

Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council (MIICC)
Early On[®] Michigan
(Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
Tuesday, May 19, 2015
Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children
839 Centennial Way, Suite 200
Lansing, MI 48917

Minutes

Members Present: Clare Brick, Deb Canja, Barbara Corbin,
Judy Goth-Owens, Lauren Heilman, Chandra Jones,
Laura McKechnie, Stephanie Peters, Nicole Sodergren,
Sondra Stegenga, Rich Van Tol

Alternates Present: Reneé DeMars-Johnson, Barbara Russell

Staff Present: Laura Goldthwait, Rachel Harmon, Kelly Hurshe,
Tiffany Kostelec, Cheryl Najm, Barb Schinderle,
Vanessa Winborne

Grantees Present: *Early On* Training and Technical Assistance:
Allan Knapp, Victoria Meeder, and Nancy Surbrook
Michigan Alliance for Family Involvement
Sandee Koski and Harvalee Saunto

Guests:

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 Deb Canja and supported by Reneé DeMars-Johnson
to approve the minutes.**

Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda:

**A motion was made by Rich Van Tol and supported by Sondra Stegenga to
approve the agenda.**

Motion carried.

Public Comment: Clare Brick encouraged the Council to nominate a parent for the
Celena L. Barnes Family Leadership Inspiration Award. The Parent Involvement

Committee developed the award in honor of Celena, who was an outstanding parent leader. Applications are due June 5, 2015 and the award will be given at the *Early On* Conference in November. For more information about the award, visit the [MICC webpage](http://www.michigan.gov/micc) (www.michigan.gov/micc).

Barbara Corbin shared that Sondra Stegenga has been accepted into the fellowship program at the University of Oregon. She will receive her PhD in Special Education-Early Intervention. Sondra will be moving to Oregon in August so this is her last MICC meeting. Many MICC members spoke and thanked Sondra for her enthusiastic, hard work on behalf of infants, toddlers, and their families.

Barb Russell and Anne Dallaire are both retiring from their positions as *Early On* Coordinators in Saginaw and Macomb counties, respectively. Anne will continue to serve her term on the MICC through 2018, and the Council wished them both well and thanked them for their dedication to *Early On*.

Barb Russell shared information about the [Baby Can Wait](http://www.babycanwait.com) (www.babycanwait.com) website. An organization in Milwaukee, Wisconsin is partnering with the United Way and the website contains thorough and interesting pregnancy prevention information for teenagers.

Updates:

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015 Application

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) submitted the Michigan Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act FFY 2015 application on April 17, 2015.

Feeding Ad Hoc Committee

The Committee is developing a document that will be guidance for the field around the role of *Early On* for infants and toddlers with feeding difficulties. They have worked with Grand Valley State University on two research projects and the data will contribute to the recommendations in the document. The guidance document will be presented to the MICC in September for approval.

Early On Conference

The *Early On* Conference will be held November 10-12, 2015 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Michigan. The pre-conference full day session will take place on November 10th, followed by the conference on November 11th and 12th.

Celena L. Barnes Family Leadership Inspiration Award

The Parent Involvement Committee created the **Celena L. Barnes Family Leadership Inspiration Award** to be presented every other year at the *Early On* Conference. The award will be given to a parent who has a child age birth to 13, past or present in *Early On*, who has made a difference through her/his passion, leadership, and encouragement for other children or families in the state of Michigan. Nominations are being sought now through June 5, 2015. For more information or to nominate an outstanding parent, visit the [MICC website](http://www.michigan.gov/micc) (www.michigan.gov/micc).

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

A FOIA request was made by a reporter from the *Lansing State Journal* to MDE requesting the following information on the MICC:

The year the MICC was created (1992) and the total dollar amount spent in Fiscal Year 2013-14 on running the MICC including salary, per diems or mileage, meal or hotel reimbursements for MICC members to attend meetings and any administrative costs directly related to the MICC (\$9,781.56).

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

The merger of the Michigan Department of Community Health and the Michigan Department of Human Services into the Department of Health and Human Services was official on April 10, 2015. Administration updates include:

Population Health and Community Services Administration: Sue Moran, Deputy Director. The former Public Health Administration is now located here. Brenda Fink, Nancy Peeler, and Tiffany Kostelec will be in the Bureau of Family, Maternal, and Child Health which also includes WIC and Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS).

Health Services and Family Support Administration

Medical Services Administration: Steve Fitton, Deputy Director
Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities: Linda Zeller, Deputy Director

MDHHS Operations Administration

Field Operations: Terrence Beurer, Deputy Director
Central Operations: Farah Hanley, Deputy Director

Children's Services Agency: Steve Yager, Executive Director

The former Division of Mental Health Services to Children and Families, which includes Sheri Falvay, is now in this agency. Rachel Harmon, formerly of DHS, is also in this agency.

Aging and Adult Services Agency: Kari Sederburg, Executive Director

MICC Appointee Attendance:

The Governor's office has asked MDE to report attendance of MICC appointees after each meeting, in addition to receiving the meeting minutes.

Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee:

Chandra Jones, Chairperson of the Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee, led the members through the proposed changes the committee recommended regarding updating the bylaws. Each proposed change was discussed and members provided feedback and comments, which were incorporated into the bylaws.

