

Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council (MICC)
***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, September 13, 2018

Minutes

Members Present: Anne Blankenhorn, Clare Brick, Barbara Corbin, Reneé DeMars-Johnson, Judy Goth-Owens, Cheryl Granzo, Rachel Harmon, Chandra Jones, Pamela Kies-Lowe, Tiffany Kostelec, Laura McKechnie, Amy Miilu, Karin Nanos, Nolana Nobles Bandy, Stephanie Peters, Prachi Shah, Nicole Sodergren, Deana Strudwick

Members Absent: Kristina Donaldson, Lauren Heilman, Rich Van Tol

Alternates Present: Karen Ebnit, Melissa Epstein

Staff Present: Synthia Britton, Laura Goldthwait, Kelly Hurshe, Cheryl Najm, Colleen O'Connor, Barb Schinderle, Vanessa Winborne

Grantees Present: *Early On* Training and Technical Assistance:
Christy Callahan, Allan Knapp, Victoria Meeder,
Jorri Novak, and Nancy Surbrook
Michigan Alliance for Families
Sandee Koski

Guests: Andrea Caron, Stephen DeGrow, Beth Kennedy, Cheryl Levine, Caroline Liethen, Meghan Shephard, Frances Vega Costas, Laura Zangara

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 Chandra Jones and supported by Nolana Nobles Bandy to approve the minutes.
Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Melissa Epstein and supported by Ann Blankenhorn to approve the agenda.

Motion carried.

Announcement:

The MICC Secretary position is open and members were encouraged to submit their name for nomination. The responsibilities include being part of the Executive Committee, serving as the parliamentarian, and writing thank you notes to presenters.

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.

Vanessa Winborne has been involved with *Early On* since 1996, and prior to that she worked in an adolescent health center. She was inspired to do this work by two women in her life; her Aunt Diane and her neighbor Sandy. Both women had Cerebral Palsy, were strong role models, and influenced Vanessa’s desire and path towards helping people.

Amy Miilu works in the Department of Insurance and Financial Services, has two daughters, and lives in Portland. Amy is the Complaint Manager and she and her staff handle various types of insurance complaints including health, auto, banking, and other financial products.

Remembering Teresa Marvin:

Teresa Marvin passed away September 7, 2018 at her home surrounded by her loving family. At her funeral, her pastor said he’d never seen so many people present for a death, it set a record.

Teresa had many ‘best friends’ who will miss her. She loved children and much of her career she worked for the well-being and protection of young people. She worked as a Child Specialist in the Department of Health and Human Services for the State of Michigan and earned a master's degree in counseling. In her practice she focused on family and child counseling. Teresa and her husband, Pat, were foster parents to 40 children. Teresa also assisted many new moms as a doula, helping deliver over 20 babies.

MICC Updates:

Part C Determination

The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) determined that Michigan meets the requirements and purposes of Part C of the IDEA. This determination is based on the totality of the State's data and information, including the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report, other State-reported data, and other publicly available information. There are four categories of Determinations: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

Several data points used in the calculation of the determinations were similar to previous years:

- Compliance indicator data
- Information from monitoring
- Publicly available information, such as Special Conditions on the State's grant award under Part C
- Any other issues related to State compliance with the IDEA

This is the fourth year the federal Part C determinations have also included calculations related to child outcomes. The following data points were included in the calculation again this year:

- Data Completeness (the percentage of exiting children with child outcome entry and exit data reported)
- Data Anomalies (statistically significant anomalies in child outcome data)
- Comparison of Michigan's child outcome data to child outcome data of other states
- Comparison of Michigan's FFY 2016 child outcome data to Michigan's FFY 2015 child outcome data

Improving Data Improving Outcomes Conference

The Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems (DaSy), in collaboration with other early childhood partners, hosted a national conference August 14-16, 2018. Allan Knapp and Mark Kuipers represented Michigan by being part of a panel presentation titled, "Better Together: Linking Cross Program/Agency Data to Improve Data and Outcomes."

The IDEA Data Center (IDC), a national technical assistance center, has developed a protocol for documenting a state's data processes. Staff from IDC have offered to work with Michigan to assist in completing this documentation. IDC would provide a team of two TA providers to conduct onsite visits to facilitate the work. This would include capturing the roles and responsibilities of everyone who plays a part in our state-level data collection and reporting, including the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI), MDE, Part C Data Manager, Wayne State University, and Public Sector Consultants.

