**Members Present:**

Jodi Berscheid

Gretchen Brodkorb

Teresa Campbell

Carrie Churchill

Kirsten Ducheneaux

Carie Green

Joe Hauge

Rochelle Holloway

Wendy Honeycutt

Michele Martin

Carla Miller

Laura Nordbye

Emily Quick

Debra Willert

Sarah Carter

**Members Absent:**

Cindy Fischer

Melanie Lundquist

Jordan Mounga

Katherine Schmidt

Tiara Selby

Jaze Sollars

**Birth to Three Staff:**

Sarah Carter, Director

Crystal Goeden, Program Specialist

Daniel Krier, Program Specialist

Steve Livermont, Program Specialist

Jen Kampmann, Program Specialist

Janet Penticoff, Senior Secretary

**Public:**

No public were in attendance.

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The State Interagency Coordinating Council was called to order at 3:01 pm. Central Time by SICC member Rochelle Holloway and roll call was taken.

**Adoption of Agenda**

Motion by Debra Willert, second by Carla Miller to approve the April 17, 2024, agenda. All voted in favor; motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Michell Martin to approve the January 24, 2024, minutes, second by Carla Miller. All voted in favor; motion carried.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was offered.

**FFY2021 SPP/APR Submission Update:**

Sarah Carter, Birth to Three director, related South Dakota Part C FFY2022 State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) was submitted February 1, 2024. On April 9th the Clarification Period began. During the Clarification Period, OSEP provides feedback back to the states which may require additional action or corrections the state must take in relation to the submitted report. South Dakota Part C had no clarifications or corrections. This is the second year the report has been accepted as submitted. The South Dakota Part C FFY 2022 SPP/APR full report can be viewed on the Birth to Three website located at <https://doe.sd.gov/birthto3/> under Public Reporting link.

**Birth to Three Program Updates:**

Carter provided extended information as related to the child count data that was submitted December 1, 2023. The state’s overall child count was broken down by service coordination regions and comparison of years indicating various growth patterns. Carter also provided overview of the past five years referrals, including estimates of existing years. The charts indicate a decline in child count and referrals during the Covid pandemic but have since rebounded to numbers higher than pre-covid

The state team has been working with a vendor, selected through the RFP process, to build a new comprehensive data system for the Birth to Three program. This new program will be referred to as the South Dakota Early Intervention Data System, SEIDS. This new system will contain all data from point of referral through transition including reimbursement for service providers. The state will begin testing the system in the coming month. No launch date has been determined as of yet.

Preparation work for the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) monitoring visit scheduled to occur in 2026 continues. Carter reminded ICC members of the monitoring dates and content along with new information provided by state Part C programs who have recently received a monitoring visit. South Dakota continues to work with national technical assistant consultants preparing for the visit.

In accordance with 2024 legislative directive concerning Medicaid providers, a 4% increase has been added to the reimbursement amounts of Birth to Three providers. Regional service coordination programs have also received a 4% increase in their funding formula. These new rates go into effect 7/1/2024. Rates can be viewed on the Birth to Three website.

Carter and Jennifer Kampmann, program professional development specialist updated ICC members on progress made in the area of Child Find and Workforce as described on the programs SSIP Theory of Action. Kampmann related the collaboration between postsecondary professional preparation programs at the University of South Dakota has resulted in several students participating in the introduction to early intervention and the evidence-based model implemented in the Birth to Three program. A collaboration effort with South Dakota State University is underway to increase opportunities for graduates of early childhood programs to serve as early intervention providers for the Birth to Three program. Mitchell Technical College’s Speech-Language Pathology Assistant program (SLPA) has approached Birth to Three and coordinated efforts are occurring to begin offering training to SLPA students spring 2025 with intent of serving Birth to Three infants and toddlers and their families.

**FFY 2024 IDEA Part C Grant Application**

The annual state application under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Act for FFY 2023 was addressed. The full grant is posted on the Department of Education website for 60 days with a 30-day public comment from April 1 – April 30, 2024. The grant application is due to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) on May 22, 2024. At this time OSEP has not released the final funding for FFY2024, states are instructed to use FFY2023 funding amounts until otherwise noted.

Carter reviewed the historical grant funding amounts and the three components of the application. Section one consists of assurances the state has in effect policies and procedures to meet all the requirements of Part C; section two outlines each policy and procedure that must be in place as well as other assurances and certifications to meet requirements; section three provides description of the use of the Federal IDEA Part C funds the state will receive. Carter broke down section three fiscal categories, providing budget dollars and description of the items funded. Additionally, Carter reviewed GEPA Section 427 that was submitted last year. Based on the SSIP Theory of Action focusing on Child Find and Workforce, what was submitted last year remained accurate with minor updates to initiative timelines.

Carter announced Crystal Goeden, program specialist with the Birth to Three Program is retiring on June 7, 2024, after 30+ years of service with Birth to Three program. Crystal was thanked for her service and acknowledged for all the many lives she has been part of through her work with the program.

Moved to adjourn the meeting by Joe Hauge, second by Wendy Honeycutt. All voted in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:14 pm.

Next meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, July 24, 2024.