

Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council (MICC)
***Early On*[®] Michigan**
(Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
Michigan Department of Education
Microsoft Teams Meeting
Thursday, November 5, 2020

Minutes

Members Present: Melody Arabo, Andrea Caron, Joe Clark, Monica Gaines, Judy Goth-Owens, Cheryl Granzo, Rachel Harmon, Paula Johnson, Stuart Jones, Noel Kelty, Tami Mannes, Victoria Martinez, Laura McKechnie, Amy Miilu, Karin Nanos, Nancy Peeler, Lisa Perugi, Prachi Shah, Michelle Williams

Members Absent: Kristina Donaldson, Melissa Epstein

Alternates Present: Kae Dubay, Jennifer Forsthoff

Staff Present: Synthia Britton, Laura Goldthwait, Scott Koenigsknecht, Mary Ludtke, Cheryl Najm, Colleen O'Connor, Barb Schinderle, Lisa Wasacz, Jan Weckstein

Grantees Present: *Early On* Training and Technical Assistance:
Christy Callahan, Allan Knapp, and
Nancy Surbrook-Goins
Michigan Alliance for Families
Clare Brick
Wayne State University (Evaluation Project):
Charo Hulleza, Allison Lowery, Luna Xuan

Guests: Sam Cassisi, Jenny Koenigsknecht, Cecelia Norcross, Karen Wisinski, Phyllis Yoder

Call to Order: Executive Committee member Noel Kelty called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Introductions: Introductions were made and everyone was welcomed. The Council took a moment to reflect on the contributions made by Barbara Corbin to the MICC.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Victoria Martinez and supported by Prachi Shah to approve the minutes.

Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Nancy Peeler and supported by Amy Miilu 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.

Charo Hulleza has worked as a social science researcher at Wayne State University for over 30 years. She and her colleagues have served as the evaluators for *Early On* since 1992. In recognition of Throw Back Thursday (#TBT), she shared the 1993 comprehensive evaluation design for *Early On* during its developmental phase, showing the complex system of processes and service delivery that come together as a community to serve children and families. This flowchart (‘placemat’) portrays a wholistic picture that continues to guide our current theory of action. It was fun to see the way stakeholders, especially parents, were involved in designing a system of continuous improvement for *Early On*. All parts of the system are there to support positive results for children and families.

Michelle Williams works as a manager in the Special Populations Unit at MDE which also includes serving children and youth who are experiencing homelessness. Michelle began her career as a classroom teacher in an elementary school with more than 80 percent of the students being bilingual. She saw a wide range of reading levels within her classroom and was in awe of the students she worked with. She also worked as an administrator. She started at the department as the Migrant Education consultant.

Updates:

Restructuring at Michigan Department of Education (MDE)

The Office of Great Start (OGS) Offices of Early Childhood Development and Family Education (ECD&FE) and Preschool and Out-of-School Time Learning, in consultation with the Office of Special Education (OSE), are excited to announce the internal restructuring of programs and services within unified programs by adapting the ECD&FE Early Intervention/*Early On* Unit to now include IDEA, Part B/Section 619, or Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE). This combining of Early Intervention/*Early On* and ECSE into one unit within ECD&FE will be named the Birth-5 Early Childhood Special Education Unit and led by a program manager, who will also take on the role of *Early On* Coordinator. The intended end will result in improved and aligned programs and services for children.

State School Aid Act (SSAA) Section 54d Funding

Michigan Part C retained \$7.15 million dollars in SSAA Section 54d funding for state fiscal year 2021. These funds enhance the federally funded grants to intermediate school districts (ISDs) under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Funds are distributed based on the *Early On* federal funding formula.

Discussion:

The field is concerned that data will be impacted by COVID-19 and would like guidance from MDE on how to report the obstacles local service areas face as a result of the pandemic. The *Early On* team will look into this further and shared that there hasn't been a report to the legislature yet, but when we have data, we could include explanations about why data look different because of the pandemic. MDE is also interested in learning what has worked well through service provision to families during the pandemic.

Early On – GEER - Governor's Emergency Education Relief Funding

One million dollars in GEER funding was distributed to the 56 *Early On* local service areas in the same manner as the federal funding formula. The GEER funds are to be used for three specific purposes related to COVID-19 relief and include: purchasing personal protective equipment for providers or families, technology equipment and connectivity for families, and program and assessment materials to be left with families.

