

Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council (MICC)

Quick Notes May 11, 2023

Action Items:

► The MICC voted to accept an increase in the parent honorarium rate from \$18 to \$20 per hour. The new rate is effective immediately.

Presentations:

► Kate Rood shared information about the home visiting initiative in Michigan. Home visiting is free and voluntary and for pregnant people and families with children ages 0-5. It connects families with caring professionals who can also refer to services. Visits can take place in the home or virtually. Kate explained the different evidence-based home visiting models, what to expect during a visit, and the outcomes of the program. More information can be located on the website: [Home Visiting \(michigan.gov\)](https://www.michigan.gov/homevisiting)

► Over the past few months, the MICC welcomed many new members. Barb Schinderle shared a presentation about the MICC and its purpose, the federal requirements, expectations for members, and what a typical meeting may look like. More information can be found on the website: www.michigan.gov/micc.

► Victoria Martinez shared updates about trainings and learning opportunities being offered by the Michigan Alliance for Families. Offerings include:

- An *Early On* parent conference
- A webinar series called, Paving the Way Through Self-Determination
- Leaders in Policy Advocacy training
- Summer learning opportunities with a wide range of topics

For a copy of the presentations, please contact Barb Schinderle at schinderleb@michigan.gov.

Updates:

Social Emotional Learning and the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

Cohort 2 has completed the 18-month commitment by implementing the SSIP activities with fidelity within their service areas. They will continue using the eDECA assessments and strategies with children, utilizing approaches learned from the Pyramid Model trainings, and sharing the social emotional developmental wheels with families. They will continue with quarterly Community of Practice calls with the state team and will complete the fidelity checklist annually.

Cohort 3 is up and running smoothly. Service providers have received training on using the eDECA, DECA and the five modules of the Pyramid Model training. Their cohort runs through May 2024 and they have monthly Community of Practice calls.

This fall, cohort 4 will be offered. The plan is to scale up the SSIP work statewide, adding new cohorts each fall until all service areas have participated.

Differentiated Monitoring System (DMS) 2.0

The *Early On* team submitted Michigan's plan for corrections and required actions as part of the monitoring process to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

Early On System Updates

System update meetings for *Early On* coordinators will be offered in-person, in four different locations across the state. This is a time for *Early On* coordinators, Michigan Department of Education (MDE) *Early On* consultants, and *Early On* Training and Technical Assistance staff to come together, discuss current topics and share information and resources.

Dates include:

May 2, 2023 Genesee ISD

May 12, 2023 Clare Gladwin

May 18, 2023 Marquette

May 22, 2023 Kent

Michigan Alliance for Families

Parent Conference: Let's Talk Disability and Inclusion in Early Childhood and Beyond

Michigan Alliance for Families is offering a conference for parents of children enrolled in *Early On*. It will take place Saturday, June 3, 2023, from 9 am-4 pm in Livonia. Some of the parent members from the MICC will be hosting a panel discussion and the keynote speaker is Dr. Jodell Heroux who will speak about breaking down barrier to inclusion.

Office of Innovative Projects (OIP) Rebranding for *Early On*® Public Awareness

OIP is working with Gúd Marketing to help facilitate a refresh to the *Early On* Michigan campaign. This will include replacing the purple silhouettes to appeal to a new generation of parents, families, and children. The campaign materials will represent a diversity of families and children representative of Michigan demographics. Gúd Marketing participated in OIP's recent B-5 child find meeting in April and conducted breakout sessions to receive feedback from the field. This included responses on the overall impression of the current logo to include brand colors and the tagline, "Don't worry. But don't wait." Facilitators also talked about the current reputation along with messaging and imagery to determine what people like, don't like, and what changes they'd like to see. Ongoing activities are underway with the public awareness staff at OIP along with MDE staff to obtain their input on this work as well.

Jihan Young suggested using photos of service providers who represent different ethnicities, in addition to the photos of children. Cheryl Granzo suggested a consistent message be developed for families whose infants are born drug exposed, in order to encourage participation in *Early On*. Christy Callahan thanked them for their advice.

Appreciation for Jean Wassenaar

With appreciation for her excellent contributions, we share that Jean Wassenaar, IMH-E® Infant Family Associate, will be retiring from her position at Clinton County RESA OIP as a statewide training and technical assistance specialist on June 17, 2023. Jean began working for CCRESA in 2002 when *Early On* Training and Technical Assistance (EOT&TA) was first funded and the OIP was created. Her career with *Early On* began when Michigan was first determining how to implement the laws that preceded Part C of IDEA, which were Public Law 99-457 and Part H of the Education of the Handicapped Act. In 1991 Jean began this work when Sr. Barbara Cline and MDE recruited her to be a Part H *Early On* parent consultant. From there she provided training and technical assistance (TA) for MDE through The Arc Michigan, then was an *Early On* training coach for Michigan Public Health Institute and worked for Kent ISD on a variety of special projects including Project Find.

With her strong command of state policy and federal regulations related to *Early On* Michigan and Part C of IDEA, Jean has shared her expertise through meaningful relationship-based TA with countless *Early On* coordinators and special education administrators over the years, documenting nearly 2,500 TA logs and 235 TA events with EOT&TA. Additionally, Jean has supported service providers throughout Michigan with professional learning on numerous topics, including Procedural Safeguards, the Infant-Toddler Developmental Assessment, Birth to Five Child Outcomes, Writing Functional Outcomes, and more. Jean has been the ultimate co-coordinator of the *Early On* Conference, ensuring high quality, appropriate content, excellence in project management and event planning, while negotiating fabulous rates on behalf of our system. For the recent federal OSEP monitoring visit to MDE, Jean represented EOT&TA and Michigan's system for technical assistance in support of compliance brilliantly. She's been a trusted colleague and advisor for so many in *Early On*. With gratitude, we wish Jean a wonderful and fulfilling

retirement!

2023 MICC Meeting Dates:

Thursday, September 14

Thursday, November 9

Quick notes are submitted by Barb Schinderle, MICC staff liaison for MDE/Office of Great Start. For more information regarding any of the meeting items, please contact Barb at schinderleb@michigan.gov.