportunity to give some input.

DeafBlind (DB) Central, Michigan's Training and Resource Project:

DB Central is led by Beth Kennedy, Director, and Jennifer Bigelow-Stambaugh, Family Support Coordinator. DB Central is funded by the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, and services are provided year-round free of charge.

Anyone with hearing loss that interferes with development or adversely affects performance, and vision loss with acuity of 20/70 or less in the better eye with correction, or a visual field of 20 degrees or less, is eligible for services.

DB Central offers statewide trainings, student-specific trainings, professional development trainings, and web trainings. They also provide consultation services in the home, at school, or via distance, such as skype or phone. They disseminate information in a variety of modalities such as through their lending library, at conferences, through the [DB Central website](http://www.cmich.edu/colleges/chsbs/Centers/DBCentral/Pages/default.aspx) (www.cmich.edu/colleges/chsbs/Centers/DBCentral/Pages/default.aspx), monthly newsletters, and social media.

DB Central has three major initiatives. The Post-Secondary Transition Initiative collaborates with other Midwest states to offer camps to young adults who are college-bound or looking for employment. The Family Leadership Initiative brings families together for trainings to teach them advocacy skills and gives the

opportunity to talk to legislators. The Intervener Initiative trains people to work with students and adults who have deaf/blindness. Their motto is to be a bridge, not a barrier and do with, not for.

Deaf/blind is a low incidence disability. The census map shows where individuals are throughout the state, by county. For every 1,000 students identified in Special Education, one or two will be deaf/blind.

SSIP Update:

The State Identified Measurable Result (SiMR) target, which measures the percent of infants and toddlers who function within age expectations related to positive social emotional skills for the four pilot sites, was met.

Based on feedback from Community of Practice (CoP) data, the structure of the SSIP Committees was changed. With this change, one important element to consider is the importance of communication between the committees. The communication strategy includes a standard meeting template, that intentionally has members:

- review minutes from other committees and discuss the next steps, and
- as part of the wrap up; list what decisions have been made, the next steps, and who does what by when.

New SSIP Committee Structure:

State Coordination and Evaluation Committee replaces the Core Team.

Purpose: To have dedicated time to discuss progress made by each workgroup and how to integrate the work of these groups when needed. This committee would also look at the Evaluation component for each activity and determine what activities are appropriate for scaling up. The Committee will review and evaluate data regularly.

Membership:

Workgroup leads, MDE leads, Evaluation staff from Wayne State University

Implementation Committee replaces the *Early On* Coordinator's CoP calls.

Purpose: According to the Survey results, the Pilot Sites are asking for direct guidance from the state. The CoP calls aren't meeting everyone's needs and Coordinators have requested a more structured meeting. This would allow them to share how things are going, have input from each Workgroup lead, and keep the Technical Assistance Specialists and parents informed and involved.

Membership:

Pilot Site Coordinators, TA Specialists, Workgroup leads, SSIP lead, State SSIP parents, MDHHS contractor, Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) staff

Full SSIP Committee

Beginning with the May 10, 2018 MICC meeting, use the second half of the day for a full SSIP committee meeting, inviting members from both committees to meet face to face (or via phone). This full committee would meet quarterly the same day as the MICC meeting.

Purpose: Keep the communication going, provide updates, allow time for workgroups to meet as needed.

Parent CoP

The parent CoP calls would continue since local parents are now part of these calls and the data show these calls are important to the parents.

A stakeholder meeting was held January 23, 2018, bringing all four pilot site teams together to participate in a Leading by Convening activity, reflect on activities completed over the past year, develop an action plan moving forward, and begin understanding the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Cycle of plan, do, study, act. Patrice Linehan from the National Center for Systemic Improvement (NCSI) facilitated the Leading by Convening Activity titled, A Quick Chronology of Engagement. This activity encouraged teams to reflect on all the work they've accomplished over the past years and celebrate the deeper family engagement work that is happening in each area.

Julia Heany and Jessie Jones from MPHI facilitated the CQI work and all participated in identifying key drivers and activities to focus on to continue improving social emotional outcomes for children and families.

