

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, May 10, 2018

Minutes

Members Present: Anne Blankenhorn, Clare Brick, Barbara Corbin, Reneé DeMars-Johnson, Kristina Donaldson, Cheryl Granzo, Rachel Harmon, Lauren Heilman, Chandra Jones, Tiffany Kostelec, Laura McKechnie, Karin Nanos, Nolana Nobles Bandy, Stephanie Peters, Nicole Sodergren, Deana Strudwick

Members Absent: Pamela Kies-Lowe, Prachi Shah, Rich Van Tol

Alternates Present: Melissa Epstein

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
Michigan Alliance for Families
Sandee Koski

Guests: Deb Behringer, Dana Frederick, Beth Kennedy, Christy O'Conner, Karen Wisinski

Call to Order: Chairperson Nicole Sodergren 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 Kristina Donaldson to approve the minutes.

Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Tiffany Kostelec and supported by Lauren Heilman to approve the agenda.

Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Allan Knapp shared some favorite quotes from his grandchild.

Kristina Donaldson asked permission to take pictures for the parent involvement Facebook page.

Honoring Brian Whiston and Susan Broman:

Reneé DeMars-Johnson spoke about Brian Whiston, who passed away after battling cancer. Brian had much experience and was passionate about children and youth. He worked with MDE and stakeholders to develop the Top 10 in 10 strategic goals and strategies, as well as a Way of Work to reach them. He was diagnosed with cancer last year and also suffered a heart attack; all while remaining optimistic and maintaining his leadership at MDE.

Barbara Corbin shared the following quote by Rosabeth Moss Kanter: "A vision is not just a picture of what could be; it is an appeal to our better selves, a call to become something more." Barbara spoke about Susan Broman and how she was a powerful leader and advocate. Susan believed in investing in early childhood programs and was a strong advocate for *Early On*. She was very supportive of her staff and determined to secure funding for *Early On*.

Jane Scandary Award:

Jane Scandary was a Michigan early childhood special education pioneer who passed away on February 9, 2017. To honor her legacy, memorial contributions went towards continuing the annual presentation of the Jane Scandary Award for excellence in the field of early childhood special education, presented by the Michigan Division for Early Childhood (MiDEC). Barbara Corbin received this award at the April 27, 2018 MiDEC Conference.

"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.

Rachel Harmon works as an *Early On* Consultant for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Prior to this role, she worked for AmeriCorps, Head Start in Alger County, provided tours of Pictured Rocks, and worked in Child Protective Services. She's always enjoyed the connection with others and has found the perfect fit with her current job, which combines working with the child welfare population and early intervention.

Updates:

MICC Appointments

Governor Snyder appointed two new members to the MICC in March 2018.

Anne Blankenhorn is the education policy advisor for the Senate Majority Policy Office. She was previously a teacher at Walter French Academy and a teacher of American culture for the Visiting International Professional Program at Michigan State University. She currently serves on the Capital Area Literacy Coalition.

Ms. Blankenhorn holds a bachelor's degree in honors French language and literature from the University of Michigan, and master's degrees in telecommunication and French language and literature from Michigan State University. She will represent the Michigan Legislature and replaces Phil Pavlov. Her term expires October 31, 2020.

Karin Nanos is an early intervention coordinator, speech language pathologist, and lead teacher for Berkley Public Schools. She previously served as a speech-language pathologist for Detroit Public Schools and Burger School for Students with Autism. Ms. Nanos holds both a bachelor's and a master's degree in special education - speech and language pathology from Eastern Michigan University, as well as an early childhood (ZS) endorsement from the University of Michigan. She will represent public or private providers of early intervention services and replace Anne Dallaire. Her term expires October 31, 2021.

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* so that information, resources, and leadership opportunities can be shared. The third webinar February 15, 2018 included 17 participants. During the webinar, participants completed three leadership activities, and it was led by Chandra Jones. The survey results showed that 100 percent of the participants planned to share at least one of the three leadership activities with their LICC. The final webinar of this series is May 17, 2018 and will focus on taking leadership to the next level and exploring resources.

Mandated Activity Project Grants Awarded

Awardees have been selected for two of the Part C Mandated Activity Projects. Support to the *Early On* Field was awarded to Clinton County RESA and the Qualitative Compliance Information Project grant was awarded to Wayne State University. The new grant cycles begin October 1, 2018 and continue through September 30, 2023.

