

**Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council (MICC)**  
***Early On*<sup>®</sup> Michigan**  
**(Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)**  
**Michigan Department of Education (MDE)**  
**Michigan Library and Historical Center, Lake Michigan Room**  
**702 W. Kalamazoo Street**  
**Lansing, MI**

**Thursday, February 6, 2020**

**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Melody Arabo, Andrea Caron, Kristina Donaldson, Melissa Epstein, Judy Goth-Owens, Cheryl Granzo, Rachel Harmon, Paula Johnson, Noel Kelty, Laura McKechnie, Amy Miilu, Nancy Peeler, Deana Strudwick, Michelle Williams

**Members Absent:** Anne Blankenhorn, Barbara Corbin, Stuart Jones, Victoria Martinez, Karin Nanos, Stephanie Peters

**Alternates Present:** Kae Dubay, Jennifer Forsthoff, Tami Mannes

**Staff Present:** Synthia Britton, Laura Goldthwait, Scott Koenigsknecht, Tiffany Kostelec, Cheryl Najm, Colleen O'Connor, Barb Schinderle, Meghan Schmelzer

**Grantees Present:** *Early On* Training and Technical Assistance:  
Nancy Surbrook-Goins

Wayne State University (Evaluation Project):  
Charo Hulleza, Luna Xuan

**Guests:** Terri Adams, Beth Kennedy, Heidi Loynes, Karen Wisinski

**Call to Order:**  
Due to inclement weather, many members participated virtually. Chairperson Melissa Epstein asked Noel Kelty to facilitate the meeting. Noel called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

**Introductions:** Introductions were made, and everyone was welcomed.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**A motion was made by Judy Goth-Owens and supported by Paula Johnson to approve the minutes.**

**Motion carried.**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**A motion was made by Nancy Peeler and supported by Paula Johnson to approve the agenda.**

**Motion carried.**

**Public Comment:**

None

**Worth Mentioning:**

A recommendation came from the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) 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.

Colleen O'Connor grew up in a small town near Madison, Wisconsin and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stout and her master's degree from Michigan State University. She taught kindergarten, was the director of a child care program for 21 years, and worked with adults in continuing education. Currently, Colleen works for MDE as an *Early On* Consultant and has been with the state for 12 years. She enjoys helping children and families reach their fullest potential.

Deana Strudwick began working in public health, then mental health, and is currently the Executive Director of Special Education for St. Joseph County Intermediate School District. She takes pride in leading work to change the practice in *Early On* from a medical model of service delivery to a Primary Service Provider model, utilizing the expertise of Dr. Lee Ann Jung. As a mother, she also benefited from *Early On* because both her sons had language delays and qualified for services. Deana treasures the relationships that she has gained through the collective work in early intervention.

**Updates:**

**Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Visit**

OSEP will perform a monitoring visit of the Part C program April 14-16, 2020. While here they will look at our system of payments, child outcomes, and visit a local service area.

**Reneé DeMars-Johnson Retirement**

Reneé DeMars-Johnson, Director of Early Childhood Development and Family Education/Office of Great Start retired from State Government on January 24, 2020, after 24.5 outstanding years with the State of Michigan and MDE. A celebration took place January 21, 2020. Noel Kelty was selected to serve as Interim Director while a state and national search are underway.

### Data Ad Hoc Committee

The Data Ad Hoc Committee, formed at the November 2019 MICC meeting, met on January 29, 2020, for a brief call to acquaint the members with the expectations of the work. The committee is charged with recommending Annual Performance Report (APR) targets for the Results Indicators to MDE through 2024. The committee will meet again February 26, 2020 and begin their work.

### State Budget, Section 54e Funds

In December 2019, a supplemental budget bill (Section 54e) was approved and signed for an allocation (\$350,000) for 2019-2020 only for a pilot program to train at least 60 *Early On* providers in the components of evidence-based, parent-implemented models of intervention for the treatment of autism. This is a one-time only allocation where a program provider must agree to use the funds for training in these components for *Early On* using an evidence-based program to conduct the training.

Specifically, the Parent-Implemented Model of Intervention for the Treatment of Autism project will:

- Train at least 60 *Early On* providers in the components of evidence-based, parent-implemented models of intervention for the treatment of autism;
- Conduct a survey of intermediate school districts in the pilot program described under this section after implementation of the parent-implemented model of intervention pilot program to measure the impact of the program; and
- Promote a "parent-implemented model of intervention" meaning a model in which parents directly utilize individually developmentally appropriate intervention practices with their children to increase the social abilities of children with autism.

The lead agency for this project is MDE, Office of Great Start/Early Childhood Development and Family Education. Requests for bid for both the pilot program and impact evaluation will be released in the coming months.

An update on the Preschool Development Grant was provided as a handout and sent electronically.

### **Annual Performance Report:**

At the November MICC meeting, data for APR Indicators 5 and 6 were not available. The Council reviewed the data.

► **Indicator 5:** Percent of infants and toddlers' birth to one year with IFSPs compared to national data.

### **Results Indicator Target: 1.27%**

FFY 2016- 1.30%	Target- 1.25%
FFY 2017- 1.38%	Target- 1.26%
FFY 2018- 1.27%	Target- 1.27%

The national average is 1.25%. Michigan's data is .12 percentage points above the national average.

\*Source: Sources: SY 2018-19 U.S. Department of Education, ED*Facts* Metadata and Process System (EMAPS): IDEA Part C Child Count and Settings Survey; Section A: Child Count and Settings by Age. U.S. Census Annual State Resident Population Estimates April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2018.

► **Indicator 6:** Percent of infants and toddlers' birth to three years with IFSPs compared to national data.

