

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 9, 2017

Minutes

- Members Present:** Clare Brick, Deb Canja, Barbara Corbin, Anne Dallaire, Reneé DeMars-Johnson, Kristina Donaldson, Judy Goth-Owens, Cheryl Granzo, Rachel Harmon, Lauren Heilman, Chandra Jones, Laura McKechnie, Nolana Nobles Bandy, Stephanie Peters, Prachi Shah, Deana Strudwick
- Members Absent:** Senator Phil Pavlov, Nicole Sodergren, Rich Van Tol, Fred Williams
- Alternates Present:** Kristen Carmany, Karen Ebnit, Melissa Epstein, Brad Gomoluch, Wendy Stafford
- Staff Present:** 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, and Nancy Surbrook
Michigan Alliance for Families
Sandee Koski
- Guests:** Erin Touw, Janine VanDam
- 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 correction to the minutes was made to state that Stephanie Peters worked in early intervention for half of her career, rather than her whole career.
- A motion was made by Deb Canja and supported by Judy Goth-Owens to approve the minutes.**
Motion carried.
- Approval of Agenda:**

A motion was made by Judy Goth-Owens and supported by Kristina Donaldson to approve the agenda.
Motion carried.

Public Comment: Kristina Donaldson shared that the Celena Barnes Family Inspiration Award will be presented at the *Early On* Conference this November. She encouraged the Council members to nominate a parent for the award. The nomination packet will be available soon.

Worth Mentioning:

The MICC starts each meeting with an activity that keeps children and families at the heart of what we do, helps 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.

Kristina Donaldson and Prachi Shah shared why the work they do in early intervention is a passion of theirs, and how it relates to the MICC.

Kristina became involved in *Early On* when her son, Daniel, was born. He began receiving services at two months of age. Kristina felt a great deal of support from Daniel's speech therapist who encouraged her to get involved in with her Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC). She loves being part of this work and is energized by helping other parents.

Prachi is a Developmental Pediatrician and Medical Director. Her reason for getting involved in this work was to help parents fall in love with their child. She has learned that parents are dealing with difficult issues, and she is grateful for the wisdom of all parents and partners she has had the privilege of learning from.

Updates:

MICC Appointments

Governor Rick Snyder appointed Cheryl Granzo to the MICC to represent service providers. Also reappointed were Deana Strudwick representing service providers, and Stephanie Peters representing other individuals.

Office of Auditor General Report

The Office of the Auditor General issued a final report recognizing that the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) complied with the findings found during a 2013 audit. To obtain a copy of the report, contact Barb Schinderle at schinderleb@michigan.gov.

Annual Performance Report (APR)

The APR was approved by the MICC in February and is complete. It was submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) by the February 1, 2017 due date. The APR includes Indicators 1-10. Indicator 11 is the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and it is due to OSEP April 3, 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 2017 application. The period of public participation extends from February 9, 2017 through April 10, 2017, with public comment accepted only February 27, 2017 through 5 p.m., March 29, 2017. A link to the draft application and public comment instructions can be found at: www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_6809-231302--,00.html.

Celena L. Barnes Family Leadership Inspiration Award

We have exciting news! At the *Early On* conference, November 15-16, 2017, the Parent Involvement Committee will once again sponsor the Celena L. Barnes Family Leadership Inspiration Award. This is your opportunity to nominate a phenomenal parent for this award. For your convenience, the nomination packet will be streamlined this year and will be forthcoming. Today, start thinking about the phenomenal parent you would like to nominate!

Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education (MAASE)

The evaluation of a single-tiered model for early intervention services in Michigan was undertaken by MAASE in response to the MAASE Project, "Comparing Early Childhood Systems: IDEA Early Intervention Systems in Birth Mandate States." Findings indicate that there are significant discrepancies in staff training, frequency of home visits, and financial resources to operate programs between *Early On* and Michigan Mandatory Special Education (MMSE). The differences in services between *Early On* and MMSE are also seen between intermediate school districts; ultimately, impacting the quality, frequency, and access to high-quality intervention services. Three recommendations were made in the report, one of which was a single-tiered service with an eligibility of 25 percent developmental delay.

Flint Update

Flint received additional funds to support the children and families in Flint, and a public awareness campaign is underway. Another kickoff was held and it was shared that 42 percent of children who received more intense services during *Early On* did not need special education services as they moved forward.

The Office of Auditor General identified some potential areas that MDE needs to monitor more closely, including funds spent for *Early On* in Genesee County.

Reneé DeMars-Johnson shared that additional funds for Flint were not continued in the Governor's budget because current funding will be carried forward. The funds allocated to Genesee Intermediate School District were increased for staff who provide early intervention services. Services will be provided for those children who have moved outside of Flint, but were affected by lead poisoning.

Kent Developmental Assessment Clinic (DAC):

Barbara Corbin, Erin Touw, and Janine VanDam gave a presentation about the DAC in Kent County which ensures that high-risk infants are enrolled in *Early On*. The DAC partners with Kent ISD *Early On*, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital NICU Follow-Up Team, Grand Rapids Public Schools, and the Kent County Health Department.

The DAC has helped to increase enrollment in *Early On*. Since 2011, most families attend their visit with a 94 percent attendance rate.

Erin shared a heartwarming story of a family's experience with the DAC and the success they had despite having a child born prematurely. A main focus was on supporting the parents and teaching them to take care of their child.

Michigan Alliance for Families (MAF):

Sandee Koski shared her story of raising her son 22 years ago and what services were like for her family, the struggles she overcame, the parent leadership training she participated in, and the mentors she connected with along the way—all which enabled her to be a strong advocate for her son and other families.

The MAF is funded through IDEA, and is the Parent Training and Information Center (PTI) for Michigan. They also receive funds from MDE's Office of Special Education and Part C. All MAF employees are parents of children who have received special education services, and come from diverse backgrounds. There are parent mentors in all parts of the state of Michigan and their purpose is to provide support, mentoring, and information to families.

Sandee also shared data on how many families they've had contact with over the past year, as well as the number of visits they've had to their website (www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org) for resources.

Fiscal Initiative Ad Hoc:

The Executive Committee acted on behalf of the MICC to send a letter to Governor Snyder and Lt. Governor Brian Calley requesting state funds for *Early On*.

A motion was made by Deb Canja to accept the action of the Executive Committee.

Motion passed.

State Systemic Improvement Plan:

Barb Schinderle shared that the SSIP Committee met on January 30, 2017. The meeting was interactive and included a Walk About Activity where each pilot site visited each station: Messaging, Data, and Evidence-Based Practices, and discussed the following questions:

- What has been accomplished during the past year?
- What is currently happening or about to be accomplished?
- What are reasonable next steps?
- What else from the plan needs dialogue?

A lunchtime activity was focused around collecting information for the Messaging Workgroup to use for refining their message about social emotional development.

The afternoon was spent in local team time updating their work plans for the upcoming year. Participants reported that the meeting was productive and worthwhile.

The SSIP report is in draft form and will be submitted to OSEP by April 3, 2017. It will also be sent to MICC members.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn:

A motion was made to adjourn and the meeting ended at 12:15 p.m.