Annual Performance Report (APR) Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Clarification Week

OSEP gives states two weeks to provide clarification related to APR Indicators 1-10. OSEP reviewed Michigan's Part C APR and found that no clarification was needed. The State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Indicator 11 feedback will be shared in the summer.

Early On Foundation Update:

Christy Callahan serves on board for the *Early On* Michigan Foundation and shared that the Foundation has been working to inform the public and legislative partners about the need for funding for *Early On*.

The Governor's budget included \$5 million for *Early On*. The Senate and House budgets also included \$5 million, but rather than the money being allocated in a competitive bid process, the funds shifted to a formula allocation.

The Foundation developed a brochure, "Building Brighter Futures." It's an information piece that can be used to talk to Legislators to help make them aware of the needs of the system. It features three parent stories from Kent, Newaygo, and Ottawa counties.

The Revenue Estimating Conference will take place mid-May and the budget is expected to be finalized in June.

LICC Handbook:

Nicole Sodergren shared that the LICC Handbook Ad Hoc Committee completed their charge to develop an LICC Handbook. The Handbook contains updated information that was previously in the Parent Handbook, and the information from the Parent Handbook is embedded into this new one.

The recommendation for the LICC Handbook is that *Early On* Coordinators will roll it out in the fall at an LICC meeting. It will be shared electronically since many of the resources are available through links in the document.

A suggestion was made to include MI School Data in the resource section.

A motion was made by Clare Brick to support the LICC Handbook. Motion passed.

MI School Data Presentation:

Dana Frederick from the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) shared information about MI School Data (www.mischooldata.org), which collects educational data for schools. There are nearly 100 queries within the system, and it's open to the public. Dana walked the Council through the website and looked at data collected for publicly funded child care programs. Kindergarten Pathways shows the path taken prior to kindergarten entry. Data is collected for publicly funded programs such as *Early On*, Special Education, Great Start Readiness Program, and Great Start Readiness/Head Start.

Trend data is currently available and next year the children counted will be unduplicated and data will be available from the Department of Health and Human Services' child care subsidy program. Beginning in the fall, users with secure access will be able to review reports using Unique Identification Codes (UIC) codes for children that connects those children who participated in Head Start and Great Start Readiness Programs to their M-STEP scores. Dana will check to see if children who participated in *Early On* could also be linked to their M-STEP scores.

To look at child level data, a log-in is needed. If a special report is desired, contact CEPI at CEPI@michigan.gov.

SSIP Update:

Barb Schinderle shared updates related to the SSIP which included the Phase III, Year II report that was submitted on April 2, 2018. OSEP will schedule calls with states during the summer to discuss the report.

The National Center for Systemic Improvement (NCSI) will host a State Leads meeting June 4-5, 2018 in San Diego, California, and Barb Schinderle and Nancy Surbrook will attend. The meeting will focus on scaling up evidence-based practices, measuring practice change, and sustainability. The next NCSI Cross State Collaborative Teams meeting is September 25-26 in Scottsdale, Arizona.

SSIP data to be collected this year includes:

- APR Indicators 3 and 4
- Social Emotional Wheel Survey
- SSIP Survey
- Family Survey
- Electronic Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (eDECA) and Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) Survey

Activities continue to be implemented across the pilot sites in three main areas: Evidenced-based Practices, Data, and Messaging.

Following the MICC meeting, the SSIP Committee will meet, and will continue to meet face-to-face after the September and November MICC meetings, as part of the new committee structure.

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI):

Deb Behringer, Karen Wisinski, and Christy O'Conner shared information about the EHDI program and Michigan Hands and Voices. EHDI's goals are for all newborns to be screened by one month of age, for those who do not pass the newborn hearing screening to be re-tested by three months of age, and for infants with hearing loss to be enrolled in early intervention by six months of age.

There is room for improvement for children with a diagnosed hearing loss to be enrolled in *Early On* by six months of age. Michigan is the eighth lowest state in the nation for this statistic at just 32.2 percent of children enrolled compared to 65.44 percent nationally. *Early On* and EHDI would like to work together on this goal to improve outcomes for children.

Christy O'Conner shared her story about her daughter who failed her newborn hearing screening and was not diagnosed with a hearing loss until age six. Conversations will continue to come up with better ways to collaborate between *Early On* and EHDI.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn:

**A motion to adjourn was made by Cheryl Granzo.
Motion carried.**