**Results Indicator Target: 3.0%**

FFY 2015- 2.60%	Target- 2.7%
FFY 2016- 2.86%	Target- 2.8%
FFY 2017- 3.08%	Target- 2.9%
FFY 2018- 3.26%	Target- 3.0%

The national average is 3.48%. Michigan's data is .22 percentage points below the national average.

\*Source: Sources: SY 2018-19 U.S. Department of Education, ED*Facts* Metadata and Process System (EMAPS): IDEA Part C Child Count and Settings Survey; Section A: Child Count and Settings by Age. U.S. Census Annual State Resident Population Estimates April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2018.

**A motion was made by Melissa Epstein and supported by Judy Goth-Owens to approve the data for the APR.**

**Motion passed.**

**Discussion:**

None

**Michigan Department Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Immunizations Presentation:**

Terri Adams and Heidi Loynes shared information about childhood immunizations and how the MICC members can help support vaccinations to ensure children are protected.

There are fourteen vaccinations children birth to six years old could receive to prevent potentially life-threatening diseases, which include:

1. Hepatitis B
2. Rotavirus
3. Diphtheria
4. Tetanus
5. Pertussis (whooping cough)
6. Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib)
7. Pneumococcal
8. Polio
9. Influenza (Flu)
10. Varicella (chickenpox)
11. Measles
12. Mumps
13. Rubella
14. Hepatitis A

Each of the vaccinations were discussed along with the recommended schedule for them; many of which are given in combinations to reduce the number of pokes.

The Vaccine Education Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (<https://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center>) provides lists of vaccine ingredients and compares them to ingredients found in every day food items.

To improve Pediatric Vaccine Preventable Diseases, members were encouraged to learn and have an understanding about the childhood immunization schedule, benefits and risks of vaccination, and vaccine-preventable diseases (including symptoms).

Key messages to share with others:

- Vaccines are the best way protect infants and children from 14 serious diseases.
- Vaccines protect their children, and also protect other children.

### **MDHHS Organizational Changes and Updates:**

Synthia Britton shared the organizational structure of MDHHS, of which there are over 15,000 employees and provided updates around the priorities in public health which include maternal and infant health, opioids, social determinates of health, and lead.

### **Update on Fiscal Ad Hoc Subcommittee (Single Tiered Model):**

Tami Mannes and Deana Strudwick reported that the work around equity and access continues and has grown to include the *Early On* Foundation, An Ounce of Prevention, Michigan's Children, Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators, MICC, Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education, and MDE.

MAASE has taken on this work as an official project and Cheryl Granzo will present it at the Michigan CEC conference. They are developing a one-pager to be used for shared advocacy and to have a consistent message among stakeholders.

### **Ask a Parent:**

This will be a standing item for each MICC meeting. The purpose is to learn from the seven parents who represent families in *Early On* about their experience on a specific topic. This meeting focused on transition from *Early On*. Jen Forsthoff shared that her daughter had a very positive experience transitioning from *Early On* because the following things happened:

- They were given a wide array of transition options.
- They had great communication from their service provider regarding next steps.
- They were 'handed off' gently to the next person providing services and felt like they mattered.

For some parents, their experience was not as positive. Communication didn't occur, it was unclear what was happening after *Early On*, only one option was offered, and there was a gap in services.

Paula Johnson shared that hearing this from the parents will help her in her role as a service provider. She plans to take this information back to her colleagues and talk about how they can better support families during transition.

Noel suggested thinking about how we can make information shared during this time more impactful. The parents will debrief during their Parent Involvement Committee and come up with a topic for the May MICC meeting.

### **Parent Reimbursement Rates:**

Noel Kelty asked the Council to review the history of parent reimbursements and rates since 1999:

- Have records showing we began supporting parents in 1999.
- Financial Support Document was created in 2001, the rate was \$12.50 per hour, \$50 child care.
- In 2008- rate increased to \$15.00/hr., child care remained the same.
- In 2010- rate increased to \$15.37/hr., child care remained the same.
- In 2014- rate increased to \$16.00/hr., child care remained the same.
- 2020- proposing rate increase to \$18.00/hr., child care up to \$60 per day.

**A motion was made by the Executive Committee to accept the recommendation and seconded by Paula Johnson for increased parent and child care rates effective February 6, 2020. The MICC will transmit the information to partner agencies for their consideration.**

**Motion passed.**

### **Discussion:**

Home visiting and other initiatives may not be able to implement the increase right away as budgets are already set for this fiscal year.

### **State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP):**

The pilot phase of the SSIP is wrapping up and the State Coordination and Evaluation Committee has spent the last few months receiving, reviewing, and analyzing data. The Statewide Service Provider survey was completed and, along with the Family Survey, supports the Theory of Action. The surveys tested two key stakeholder groups—families and service providers.

We have baseline data and are confident that materials, information, and family centeredness are highly associated with increased family outcomes. We have evidence to show that family centeredness around social emotional development is important. Our job now is to support the service providers through training to enhance these principles and put information and knowledge in the hands of parents. Both parents and service providers in the pilot sites reported a higher percentage around completing a social emotional questionnaire and receiving or providing materials than non-pilot sites.

The current work being done is around:

- Creation of Criteria Checklist, Fidelity Checklists, and Feasibility surveys
- Fidelity Checklists: DECA, eDECA, Social Emotional Developmental Wheels
- Two Manuals: Birth-Five Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process Manual and *Early On* COS Data Manual

The SSIP report is due to OSEP April 1, 2020, and the writing is underway.

**National Cohort Family Fellowship:**

Kristina Donaldson attended a national meeting and shared an idea for developing a Parent Leadership Directory. The PIC will continue to brainstorm this idea, along with the Parent Leadership in State Government, which has a similar vision.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Adjourn:**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Melissa Epstein and seconded by Deana Strudwick.**

**Motion carried.**