New Leadership at MDE

Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent of P-20 System and Student Transitions, began working at MDE August 1, 2018. The Office of Early Childhood Development and Family Education, including *Early On*, reports to Scott.

State School Aid Act Section 54d

The Fiscal Year 2019 State School Aid Act includes a new line item, Section 54d, providing \$5 million in state funding for *Early On* and will go into effect October 1, 2018! Local service areas will complete a separate application and funds will be distributed by applying the same formula used to distribute federal IDEA Part C funds. These funds will help to strengthen supports and services for eligible infants and toddlers and their families. The funds will also provide an opportunity to analyze specific parts of local systems and focus on system level improvements such as:

- Increase frequency of services to eligible children;
- Increase the intensity of services for eligible children;
- Broaden the array of services provided to eligible children;
- Identify, evaluate, and serve additional eligible children; and
- Enhance the qualifications of personnel providing services (along with an additional focus area).

Fiscal Ad Hoc Committee, Medicaid Subcommittee

A workgroup was formed to address the recommendation from the Fiscal Ad Hoc Committee regarding Medicaid. The group is chaired by Barbara Corbin and includes broad stakeholder membership. The workgroup held its first meeting on August 9, 2018 and will meet approximately monthly over the next several months. The purpose of the workgroup is to further explore billing Medicaid for services provided to children participating in *Early On*. Anticipated deliverables include guidance documents and other tools to assist *Early On* local service areas.

State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

The SSIP Phase III survey results have been analyzed by Wayne State University (WSU). WSU looked at differences between the pilot and beta (comparison) sites and data showed that our efforts around social emotional outcomes are making a difference. Within the pilot sites, providers were significantly more likely to participate in trainings regarding COS ratings or social emotional development and reported feeling more confident about the child outcome summary (COS), indicating that the COS process is more useful than respondents from the comparison sites. They are also using the eDECA more regularly and recording the results electronically.

The *Early On* team had a call with Janine Rudder from OSEP to discuss the SSIP report. Janine was pleased with the report and felt our strengths were that we have used the SSIP initiative to start meaningful and daunting work and have been responsive to our stakeholders and pilot sites.

The main clarification question was:

How are we measuring fidelity of the activities we've implemented?

Our response detailed the qualitative measures, which are:

- Pre, post, and three-month follow up surveys for the social emotional trainings were used.
- Additional questions were added to the Family Survey and the SSIP survey to determine if activities around social emotional outcomes made a difference for children and families, as well as providers.
- An infrastructure change to the SSIP committee structure allows for sharing information among all teams by using the same meeting template that includes highlights and next steps for each committee.
- Interviews conducted by the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) with providers in each pilot site to gather more qualitative information about the eDECA and the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) trainings.

Additional questions were discussed around measuring coaching; interim measurements such as the Plan, Do, Study, Act cycle; the timeline and plan for the COS; how we're involving parents; and how we're evaluating the effectiveness of the social emotional wheels.

After the discussion, Janine had no concerns about our report and feels Michigan is on the right track with the SSIP.

Approve Meeting Dates for 2019:

A motion was made by Pam Kies-Lowe and supported by Clare Brick to approve the following MICC meeting dates for 2019:

- February 14, 2019
- May 2, 2019
- September 5, 2019
- November 7, 2019

Motion carried.

Support for DeafBlind Central Grant:

Beth Kennedy requested a letter of support on behalf of the MICC for DeafBlind Central. The services DeafBlind Central provides to the birth to three population are critical and serves this population in many ways, including their commitment to early identification, providing consultation, training, and the dissemination of information and resources to family members and professionals. It is important that young children who are DeafBlind gain access to appropriate services as soon as possible, and DeafBlind Central is committed to helping teams meet this goal.

A motion was made by Tiffany Kostelec and supported by Pam Kies-Lowe to approve the letter of support for DeafBlind Central.

Motion passed.

