

**Meeting Minutes for the
SD Interagency Coordinating Council
September 30, 2020 – 3:00PM CT
ZOOM Platform**

Members Present:

Valerie Kelly
Jordan Mouna
Leonard Suel
Mary Bowne
Laura Nordbye
JoLynn Bostrom
Debra Willert
Jaze Sollars
Kirsten Ducheneaux

Katherine Schmidt
Rebecca Poelstra
Michelle Martin
Carla Miller
Gretchen Brodkorb
Jodi Berscheid
Carrie Churchill
Sarah Carter

Members Absent

Katie Wiseman
Laura Johnson Frame
Cindy Fisher

Rochelle Holloway
Sen. Jim Bolin

Birth to 3 Staff

Sarah Carter, Director
Crystal Goeden, Program Specialist (Technical Assistance)
Steve Livermont, Program Specialist (Data)
Janet Penticoff, Birth to Three Billing
Lindsey Bomesberger, Secretary

Public Present:

Jennifer Kampmann
Sharon Walsh, TA Consultant for South Dakota

Valerie Kelly, filling in for Sarah Aker, called the meeting to order at 3:04 PM via virtual platform ZOOM.

Motion to approve agenda JoLynn Bostrom; 2nd Rebecca Poelstra motion carried by roll call vote.

Motion to approve April 22, 2020 minutes Carla Miller; 2nd JoLynn Bostrom; motion carried by roll call vote.

Public Comment: none.

Head Start Collaboration Update

Jodi Berscheid, Head Start Collaboration Coordinator, presented on South Dakota Head Start/Early Head Start programs. She discussed the Head Start Collaboration Office 5-year Goals with early childhood agencies; the comparisons of data of non-Head Start children versus Head Start children; and collaboration with SD Institutions of Higher Learning; QRIS (Quality Recognition and Improvement System); contractual work to plan and implement a Transition Summit for SD educators; collaboration with other agencies for substance abuse. She discussed the SD Step Ahead website with members.

Birth to Three Program Updates

Sarah Carter, Part C administrator, provided updates to the ICC membership. New members include Kristin Ducheneaux, provider; Debra Willert, Part B 619; Laura Nordby, DSS Child Care services; Carrie

Churchill, Department of Health; Valerie Kelly, DSS Medicaid. Kelly has agreed to serve as ICC chair for remainder of her predecessor Sarah Aker term. One position remains to be filled, Birth to Three team is working with the Governor's office on filling that.

Crystal Goeden, Birth to Three program specialist, discussed the service coordination regional map updates. A new regional area is being served by Oahe Birth to Three. This area includes the counties of Corson, Ziebach and Dewey. New service coordinators have been added to the Black Hills and CORE regions as well. Goeden informed members of long-time service coordinator Mary Fitzpatrick retirement.

Carter provided updates on the Birth to Three program operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. She discussed the timeline of what has happened with the Birth to Three Program as the pandemic has moved along. Included in this were changes to the Interim IFSP. Due to the pandemic and districts unable to complete eligibility evaluations the state allowed service coordinators to place children on Interim IFSP's for children whose screening indicates a referral for evaluation. This 45-day IFSP allowed children to receive services temporarily until eligibility could be determined.

The lack of eligibility evaluations Birth to Three sought out other state Part C programs in similar situation. With assistance from OSEP, Riverside publishing and national technical assistance the state collaborated with CORE Educational Cooperative to create a protocol to offer a virtual eligibility evaluation. This process is now in place and available if needed. Districts would have to provide consent for this to take place.

Carter provided the ICC with data elements that had been affected due to the pandemic. Data items included referral numbers, child count during the months since COVID pandemic began on a state and regional level. Carter reminded members that the affects of COVID will be felt for some time to come. The disruption in data could have lasting effects on future target setting, trend data and state determinations by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

Sharon Walsh, TA consultant commented on the data drop and how well South Dakota keeps track of the data.

Professional Development:

Carter reviewed the Theory of Action that was developed by ICC members and stakeholders. Family engagement was identified by stakeholders as the key for professional development. Routines Based Interview is one of the evidence-based practices selected by the state. This practice is conducted by service coordinators with the family. This semi-structured interview allows service coordinators to identify those family priorities that drive the outcomes/goals of an IFSP. The state continues to train service coordinators in this model and work toward fidelity of practice.

The Bright Beginnings model, for direct service providers, focuses on enhancing family engagement, routines-based home visits and promoting parents' competence, confidence and effectiveness in working with their infant and toddler with developmental delays. Currently, Cohort 5 of this training is being completed, with Cohort 6 beginning October 2.

Determinations

Carter informed ICC members South Dakota has received the 2020 Determination Letter from the Office of Special Education Programs, which is part of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. A states 2020 determination is based on the Results-Driven Accountability (RDA) matrix which includes both results and compliance data. States are placed in one of three categories. They are, Meets Requirements (80% or greater score) , Needs Assistance (score of 60-80%) or Needs Intervention (less than 60% score). South Dakota received a determination of Meets Requirements with a 93.75% score.

Federal Updates—Sharon Walsh:

Sharon Walsh, TA with the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center, informed ICC members of current happenings in Washington DC in relation to COVID-19 legislation and upcoming possible legislation that could impact Part C.

Walsh shared upcoming changes to the Part C SPP/APR package that will be in place for Federal Fiscal Years 2020 through 2025. Over the course of the 2021 calendar year states, with stakeholder input, will need to set targets for this new package. Changes to this package from previous include new requirements related to C4 family survey, new reporting date for SSIP portion of the report. The state will be asking ICC members to assist them in reviewing changes and setting targets for the new package in preparation for the 2022 submission.

OSEP is implementing a new monitoring protocol, referred to as DMS 2.0. This cyclical monitoring system will have OSEP conducting a monitoring visit in each state over the course of a 5-year cycle. A monitoring visit is a three-year process for each state with defined activities in each year of the monitoring process. States will be placed in one of five cohorts with the first cohort beginning October 1, 2020. South Dakota was not selected for the first cohort. Carter related, while not selected, the state is taking this year to work with regional service coordination programs and providers to ensure when selected for a cohort that the state is in the best position.

Staffing Updates:

Carter announced the upcoming retirement of Vicki Linn later this month. Jennifer will be assuming the role of the professional development specialist. She is currently Assistant Professor and Assistant Department Head in the SDSU College of Teaching, Learning and Leadership. Her years of experience and research in the early childhood field will be a great asset to our program. Jennifer will be a remote employee, working on a part-time basis until the end of the school year. In May 2021 she will move to full-time status with Birth to Three.

The next ICC meeting will be held virtually on December 9th, 2020. Full ICC will meet at 3:00, those members working on the C4 Family Survey work group will meet the last hour.

Kelly called for motion to adjourn. Motion by Kirsten Ducheneaux; 2nd Leonard Suel. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Adjourned at 4:57 pm.

The presentation for the ICC meeting can be found on the South Dakota Boards and Commission website at:

<https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/bcuploads/April%2022%202020%20ICC%20Presentation%20-%20final.pdf>