

## MICC Quick Notes May 23, 2024

### **Action Items:**

The MICC supported the recommendation from the Family Outcomes Target Resetting Ad Hoc Committee. Targets for the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) through FFY 2025 are:

Indicator 4: Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family:

- A. Know their rights;
- B. Effectively communicate their children's needs; and
- C. Help their children develop and learn.

### **FFY 2023**

APR 4A: 90.00%  
APR 4B: 89.00%  
APR 4C: 92.50%

### **FFY 2024**

APR 4A: 91.00%  
APR 4B: 89.35%  
APR 4C: 93.45%

### **FFY 2025**

APR 4A: 92.79%  
APR 4B: 91.15%  
APR 4C: 94.64%

### **Updates:**

#### **Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP)**

Two new members were welcomed to the MiLEAP Birth to Five Early Childhood Special Education team. Gina Birnbaum is an *Early On* consultant and Mark Kuipers is the 619 coordinator.

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

The focus of the SSIP over the past few months has been to complete a Root Cause Analysis with cohort members and state team staff to address the issue: *Statewide, in Michigan, infants and toddlers in Early On are demonstrating less growth in the area of social and emotional development.* Data are currently being synthesized into three major themes, each with suggested activities to improve outcomes.

1. Competent, skilled, and supported workforce to address social emotional development and mental health issues with families.
2. Prepared, connected, and supported parents.
3. Clear and consistent statewide policy, data collection, reporting, and use of social emotional data that is connected to Child Outcomes Summary (COS) ratings.

Work with stakeholders is occurring to develop an action plan with activities and timelines to improve social emotional outcomes.

#### **MICC Membership**

The governor's office is getting one step closer to making reappointments and appointments and has a new liaison in place.

#### **Early On Conference**

The *Early On* Conference, Ripples to Waves: The Power of Early Intervention will be held at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Michigan. The preconference date is November 12, 2024, and the conference is November 13-14, 2024.

#### **Celena Barnes Family Leadership Award**

The Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) of the MICC is accepting nominations for the Celena Barnes Family Leadership Award. Please see the nomination form and consider

recommending an exceptional parent leader with whom you have the privilege of working. [Celena Barnes Family Leadership Award - Google Forms](#)

Nominations are due by August 30, 2024. The parent selected will be revealed at the *Early On* Conference in Traverse City, November 13-14, 2024.

### ***Early On* Family Survey**

The annual *Early On* Family Survey is underway. The PIC created a flyer being circulated to help increase the response rate for all families: [Early On Family Survey Flyer](#). Please help spread the word. The family survey data are reported to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in APR Indicator 4, that measures family outcomes.

### **Presentations:**

Using American Rescue Plan funding, An Examination of the Michigan Part C System Through the Lens of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) was conducted by Wayne State University (WSU), in partnership with Clinton County RESA (CCRESA), Office of Innovative Projects. The purpose of the study was to examine gaps, strengths, and barriers to DEI in the *Early On* system in order to develop action plans and implement strategies to assist local service areas to close the gaps in DEI.

The data show statistically significant findings. The theme that emerged was that African American/Black children and families did not benefit from *Early On* at as high of a rate as White families. Some of the areas include:

- The *Early On* system completed statistically significantly fewer initial IFSP meetings with families who are African American/Black when compared to other groups.
- African American children received fewer *Early On* services, both in terms of frequency and length of services, when compared to White or Asian children.
- African American families perceived significantly lower levels of service provider's helpfulness compared to White families.
- African American families report experiencing lower levels of positive family impact as a result of their participation in *Early On*, when compared to White families.
- Positive child outcomes for African American children are consistently lower, compared to White families.

Suggestions from the MICC members to address the gaps included:

- Develop stronger partnerships with existing entities such as Home Visiting, Early Head Start, and Help Me Grow.
- Conducting a policy and practice review.
- Provide ongoing training around DEI/implicit bias/anti bias.
- Provide training to ensure families really understand their rights.

In addition to suggestions from the MICC, CCRESA, WSU, and MiLEAP developed strategies to help close the equity gap:

- Pilot targeted DEI support in two communities (Detroit and Eastern Upper Peninsula).
- Develop a 6<sup>th</sup> Essentials of *Early On* Module around implicit bias.
- Share additional options for implicit bias training with *Early On* coordinators.
- Roll out the equity data dashboard tool through the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI).
- Strengthen EOT&TA personnel's understanding and skill development of culturally responsive early intervention practices and equity informed decision making.
- Identify grant funds/additional revenue to continue work.

**2024 MICC Meeting Dates:**

September 26

December 5

Quick Notes are submitted by Barb Schinderle, MICC staff liaison. For more information regarding any of the meeting items, please contact Barb at [schinderleb@michigan.gov](mailto:schinderleb@michigan.gov).