

**Meeting Minutes for the
SD Interagency Coordinating Council
September 11, 2019 – 9:30 to 4:00
Drifters Event Center
Fort Pierre, SD**

Members Present

Sarah Aker - Chairperson
Katherine Schmidt
Jordan Mouna
Katie Wiseman
Rochelle Holloway
Rebecca Poelstra
Kim Brink
Leonard Suel
Michelle Martin
Cindy Fischer
Dr Mary Bowne
Carroll Forsch
Amy Ondell – for Gretchen Brodkorp
Laura Johnson Frame
Kristi Swier
Jaze Sollars
Lucy Fossen
Sarah Carter

Members Absent

Sarah Brown
Carla Miller
JoLynn Bostrom
Senator Jim Bolin
Jodi Berscheid

Guests

Jennifer Bauer-Fuhr
Ann Larsen

Birth to 3 Staff

Kristin Jerome, Janet Penticoff, Crystal Goeden, Steve Livermont, Vicki Linn (Virtual),

ICC Chair Sarah Aker called the meeting order at 9:47 with roll call.

Approval of the agenda – Kristi Swier motioned, Rebecca Poelstra 2nd, motion carried.

Approval of April 2019 minutes – Katherine Schmidt motioned, Kristi Swier 2nd, motion carried.

ICC members introduced themselves and their representativeness on the SICC.

Kristi Swier, program director, informed SICC members on the HSCO exists to facilitate collaboration among Head Start Agencies and entities that carry out activities that benefit low-income children from birth to school entry and their families per the Head Start Act Section 642(B)(a)(2)(A). Swier discussed

the South Dakota Early Learning Guidelines (ELG) conception and development in 2003; 2012 crosswalk of the ELG to SD Kindergarten standards; and 2017 effort to make more accessible by launching on the SDStepAhead website. Work is continuing in this effort as next step is to align the crosswalk project with SD DOE kindergarten standards.

Swier spoke to family engagement efforts happening in Head Start; one Early Head Start home visiting program located in Sioux Falls is partnering with the University of Nebraska Lincoln to pilot the implementation of UNL's Getty Ready evidence-based model. This is the same model used by the state Part C / Birth to Three program known as Bright Beginnings. Continuity among programs builds a more solid foundation for high quality state systems.

No public comment brought forward.

Sharon Walsh, OSEP funded Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) provided SICC members with updates at the federal level (see pdf). The Infants and Toddler Coordinators Association (ITCA) 209 Tipping Point Survey was shared. This survey, conducted annually with Part C coordinators from across the nation, contains information related to issues facing states early intervention programs.

Sarah Carter, director Part C program, reminded members of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), the multi-year plan each state develops to increase capacity of early intervention programs to implement, scale up and sustain evidence-based practices all to improve outcomes for children with disabilities and their families.

Walsh shared the OSEP direction for ECTA to develop a framework to guide states in their SSIP development. Referenced Diagram (packet sample). Carter explained the steps and processes taken by the state Birth to Three program, with input from stakeholders and SICC members, in development and implementation of the SSIP.

2019 South Dakota Part C State Determinations were presented by S Walsh and Steve Livermont, Birth to Three team member. States can receive one of four categories of determination from OSEP. These determinations are based on the state's performance in results and compliance areas. The four categories are Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention and Needs Substantial Intervention. South Dakota received a Meets Requirements. This is the second year South Dakota has received this determination.

During the working lunch, discussion pursued on the formulas OSEP uses to identify states determination category.

Vicki Linn, Birth to Three team member, presented overview and updates on the professional development trainings that have taken place for service coordinators and direct service providers in relation to the implementation of evidence-based practices. South Dakota selected the Routines Based Interview and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln routines-based family engagement model, known in South Dakota as Bright Beginnings.

Jordan Mouna, ICC parent representative member, shared her family's experience with the Birth to Three program and the impact of the evidence-based model the state is implementing on her child and her family. She has been able to use the tools for her whole family included extended family members. Recently, Jordan's child was found to be in need of prolonged assistance. Their family decided to not pursue this as it would mean switching to providers who are not be trained in this evidence-based practice. The family will be staying with their existing providers but privately at their own expense versus through the Birth to Three program.

Katie Wiseman, ICC parent representative member spoke to her family's experience with the evidence-based model and the importance of the model's focus of teaching the family to work with their child.

S Carter discussed data points the Birth to Three team is following including: funding sources; child count trends comparing state to national numbers; services data; increases in teletherapy including SLP services now billable to Medicaid; Child Exit data, there is a slight shift in the past two years of children leaving the Birth to Three program having met their goals and not eligible for Part B (school-age) services. This is a success for Birth to Three but also a cost-avoidance for school districts.

S Carter reminded ICC members of the Tiered provider service delivery and the number of those providers serving a large number of children who have taken the Bright Beginnings training and are implementing the evidence-based practice.

Updates to the service coordination map and service coordinators were provided. Collaboration with outside entities have allowed for additional funding opportunities to support the professional development and training of the evidence-based practice.

Break from 2:00-2:25.

ICC members provided feedback to the Birth to Three program on their efforts in professional development. Several members complimented the team on their efforts and dedication to moving forward.

ICC members participated in a group activity involving Family Survey. Recent inquiries from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) regarding Family Outcome Indicator C4 prompted the state to examine the existing tool used to gather data for this indicator. Members were asked to look at existing tool and tools used by other Part C programs. Members were asked to provide the state with feedback on the following questions:

- 1) should SD Part C consider changing the survey tool that is used for Indicator C4? and
- 2) Should SD Part C consider making any changes to how the survey is distributed and responses collected?

ICC member feedback was collected by state Birth to Three team and will be used when analyzing any changes or enhancements to current practices for indicator C4.

Next ICC meeting will be November 20th 3-5 CST, held virtually.

Motion to adjourn Leonard Suel; 2nd Cindy Fischer; Motion Carried.

Chair Sarah Aker adjourned at 3:56 pm

Submitted: Kristine Jerome, Secretary Birth to Three