Differentiated Monitoring and Support (DMS) 2.0, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)

Michigan's Part C program was scheduled for an on-site monitoring visit from OSEP in April 2020; however, due to the pandemic, the visit was cancelled. In the meantime, OSEP has launched a new system for monitoring and support called DMS 2.0 which involves cyclical rather than risk-based selection for monitoring. We recently learned that Michigan Part C will be one of the states engaging in the first three-year cohort of DMS 2.0.

DMS 2.0 is:

- Focused on improved outcomes and results for infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities and their families in conjunction with compliance.
- Comprised of eight defined components – Data, State Performance Plan, Improvement, Dispute Resolution, Implementation of Policies and Procedures, Fiscal Management, Technical Assistance & Professional Development, and Integrated Monitoring Activities.
- Integrated across components.
- Designed to address States' emerging needs and issues.

The three-year cohort is designed as follows:

- Year 1 – Pre-site and Preparation – this year involves OSEP reviewing publicly available information, collecting documents from the state, interviewing state personnel. There may be specific requests for information from stakeholders during this phase.

- Year 2 – Monitoring – this year will include an onsite visit by OSEP. The focus of the monitoring visit will be determined by the information gathered in year 1. Targeted involvement from stakeholders will be included during this phase.
- Year 3 – Post-visit Correction and Technical Assistance – this year will involve correction of any identified non-compliance and support for improving outcomes. Stakeholder involvement is anticipated to be greatest during this phase.

Data Ad Hoc Committee

OSEP recently extended the deadline for target setting to February 2022. The Data Ad Hoc Committee has met regularly since February and has made recommendations to MDE regarding targets for the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) results indicators for the next six years (Federal Fiscal Years 2020 – 2025). Due to the uncertainty related to COVID-19, the committee is planning to revisit the targets regularly to ensure they are attainable and rigorous.

Appointments made to the MICC

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 2007-43 the following appointments and reappointments were made to the MICC:

- Mr. Joseph Clark of Ingham County appointed to represent Michigan Legislature
- Ms. Monica Gaines of Wayne County, appointed to represent the general public
- Ms. Cheryl Granzo of Ionia County, reappointed to represent service providers
- Dr. Tami Mannes of Ottawa County, appointed to represent service providers
- Ms. Lisa Perugi of Wayne County, appointed succeed Barbara Corbin and represent service providers

Vice chairperson and vacancy on Executive Committee:

The vice chairperson and Executive Committee member-at-large positions are vacant and will be voted on at the February 4, 2021, MICC meeting. Members who are interested in filling either position should contact Barb Schinderle, schinderleb@michigan.gov.

Vice chairperson duties include:

The vice chairperson shall assume the duties of the chairperson in his/her absence or at the chairperson's discretion. The chairperson and vice chairperson work together to facilitate the MICC meetings.

The vice chairperson also is a member of the Executive Committee which meets virtually three weeks prior to MICC meetings.

Executive Committee member-at-large duties include:
Attend quarterly meetings held virtually three weeks prior to the MICC meetings.
As an Executive Committee member, vote on behalf of the MICC when the need arises.

Established Conditions Ad Hoc Committee:

Victoria Martinez and Synthia Britton shared the changes recommended by the Established Conditions Ad Hoc Committee. Discussion occurred around the category of Diagnosed Fetal Drug Exposure. The committee recommended keeping it as is because requiring a positive drug screen may be too stringent, yet solely following claims by the guardians may be too lax. Ultimately, a formal workup and diagnosis by a medical professional may be needed in cases that are not clear. Some members of the MICC were concerned that we could miss an opportunity to provide services to children who don't have a diagnosed drug exposure, but a reported one. A suggestion was made to change the wording to 'documented' rather than 'diagnosed.'

It was also mentioned that there are other parts of the system that provide services to families besides *Early On*, such as home visiting, and a broader look may be needed.

A question was raised about when an infant's meconium tests positive for a substance, and whether or not the test results can be considered diagnosed fetal drug exposure.

A suggestion was made to consider wording around Fetal Alcohol Exposure in addition to Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.

