

Maryland SICC

STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

Maryland State Department of Education
Division of Early Intervention & Special Education Services
200 W. Baltimore Street, 9th floor, Baltimore, MD 21201
(410) 767-0261
Brenda Hussey-Gardner, PhD, MPH, Chair
Kristen Paul, Vice-Chair

SICC General Meeting September 12, 2024 1:00pm-3:30pm Minutes

Location: This was a virtual meeting.

In attendance: Katie Ataviado, Jennifer Ayers, Eric Ebersole, Megan Fleury, Tody Hairston-Fuller, Mary Jo Harris, Marny Helfrich, Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Lisa Jarboe, Susan Johnson, Vanessa Jones, Patricia Julianelle, Katie Klein, Wendy Krieger-Sheppard, Cecilia Leger, Marie Marino, Tatiana Owens, Kristen Paul, Jamie Perry, Jen Riccardi, Hilary Sigismondi, Erin Simmons, Samantha Smith, Michelle Steelman, Jeni Stepanek, Denise Tillery, Christy Tirrell-Corbin, Gloria Valentine, Sarah Weinstein

- I. Welcome, Remarks & Introductions: Brenda Hussey-Gardner
- II. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes: Brenda Hussey-Gardner
 - Minutes from 06/06/24 joint meeting approved without revisions
- III. Announcements & Public Comment
 - DEC recently released a position statement on the role of special instruction in early intervention [Position Statement: The Role of Special Instruction in Early Intervention \(Revised 2024\)](#)
- IV. SICC Report
 - A. Updates: Brenda Hussey-Gardner
 - Thank you to all for your support of the SICC and a phenomenal Joint SICC/LICC Meeting in June
 - Upcoming SICC meeting dates are found at the bottom of every agenda and on the SICC website ([State Interagency Coordinating Council](#))
 - B. Discussion of Joint Groupwork Feedback & Next Steps: Brenda Hussey-Gardner
 1. Brief Overview & Goal: Identify 9 Action Steps to Forward to DEI/SES for Consideration
 2. Breakout Groups by Evidence Based Practice (EBP)
 - Identify timekeeper & reporter
 - Review feedback & identify recommendations
 - Recommend 3 action steps and categorize each as State policy recommendation, professional learning opportunity, resource development need, local infrastructure consideration, or other
 3. Report Out & Prioritize
 - Each EBP will share their 3 action steps
 - Poll to determine priority order of action steps

Results of Report Out:

RBI	Category
Gathering data across jurisdictions to find out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the RBI is being utilized • Including pros and cons of their implementation process. • What is the frequency of using the RBI for each family 	Inform local infrastructure consideration (state ask, but can help to inform local infrastructure)
Gathering data across jurisdictions to find out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a different process for auto-eligible? • Transfers from a different jurisdiction 	Inform local infrastructure consideration (state ask, but can help to inform local infrastructure)
Request that Robin McWilliams develop a professional learning opportunity about cultural responsiveness when implementing the RBI (with emphasis on developing the ecomap), and how to check our own bias. (He had talked at the Coaches Chat with Mary Hendricks in the spring)	Professional learning opportunity

PYRAMID	Category
Establish separate Pyramid Model Team (monthly meetings) or integrate into Local Implementation Team and utilize BOQ to support fidelity of implementation of Pyramid practices (developing training/lunch and learns to support staff capacity and growth, identify adequate community-based partnerships for “hand off” outside of local program, etc....)	Local Infrastructure consideration/Professional Learning
Discuss use of screening of Social/Emotional needs of children and from there trauma screening for the family	Local Infrastructure consideration
Recruitment of staff into the workforce that is reflective of our community; Funding focused on positions for mental health providers, as well as for more targeted/specific training and/or certifications(i.e. Child Parent Psychotherapy)	Local Infrastructure consideration/Professional Learning

COACHING	Category
MSDE-led training related to reflective coaching practices for all jurisdictions - ideas: ongoing training to review new ideas/EBPs, recorded live webinar so new staff can access in a timely manner, renewal credits provided upon completion, consider including primary service provider model in training, TAB released after the training	Professional learning opportunity

Video for parents/caregivers that highlights the benefits of caregiver coaching - ideas: parent testimonials, lived experiences included	Resource development
Ongoing training related to cultural diversity and sensitivity	Professional learning opportunity
Technical Assistance Bulletin/guidance regarding benefits of implementing coaching and top 5 items that are essential for success (looped into first recommendation)	Resource development

You are viewing the poll results (shared by host)

EBP Recommended Steps

1. Select only three options for each priority type (Rank order)

A. RBI - Get data to learn when RBI is being used and pros/cons/frequency 100%



B. RBI - Get data to find out process for auto eligible, transfers 100%



C. RBI - Request McWilliams PD on cultural responsiveness, especially on EcoMap 100%



D. Pyramid - Establish separate Pyramid Model Team (monthly meetings) or integrate into Local Impleme... 100%



E. Pyramid - Discuss use of screening of Social/Emotional needs of children and from there trauma scree... 100%



F. Pyramid - Workforce reflective of the community; funding for mental health providers and/or certificati... 100%



G. Coaching - MSDE-led, recorded training for new staff with follow-up TAB 100%



H. Coaching - Video for parents/caregivers that highlights the benefits of caregiver coaching 100%



I. Coaching - Ongoing training related to cultural diversity and sensitivity 100%



○ Highest priority ○ Medium priority ○ Lowest priority

Your answer: Lowest priority, Lowest priority, Highest priority, Medium priority, Highest priority, Medium priority, Lowest priority, Medium priority, Highest priority

