

**Meeting Minutes for the
SD Interagency Coordinating Council
July 28, 2021 – 9:30 to 11:30
Virtually**

Members Present:

Carla Miller
Cindy Michelson
Debra Willert
Gretchen Brodkorb
Jaze Sollars
Jodi Berscheid
Joe Hauge
JoLynn Bostrom
Jordan Mounga
Katherine Schmidt
Kirsten Ducheneaux
Leonard Suel
Mary Bowne
Melanie Lundquist
Michelle Martin
Sarah Carter

Members Absent:

Carrie Churchill
Cindy Fisher
Dawn Smith
Katie Wiseman
Laura Nordby
Rochelle Holloway
Sen. Jim Bolin
Valerie Kelley

Birth to 3 Staff:

Sarah Carter, Director
Crystal Goeden, Program Specialist (Technical Assistance)
Steve Livermont, Program Specialist (Data)
Jennifer Kampmann, PhD Program Specialist (Professional Development)
Janet Penticoff, Billing Specialist
Melissa Manning, Senior Secretary

Due to ICC Chair absence Sarah Carter called the meeting to order at 9:30 via ZOOM platform and called roll. Carter asked if any member of public on the line to please identify themselves. No response.

Motion to approve agenda by Carla Miller; 2nd JoLynn Bostrom. All approved. Motion carried.
Motion to approve April 2021 minutes by Carla Miller; 2nd Joe Hauge. All approved. Motion carried.

Public Comment

No public comment brought forth.

Birth to Three Program Updates

Crystal Goeden, Program Specialist, explained recent changes to the service coordinator map. This year marked the timing for regional agencies to submit applications to provide service coordination. Heartland Hands did not reapply due to retirement of long-time service coordinator Rich Jankord. Counties served by Heartland Hands are now being served by other regions. The state has moved from seven service coordination regions to six beginning July 1, 2021.

Goeden shared enhancements made to the Birth to Three program data system. These enhancements will allow the state to evaluate and analyze data in a more efficient and effective manner.

The state began a pilot program July 12, with TeachWell (East Dakota Education Cooperative) to provide Birth to Three SLP teletherapy services to Birth to Three children and their families across the state. This one-year pilot was implemented to ease the burden expressed by regional service coordinators in finding SLP's to meet the needs. TeachWell was selected to assist the state given the extensive years of experience they have in providing teletherapy services to districts throughout the state. This one-year pilot program has capacity to serve approximately 13-16 children on IFSP's. The state has heard from service coordinators there is an increase in number of families expressing discomfort with providers coming into their homes due to health concerns of this past year. This pilot can provide immediate response if that situation should arise.

Carter shared some recent reorganization happening within the Department of Education in relation to Birth to Three. With retirement of division director Ann Larsen, a new division has been created Division of Special Education and Early Learning (DSEL). Offices in this new division include Office of Special Education (Part B) and the Office of Early Learning Services which includes Birth to Three (Part C), the Head Start Collaboration Office and now Part B 619 preschool age special education. The Office of Early Learning Services will encompass services for children and their families from ages birth through 5 or upon entering kindergarten.

Professional Development Updates

Jennifer Kampmann, PhD professional development specialist, described recent stakeholder meetings and the future developments with the professional development program. After careful consideration and with stakeholder input, the state is developing a new training schedule for Bright Beginnings participants. The state training will be moved from the current 8 months to 4 months that will align with traditional semester calendars (i.e., Fall/Spring) leaving summers open for the state to evaluate and make any necessary adjustments to the content. The 4-month calendar will be more in-depth, cohesive course comprised of guest instructors and speakers. College credit will be available if desired. With the changes to the training calendar a new coaching schedule has also been added. The state will set up a coaching calendar to allow flexibility for coaches while in turn opening up more opportunity for other Tier 1 providers to become coaches. Moving to this model will open up the opportunity for more providers to be trained in each cohort thus shortening the schedule of statewide implementation of the evidence-based model.

Another feature with the training will be videos depicting families and providers experience with the evidence-based model and how it has impacted their families and practices. Additional videos are being created that will demonstrate for new families what to expect when their child receives early intervention services from Birth to Three and the family's role in assisting their child reach their developmental goals.

South Dakota Birth to Three has been invited to participate in the RBI Academy with John Hopkins University. The state will provide a team of service coordinators and state lead including Jennifer

Kampmann and Crystal Goeden will be joining teams from other state Part C programs and potentially international early intervention teams in how to analyze our data in a manner that will influence our practices. Through deeper understanding of the RBI (Routines Based Interview) the state and the regional service coordination areas will become stronger and more effective when identifying appropriateness of services to meet family priorities.

2021 Determination Letters

The federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) released June 24, 2021 each state's 2021 Determination Letter. Determination letters are sent to state Part C and Part B programs and acknowledge how states have performed on implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The 2021 determination is based on the data reflected in the 2021 Results-Driven Accountability Matrix which is composed of both Results performance and Compliance performance. South Dakota Part C received the highest possible rating of Meets Requirements, scoring greater than the 80% needed. South Dakota overall was one of only 12 states who received this highest rating in both their Part C and Part B programs. More information on this can be found at <https://sites.ed.gov/idea/spp-apr-letters?selected-category=sppapr-part-c&selected-year=&state=South-Dakota>.

American Recovery Plan (ARP)

South Dakota Part C (Birth to Three) received funds awarded through President Biden's American Recovery Plan. These one-time funds became available 7/1/2021 and can be used for all allowable purposes under Part C of IDEA. States were instructed to include stakeholders and short-term and long-term investments and the sustained benefits and outcomes. Carter explained to ICC members how the state team had reviewed previous engagement with stakeholders and meetings that were held earlier this summer. From that information the state identified five main areas of focus to put these funds towards. Those areas include: Comprehensive System of Professional Development that aligns with the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP); Service Innovation and Evaluation; Public Awareness & Child Find activities; and Personnel Preparation. Carter asked members their opinions on these areas and also if they had additional areas of focus or suggestions on the ones presented. Members showed 100% support for the direction the state laid out. Carter explained over the coming months the state will be reaching out to ICC members and other partners to help develop specific activities.

SPP/APR FFY2020-FFY2025 Target Setting

Carter reminded members of a new State Performance Plan / Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) package would be coming for the next reporting year. States must, with stakeholder input, establish targets for federal reporting indicators C2, C3, C4, C5 and C6. These targets must be set and ready to report by the state's submission 2/1/2022.

ICC members were previously asked to assist the state with this through small work-group activities. Over the months of August, September and October small work groups will convene with Birth to Three state team members to analyze data and make recommendations for the targets. On November 9, 2021 the full ICC will be meeting in Pierre for an in-person meeting. During that meeting each small work group will present their recommendations to the full ICC. State staff will begin reaching out to small work group members over the coming weeks to begin the process.

Mary Bowne motioned to adjourn at 11:27 am, 2nd Michelle Martin. All approved. Motion carried meeting adjourned at 11:28am.