Michigan will continue to receive support from NCSI through:

- Monthly state lead webinars
- Activity Groups around various topics
- Face to face meeting June 4-5, 2018 in San Diego, CA
- State Contact, Patrice Linehan

The number of activities implemented related to the SSIP is enormous. The list consists of:

Specific Evidence-Based Practice Work:

- The *Early On* Conference, November 2017
- Social Emotional Trainings, 2016-2017
- CoP calls, 2016-2017
- Center on the Social Emotional Foundation for Early Learning (CSEFEL) webinars and coaching calls, 2017-2018
- The DECA-I/T and eDECA webinars, coaching calls, and implementation, 2016-2017
- Integrating the COS into the *Early On* process, 2017-ongoing
- Develop and implement a coaching model to support relationship building, 2017-ongoing
- Leading by Convening/CQI training, 2018

Specific Messaging Work:

- Continued use of social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter as a strategy to share the importance of social emotional health and self-care, 2016-ongoing
- Purchased, distributed, and evaluated the effectiveness of the Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health (Mi-AIMH) Baby Stages wheel and the Zero-to-Three Behavior Has Meaning wheel, 2017
- Development of a Google Drive for pilot services areas to access documents and upload messaging resources, 2017
- Developed the key messages documents from each of the Social Emotional Trainings and placed into Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) format, 2017
- Purchased an extended license for 12 photographs for pilot service areas to use to develop messages, 2017
- Placed a self-care advertisement called "Breathe" in the Mi-AIMH 2017 Conference brochure, 2017
- Updated the Social Emotional Companion Guide for Providers and placed into ADA format, 2017
- Updated and printed the *Early On* Growth Chart to include social emotional milestones, 2017
- Developed the key messages documents from each of the Social Emotional Trainings and placed into ADA format, 2017
- In collaboration with Wayne State University, developed questions to place into the *Early On* Family Survey to measure potential impact of SSIP activities, 2017

Specific Data Work:

- Data improvements including development and implementation of Chase reports, 2017
- Review Part B 619 Data Dive Training and begin working toward Part C Data Dives, to be completed 2018
- Update definitions and purpose of COS Chase Reports document to reflect discoveries from past work, to be completed 2018
- Disseminate revised definition paper for COS Reporting Rate/Chase Reports, to be completed 2018
- Work with stakeholders and data vendors to support local service areas in evaluating completeness and accuracy of COS data reporting, to be completed 2018
- Continue work on Part C Data Dive training, to be completed 2018
- Update COS Reporting Manual, to be completed 2018

These activities will be reported in the report due to OSEP April 2, 2018.

Family Engagement Work at MDE:

Noel Kelty, Family Engagement Specialist at MDE, shared information about a new initiative at the Department. The MICC understands that family engagement matters for children age birth to five, and Noel shared that engagement improves outcomes through college, for example: attendance in school increases, grades and behavior improve, more students enroll in high-level education programs,

graduation rates go up, and more students enroll in post-secondary education. Math and reading scores also improve when families are more engaged.

In a 2010 study on school improvement, family engagement was identified as one of the five essential supports for school turnarounds. In this study, "school" included 100 elementary schools. A book by researchers from the [Consortium on Chicago School Research](https://consortium.uchicago.edu/) (https://consortium.uchicago.edu/), University of Chicago, provides a detailed analysis of why 100 elementary schools showed extraordinary progress in attendance and test scores over a seven-year period and why 100 others did not. Using massive longitudinal evidence on the conditions within schools and the communities in which they are located, the study yields a comprehensive set of school practices and conditions that promote improvement, noting that the absence of these spells stagnation.

Michigan is learning from other states leading this effort including Massachusetts, North Carolina, and Ohio.

MDE's Family Engagement Framework will provide guidance to schools, educators, families, and communities, and aligns with Michigan's "Top 10 in 10 Strategic Plan" Goal 5 (Ensure that parents/guardians are engaged and supported partners in their child's education). A stakeholder committee consisting of 40 people is helping to shape this work. Focus groups are occurring throughout the field through March 17, 2018.

Noel asked MICC members to participate in an activity and share what they consider are the most important components of family engagement. Council members added their ideas, via post-it notes, to Noel's poster.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Judy Goth-Owens.

Motion carried.