Maryland SICC

STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

SICC General Meeting—Virtual
MONDAY, March 6, 2023
1:00-3:30pm
Minutes

In attendance: Andrew Pollock, Bella Goldberg, Beth Boyle, Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Brian Morrison, Cecilia Leger, Cheryl Hamlin, Christy Tirrell-Corbin, Cynthia Bouchard, Debbie Crosby, Don Corbin, Elizabeth Hall, Eric Ebersole, Erin Simmons, FloJean Speck, Jared Solomon, Jen Riccardi, Jeni Murphy, Karen Frank, Karen Larenas, Katie Klein, Kerry Fair, Koryne Nnoli, Kristen Paul, Kristin Murphy, Laurencia Hutton-Rogers, Lisa Shanty, Marcia Morris, Marie Marino, Mary Jo Harris, Mary Manning-Falzarano, Megan Fleury, Michelle Steelman, Mindy Torres, Pamela Bush-Jones, Paula Boykin, Rachel London, Rebecca Oliver, Sarah Sherry, Tatiana Owens, Terri Ridenour, Theresa Ryan Rivera, Tina Morris, V. James Young

I.   Welcome, Remarks & Introductions: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:00-1:05)

II. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:05-1:10)
   - Unanimous approval of minutes from January meeting

III. Announcements & Public Comment (1:10-1:15)
   - None

IV. SICC Report
   A. Updates: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:15-1:20)
       1. Upcoming meetings (see bottom of agenda)
           - Theme for June 1 joint meeting: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
   B. Member Spotlight: Mary Manning-Falzarano (1:20-1:25)
   C. Legislative Updates: Eric Ebersole (1:25-1:35)
       1. Delegate Jared Solomon: HB 495/SB 350: Child Care Scholarship program
           - Synopsis: Altering the calculation for the funding of the Child Care Scholarship Program beginning in fiscal year 2025; limiting the circumstances under which the Program may be frozen; requiring certain reimbursement rates and income eligibility requirements for the Program; and prohibiting the copayment levels for the Program from exceeding certain copayment levels
           - FY2025 and later, governor has to include an appropriation sufficient to provide subsidies to all eligible individuals; each year, reimbursement rates must be equal or greater than reimbursement rates in the previous year; copayments cannot exceed that of the previous year
           - 3 components of updated MD Child Care Scholarship program: 1) Income percentile of eligible families moved by 10%; 2) Increased reimbursement for providers from 60th to 70th percentile; 3) Eliminated copays for families
           - jared.solomon@house.state.md.us and 610-772-0630 (c)
   D. SICC Task Force Updates (**You do not need to be an SICC member to participate in a task force.)
       1. PIE: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (1:35-1:40)
           - VLBW (very low birth weight,1200-1500g) study updates
               - Completed phase 1 study about local directors' use of online tracking system and needs

- • Provided guidance to Phase 2 of VLBW study
- • Request for data submitted to MSDE (Maryland State Department of Education) after UMSOM IRB (University of Maryland School of Medicine, Institutional Review Board) determined exempt from human subjects; Brian Morrison has approved request and moved it forward
- • Providing guidance on community portal
2. Technology: Mary Manning-Falzarano & FloJean Speck (1:40-2:10)
    - • Developed survey of ITP (Infants and Toddlers Program) providers regarding use of technology: how it has changed as a result of COVID and assess current technology needs; 229 of about 900 providers responded; 9/26-11/7
    - • Majority indicated text message was most frequently used form of communication
    - • Need to instruct families on how to use technology
    - • 3 themes identified:
        - • 1) Advocacy- limited access to technology for under-resourced families; what advocacy needs are there in MD to address racial and income disparities regarding access to technology?
        - • 2) Family access to technology- survey results indicated that many families lack access to wifi/computers; how can we work across agencies to increase access?
        - • 3) Local ITP and/or provider access to technology- the need to increase the amount of data on personal cell plans/monetary grants that can assist with these costs; in-kind donations?
    - • Report out from breakout rooms; will look at these recommendations/feedback to make recommendations for MSDE
    - • Survey for ITP directors: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N7TVBW9
3. Nominations & Bylaws: Kristen Paul (2:10-2:15)
    - • 4 parent member nominations:
        - • Sarah Sherry: Unanimously approved
        - • Theresa Ryan-Rivera: Unanimously approved
        - • Jeni Murphy: Unanimously approved
        - • Rebecca Oliver: Unanimously approved
4. IECMH (Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health): Donald Corbin (2:15-2:20)
    - • Christy Tirrell-Corbin (University of Maryland, College Park) will be launching second evaluation of IECMH program looking at impact of IECMHC programs
    - • HB (House Bill) 513 gave more money for this program
    - • https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/child-care-providers/iecmh-support-services

V. Division of Early Childhood Update: Donald Corbin (2:20-2:25)
- • Last Thursday of every month information sessions: Center for Childcare (parents, providers welcome)- https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/office-child-care
- • MD Rebuilds: applications are closed; more information TBD
- • MD Excels website has been updated- https://marylandexcels.org/?gclid=CjwKCAiAu5agBhBzEiwAdiR5tIxa1Ly-smzwG_wAjeIbk5SEOsNPWIESBMDqu8DB7s43P07-kXXH7BoCFZ8QAvD_BwE
- • New payment process for childcare scholarship programs; providers are receiving payments on 1st and 15th of every month

VI. Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services (DEI/SES) Early Childhood Update: Erin Simmons (2:25-2:35)
- • No updates on new asst state superintendent

- Regional EC (Early Childhood) professional learning will be in late April; save-the-date will be coming out soon
- MD Elevates grant B-5 Bedtime and Beyond: pilot project for children that are blind or deaf
  - Project involves 5 IT programs (Prince Georges, Frederick, Baltimore Co, Wicomico, Anne Arundel) and they are being provided learning kits that consist of materials that are focused on engaging families in learning and age-appropriate development (braille, American Sign Language)
- Brian: received Part C application from US Department of Education; will post for 60 days and have 30 days for public comment; SICC will send out to members and provide public comment (not required but encouraged for stakeholder feedback) via survey monkey
- Part B application will be posted as well
- New branch chief in resource management (email Brian if you need to get in touch with fiscal)
- Will be interviewing for PSTA branch chief in the next week

VII. School Readiness Enrichment Series: JHU (Johns Hopkins University)/IDEALS (2:35-3:20)
- School readiness online module series for ITP providers with a focus on extended IFSP (Individualized Family Services Plan); will be embedded in MDITP Personnel Standards
- Projected release around August 2023
  - Topic areas: Numeracy, Literacy and language, Social-emotional development, Family engagement, Transdisciplinary teaming, Cultural Responsiveness
- Breakout groups to discuss feedback on early numeracy module, suggestions for rollout, developing resources for families, communicating with jurisdictional leaders/providers, etc.
- Please contact Beth Boyle (beth.boyle@jhu.edu) or James Young (vjamesyoung@jhu.edu) if you would like to look at the modules more in-depth and offer additional feedback

VIII. Community Portal Updates: Cecilia Leger (3:20-3:30)
- Cecilia gave a tour of the community portal; will function like a patient portal, where parent will be able to invite providers to contribute data
- Family focus groups upcoming
- Has been challenging to have this come to fruition
- Still seeking stakeholder feedback; contact Cecilia at cleger@jhu.edu if interested

IX. Wrap-Up & Adjournment (3:30)

SICC *UPCOMING MEETINGS*

Executive Meetings (1-2pm,
virtual) March 30, 2023
May 4, 2023

Joint Meeting (11:00am-3:00pm, in
person) June 1, 2023 (Location TBD)