LICC Family Engagement Initiative:

The LICC Family Engagement Initiative was created to increase communication between state and local family leaders involved in *Early On* so that information,

resources, and leadership opportunities can be shared. A series of four webinars were held throughout the year and 12 local parents participated with the seven state parents to learn more about their role on the LICC, participate in leadership development, and be connected with resources across the state.

Chandra Jones and Clare Brick shared the data collected through surveys after each webinar and an Infographic that displayed statistics about cost, participation, and benefit to the system.

The story of [Mrs. Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott](#) like you've never heard it before, by Paul Schmitz, Author, "Everyone Leads: Building Leadership from the Community Up" was shared. This video was part of the Leadership Building webinar.

Beginning in October, MICC parents will continue with this Initiative, connecting with new parents and continuing to build relationships with returning parents.

Michigan Special Education Mediation Program (MSEMP):

Cheryl Levine and Laura Zangara shared information about the purpose and services MSEMP has to offer children and families when conflict arises. They provide free facilitation around mediation and resolution. The emphasis is on problem solving and early communication, so a conflict does not arise. They will give information and point people toward the Regulations rather than giving advice or taking sides.

They also offer services that include improving communication, managing complex meetings, and resolving disagreements.

Their name will be changing to Roundtable Strategies and their website and materials will be updated.

Fiscal Ad Hoc Subcommittee:

Cheryl Granzo gave an update from the Single Tiered Subcommittee (addressing Recommendation #1 below), which was part of the Fiscal Ad Hoc Committee.

Recommendation 1: In collaboration with the Office of Special Education and stakeholders, establish a workgroup to determine appropriate steps and criteria for the creation of a single unified system that serves a single cohort of infants and toddlers eligible for both *Early On* early intervention services and Michigan Mandatory Special Education.

Since the MICC charged the Fiscal Ad Hoc Committee with a number of recommendations in 2016, this subcommittee has continued to work with Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education (MAASE). Cheryl Granzo and Tami Mannes have attended multiple meetings, including presenting a session at the MAASE conference, to share information about moving towards a single tiered system of eligibility, which would mean all children who qualify for early intervention services would be eligible for special education.

The Auditor General's report addressed inequities for Part C only children. In 2014, Stephanie Peters led an ad hoc committee and wrote a paper comparing Michigan to the other birth mandate states. In 2016, there was a MAASE fiscal impact committee chaired by Tami Mannes. Cheryl is asking the MICC to review two documents prior to the November meeting, which include:

- MAASE *Early On* Michigan Service Implications and Fiscal Impact of a Single Tiered Model
- Comparing Early Childhood Systems: IDEA Early Intervention Systems in the Birth Mandate States

The Subcommittee is developing a white paper to be completed by the end of the year, which will be shared with MAASE's Executive Board for support and brought to the MICC in February.

Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five:

Reneé DeMars-Johnson shared information about the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) for which MDE will be applying. Information about the grant can be found at the following website:

https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/HHS-2018-ACF-OCC-TP-1379?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

The new PDG B-5 grant seeks to empower State governments to develop, update, or implement a strategic plan to facilitate collaboration and coordination among early childhood care and education programs in a mixed delivery system to prepare low-income and disadvantaged children to transition into the local educational agency or elementary school. States may pursue a range of activities to align and strengthen existing funding streams, coordinate delivery models, improve the use of existing resources, encourage partnerships among providers and stakeholders, and maximize parental choice in a mixed delivery system.

A motion was made by Reneé DeMars-Johnson and supported by Judy Goth-Owens asking the MICC to write a letter of support for MDE for the PDG B-5 grant.

Discussion:

Dr. Prachi Shah offered her support if MDE would like to partner with the medical community.

Motion passed.

Special Recognition:

Vanessa Winborne is retiring from her role at MDE as State Part C Coordinator. Reneé DeMars-Johnson thanked Vanessa for her leadership and dedication to children and families for over 20 years.

Clare Brick (member for four years) and Chandra Jones (member for 15 years), both MICC parent representatives, have terms that are expiring October 31, 2018. Both have been involved in numerous subcommittees and have ensured the parent perspective was woven throughout *Early On*.

Public Comment:

Laura Goldthwait asked the group to save the date of October 5, 2018 for Vanessa Winborne's retirement party. An invitation will be forthcoming to all members, alternates, staff, and grantees.

Adjourn:

A motion was made and the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.