The committee decided to meet again before finalizing the Established Conditions list. Additional representation will be added and those members include Dr. Prachi Shah, Cheryl Granzo, Rachel Harmon, and someone from the Behavior Health Office at MDHHS. Barb Schinderle and Jenny Koenigsknecht will work on inviting additional members and finding a meeting date.

SPP/APR Data:

► **Indicator 1:** Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

Compliance Indicator Target: 100%

Actual Data	Targets:
FFY 2017- 99.86%	Target- 100%
FFY 2018- 99.89%	Target- 100%
FFY 2019- 99.92%	Target- 100%

Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner (18,266) divided by the total number of infants and toddlers with new services on IFSPs (18,281) times 100.

Calculation: $18,266/18,281 \times 100 = 99.92\%$
Data source: Michigan Student Data System (MSDS)

► **Indicator 2:** Percentage of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or programs for typically developing children.

Results Indicator Target: 94%

Actual Data	Targets:
FFY 2017- 97.10%	Target- 94%
FFY 2018- 96.95%	Target- 94%
FFY 2019- 96.61%	Target- 94%

Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or programs for typically developing children = 11,221

Total number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs = 11,615

Data source: www.earlyondata.com October 2019 data

► **Indicator 3:** Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who demonstrate improved:

- A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication); and
- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs

Summary Statement 1: Of those infants and toddlers who entered Part C below age expectations in each Outcome, the percent who **substantially increased** their rate of growth by the time they exited.

Results Indicator

Actual Data	Targets:
FFY 2017	
APR 3A: 75.19%	APR 3A: 76.2%
APR 3B: 78.72%	APR 3B: 80.3%
APR 3C: 78.24%	APR 3C: 79.5%
FFY 2018	
APR 3A: 76.74%	APR 3A: 76.50%
APR 3B: 79.33%	APR 3B: 80.50%
APR 3C: 78.67%	APR 3C: 79.80%
FFY 2019	
APR 3A: 77.73%	APR 3A: 76.50%
APR 3B: 80.23%	APR 3B: 80.50%
APR 3C: 79.32%	APR 3C: 79.80%

Summary Statement 2: The percent of infants and toddlers who were functioning **within age expectations** in each Outcome by the time they exited.

- A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication); and
- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

Actual Data

Targets:

FFY 2017

APR 3A: 52.15%

APR 3A: 60.8%

APR 3B: 47.27%

APR 3B: 53.6%

APR 3C: 47.54%

APR 3C: 60.0%

FFY 2018

APR 3A: 53.24%

APR 3A: 60.90%

APR 3B: 48.12%

APR 3B: 54.10%

APR 3C: 50.65%

APR 3C: 60.20%

FFY 2019

APR 3A: 55.05%

APR 3A: 60.90%

APR 3B: 48.58%

APR 3B: 54.10%

APR 3C: 50.46%

APR 3C: 60.20%

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

- 1. Know their rights;
- 2. Effectively communicate their children’s needs; and
- 3. Help their children develop and learn.

Results Indicator

Actual Data

Targets:

FFY 2017

APR 4A: 71.12%

APR 4A: 59.2%

APR 4B: 64.75%

APR 4B: 54.2%

APR 4C: 84.06%

APR 4C: 78.2%

FFY 2018

APR 4A: 71.20%

APR 4A: 59.40%

APR 4B: 64.86%

APR 4B: 54.40%

APR 4C: 85.33%

APR 4C: 78.40%

FFY 2019

APR 4A: 73.35%

APR 4A: 59.40%

APR 4B: 66.59%

APR 4B: 54.40%

APR 4C: 87.22%

APR 4C: 78.40%

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

Results Indicator Target: 1.27%

FFY 2017- 1.38%	Target- 1.26%
FFY 2018- 1.27%	Target- 1.27%
FFY 2019-	Target- 1.27%

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

Results Indicator Target: 3.0%

FFY 2017- 3.08%	Target- 2.9%
FFY 2018- 3.26%	Target- 3.0%
FFY 2019-	Target- 3.0%

Data for Indicators 5 and 6 are not available yet. The Executive Committee will vote to accept the data on behalf of the MICC once data are available.

► **Indicator 7:** Percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an initial evaluation and initial assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline.