A motion was made by the Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee to accept the updated MICC bylaws.

Motion carried.

The updated bylaws will be posted on the MICC website.

The Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee was also charged with revisiting the MICC and *Early On* vision statements.

Discussion:

Members would like an MICC vision statement that links to the K-12 system. A brief questionnaire will be sent to the MICC asking them to describe words that resonate with them and should be included in the MICC vision statement. The Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee will reconvene and work on this, and report back to the MICC in September. Nancy Surbrook, Deb Canja, and Vanessa Winborne offered to join the ad hoc. An MICC mission statement will also be developed.

Regarding the *Early On* vision/mission statements, the same protocol will be followed and these statements will also be reworked by the ad hoc committee. The *Early On* vision and mission statements will be shared at the *Early On* Conference and conference participants will be asked to vote on their favorite mission and vision statements.

Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) Presentation:

Allan Knapp shared a presentation about how *Early On* data is collected through MSDS, the data flow, fall 2014 child count data by service area, and the data portraits.

The data collection dates were/are:

- October 1, 2014
- February 11, 2015
- June 30, 2015

The data flow was explained in the following manner: all data are sent to the federal government and are used for Annual Performance Report (APR) reporting. The information also goes to Public Sector Consultants and is used for Continuous Improvement Monitoring System (CIMS) reporting, which looks at state determinations and gives each service area a thumbs up or thumbs down. Wayne State University provides the family outcome data.

An encouraging sign was that Michigan's birth count went up by 1,000 children this past year; a number that had been declining over many years.

Discussion about the declining child count occurred along with the many possible reasons for the decline.

Allan shared [data portraits](http://www.earlyondata.com) (www.earlyondata.com) and talked about all the data fields.

Data for APR Indicators 1, 7, and 8 will be switching to collection through MSDS rather than through the local self-assessment in the Michigan Electronic Grants System *Plus* (MEGS+). The timeline is as follows:

For Indicators 1 and 7, the MSDS June 2015 collection date represents the 2014-15 school year data, and will be reported in the APR due February 1, 2016. Indicator 8 data will continue to be collected in the local self-assessment in MEGS+.

Indicator 8 data will be collected in the MSDS June 2016 collection and will represent the 2015-16 school year data. This data will be reported in the APR due February 1, 2017.

State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Presentation:

Barb Schinderle presented a summary of the activities and work that were completed during Phase I of the SSIP and some information about Phase II. Michigan Part C is focusing on improving social and emotional development for infants and toddlers. Phase II will involve working with four pilot sites across the state to develop a plan for improving social and emotional outcomes. The presentation can be found at on the MICC website.

Michigan Alliance for Families (MAF):

Sandee Koski shared information about what's new at the Michigan Alliance for Families. They now have Regional Parent Mentors covering the entire state, including three in Wayne County.

Harvaley Saunto joined MAF as Policy Coordinator. She will ensure consistency, efficiency, and work to embed rules and policies throughout their practices.

Sandee thanked the MICC for their letter of support in regards to their application for the Parent Training and Information Center (PTI) grant. They expect to hear by September if they receive the award.

There are still *Early On* DVDs and magnets available. A portion of the [MAF website](#) is dedicated to babies and toddlers and focuses on APR Indicator 4, Family Outcomes (www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/babies-and-toddlers). There are also on demand webinars available.

The Regional Parent Mentors report that they are looking at ways to support the Local Interagency Coordinating Councils (LICCs). In some areas of the state, the LICC has been embedded into the Great Start Collaboratives and concern has been expressed that they are getting lost within the larger group. Sandee, Clare Brick, and Kristen Carmany will host a session about maximizing LICC parent involvement at the *Early On* Conference in November. The Parent Involvement Committee is also developing an LICC Handbook for parents.

Another issue shared by Regional Parent Mentors is children who have established conditions and are enrolled in *Early On* are being denied special education services because only one eligibility category, Early Childhood Developmental Delay, is being used. This has been an issue that *Early On* has been addressing during the past year. Stephanie Peters completed a project/report comparing birth mandate states and found this same concern in Michigan. Vanessa Winborne is involved with staff

from the Office of Special Education around a special project to provide guidance to the field about eligibility categories for Michigan Mandatory Special Education.

Public Comment:

Vanessa Winborne shared that the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services are proposing to release a policy statement on inclusion of young children with disabilities in high-quality inclusive early childhood programs. Comments are due no later than 6:00 pm EDT, Friday, May 22, 2015. Read the [Draft Policy Statement and Executive Summary](http://www.ed.gov/edblogs/osers/2015/05/including-young-children-with-disabilities-in-high-quality-early-childhood-programs/) (www.ed.gov/edblogs/osers/2015/05/including-young-children-with-disabilities-in-high-quality-early-childhood-programs/).

Clare Brick encouraged the group to nominate a parent leader for the Celena L. Barnes Family Leadership Inspiration Award.

Nancy Surbrook brought flyers for the *Early On* Faculty Colloquium which is June 5, 2015 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, as well as the *Early On* Conference, November 10-12 in Acme, Michigan.

Sondra Stegenga shared that at the MAASE meeting in December there is a topic around early childhood, and this year they are focusing on social and emotional development.

Adjourn:

Barbara Corbin adjourned the meeting.