Compliance Indicator Target: 100%

FFY 2017- 98.97%	Target- 100%
FFY 2018- 99.20%	Target- 100%
FFY 2019- 99.62%	Target- 100%

Calculation: $9,617/9,654 \times 100 = 99.62\%$

Data Source: Michigan Student Data System (MSDS)

► **Indicator 8:** The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSPs with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified the SEA and the LEA where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

Compliance Indicator Target: 100% for A, B, and C

A. IFSPs with transition steps and services

FFY 2017- 97.70%	Target- 100%
FFY 2018- 98.96%	Target- 100%
FFY 2019- 99.25%	Target- 100%

99.25% of transition records reported had a timely transition plan with steps and services.

Calculation: $8,373/8,436 = .9925 \times 100 = 99.25\%$

Data source: Michigan Student Data System (MSDS)

B. Notification to SEA and LEA, if child potentially eligible for Part B preschool services

FFY 2017- 100%	Target- 100%
FFY 2018- 100%	Target- 100%
FFY 2019- 100%	Target- 100%

Given that Michigan is a birth mandate state and the Part C local lead agency is the intermediate school district, notification from Part C is internal and takes place as the child is identified as potentially Michigan Special Education eligible at any time from birth to age three. Any child found eligible for Michigan Special Education is automatically transitioned into Part B Special Education by age three. The school district of residence is responsible for conducting the initial individualized education program team meeting involving a student in its district and shall conduct, or authorize the operating district to conduct, each subsequent individualized education program team meeting at a mutually agreed upon time and place. Michigan Special Education Rule R 340.1721c. Therefore, LEAs are notified of **100%** of children potentially eligible for Part B preschool services. Per Transition Intra-agency agreement, LEAs act on behalf of the SEA for purposes of SEA notification. Therefore, the SEA is notified of **100%** of children potentially eligible for Part B preschool services. Confirmation of the SEA notification takes place when the child's information is entered into MSDS.

Calculation: $3,731/3,731 = 1 \times 100 = 100\%$

Data source: Michigan Student Data System (MSDS)

C. Transition conference, if child is potentially eligible for Part B.

FFY 2017- 96.99%	Target- 100%
FFY 2018- 98.52%	Target- 100%
FFY 2019- 98.58%	Target- 100%

98.58% of transition records reviewed had a transition conference, if child was potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

Calculation: $3,678/3,731 = .9858 \times 100 = 98.58\%$

Data source: Michigan Student Data System (MSDS).

A motion was made by Paula Johnson and supported by Victoria Martinez to accept the available data for the SPP/APR.

Motion passed.

State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP):

The next phase of the SSIP is underway and 11 service areas were selected to work with MDE to implement strategies designed to increase social emotional outcomes for infants, toddlers, and their families.

The following service areas were selected because they have completed the most recent child outcomes training offered by *Early On* Training and Technical Assistance (EOT&TA) or they were in the pilot phase of the SSIP: Bay-Arenac, Eaton, Gratiot Isabella, Ionia, Macomb, Manistee, Marquette Alger, Montcalm, St. Joseph, Tuscola, and Wayne.

The service areas will participate in the following activities:

- The Pyramid Model Infant Toddler Train the Trainer Series and Coaching.
- Training on the DECA/IT, as well as user privileges and orientation to the electronic DECA (eDECA) system. The eDECA system provides access to electronic and printable assessments, scoring capability, DECA strategies for planning, and pre post analysis.
- Virtual Community of Practice (CoP) meetings for *Early On* Coordinators with prepared monthly data reports by local service area.
- Materials with messages about the importance of social emotional development for use with families in *Early On*, including a Social Emotional Toolkit and Social Emotional Developmental Wheels with fidelity checks.

The work will take place from Fall 2020 through Spring 2022.

COVID-19 Updates/Interagency Sharing:

Lisa Perugi shared that things are moving along in Wayne County and now that cases are rising, they are providing more virtual visits. Her staff is becoming more comfortable with virtual visits and providing evaluations. The additional funding from MDE and GEERs have been helpful.

A grant providing hazard pay for teachers in K-12 is causing preschool and *Early On* teachers to question why they also aren't receiving additional funding. The funding is from the Michigan Department of Treasury and they have set up a website for questions: www.michigan.gov/TSSC19Grants.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Peeler supported by Cheryl Granzo.

Motion carried.