RBI: Get data to learn when RBI is being used and pros/cons/frequency

- Highest priority: 4 (13%)
- Medium priority: 18 (67%)
- Lowest priority: 5 (19%)

RBI: Get data to find out process for auto-eligible transfers

- Highest priority: 3 (11%)
- Medium priority: 6 (22%)
- Lowest priority: 18 (67%)

RBI: Request McWilliams PD on cultural responsiveness, especially on EcoMap

- Highest priority: 18 (67%)
- Medium priority: 3 (11%)
- Lowest priority: 6 (22%)

Pyramid: Establish separate PM Team (monthly meetings) or integrate into Local Implementation Team and utilize BOQ to support fidelity

- Highest priority: 4 (15%)
- Medium priority: 10 (37%)
- Lowest priority: 13 (48%)
- Lowest priority: 6 (22%)

Pyramid: Discuss use of screening of S/E needs of children and from there trauma screening for family

- Highest priority: 12 (44%)
- Medium priority: 11 (41%)
- Lowest priority: 4 (15%)

Pyramid: Workforce reflective of the community; funding for mental health providers and/or certifications

- Highest priority: 10 (37%)
- Medium priority: 9 (33%)
- Lowest priority: 8 (30%)

Coaching: MSDE-led, recorded training for new staff with follow-up TAB

- Highest priority: 18 (67%)
- Medium priority: 4 (15%)
- Lowest priority: 5 (19%)

Coaching: Video for parents/caregivers that highlights the benefits of caregiver coaching - ideas: parent testimonials, lived experiences included

- Highest priority: Approx. 44%
- Medium priority: Approx. 33%
- Lowest priority: Approx. 23%

Coaching: Ongoing training related to cultural diversity and sensitivity

- Highest priority: 7 (26%)
- Medium priority: 14 (52%)
- Lowest priority: 6 (22%)

	Highest	Medium	Lowest
Coaching: MSDE-led, recorded training for new staff with follow-up TAB	18 (67%)	4 (15%)	5 (19%)
RBI: Request McWilliams PD on cultural responsiveness, especially on EcoMap	18 (67%)	3 (11%)	6 (22%)
Pyramid: Discuss use of screening of social-emotional needs of children, from there trauma screen family	12 (44%)	11 (41%)	4 (15%)
Coaching: Video for parents/caregivers that highlights the benefits of caregiver coaching - ideas: parent testimonials, lived experiences included	~44%	~33%	~23%
Pyramid: Workforce reflective of the community; funding for mental health providers and/or certifications	10 (37%)	9 (33%)	8 (30%)
Coaching: Ongoing training related to cultural diversity and sensitivity	7 (26%)	14 (52%)	6 (22%)
Pyramid: Establish separate PM team (monthly meetings) or integrate into Local Implementation Team and utilize BOQ to support fidelity	4 (15%)	10 (37%)	13 (48%)
RBI: Get data to learn when RBI is being used and pros/cons/frequency	4 (13%)	18 (67%)	5 (19%)
RBI: Get data to find out process for auto-eligible transfers	3 (11%)	6 (22%)	18 (67%)

- C. Legislative Updates: Eric Ebersole
- Delegate Dana Jones (Chair, Women’s Caucus): Focus on child care
- D. Task Force Updates
1. Technology Update: FloJean Speck
 - Meets on off months 1st Th: 1pm
 - Survey of other states: record-keeping/systems
 - If you want to be on the committee reach out to FloJean
 2. Recruitment & Onboarding Updates: Kristen Paul
 - Looking for task force members. Please reach out to Kristen Paul (kristen@ppmd.org) if interested
 3. PIE: Megan Fleury
 - Megan now co-chairing Task Force
 - Supporting LBW eligibility change
 - Brochure series in collaboration w/MSDE: NICU, Genetic conditions, deaf/Hard of Hearing, general (MITP), NAS (drug-exposed pregnancy) for families and caregivers

-
- Task force meets 2nd F of Month 12-1pm: Email Brenda Hussey-Gardner (bhussey@som.umaryland.edu) or Megan Fleury (Megan.Fleury@pgcps.org) if interested in joining
- E. SICC Spotlight: Marny Helfrich
- Has been with MSDE since 2015; recently became Section Chief of Early Childhood Special Education Services
 - Her daughter is deaf; they use sign language
- F. Division of Early Childhood Update: Nicholas Miller & Vanessa Jones
- Nick Miller: DEC Project Manager (standing in for Vanessa Jones)
 - Grants: Strengthen community-based services related to families and child success
 - Realize promise of Blueprint success – Pillar 1 (Early Childhood)
 - Ready for Kindergarten (hubs w/2-generation approach)
 - Emphasis on collaboration, coordination
 - HS Collab Office, Home Visiting consortium, state/local ECAC, SICC
 - Patty Centers, Judy Centers, IECHM
 - Sign up for Tuesday Tidbits
- V. Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services (DEI/SES) Early Childhood Updates: Marny Helfrich & Molly Conner
- A. Part C/Section 619 Structure & Staff
- Mary Wesson – DeKalb County School District
 - Continuing Regional Support Model
 - Primary point of contact in each region
 - We are fortunate birth to 21 housed in Department of Education (not the same model as a lot of states, which have Part C housed in HHS or another agency)
- B. Birthweight Eligibility Criteria Policy Change
- Moving forward with SICC recommendation
 - Approval from Dr. Hickman to make change to guidance, TA
 - Nov 1st (target)– will be incorporated into the online IFSP system
 - IFSP system: Adding field to capture eligibility for McKinney-Vento
 - Definition of homelessness is broad [McKinney-Vento Definition – National Center for Homeless Education](#)
 - State needs to report data to the Feds
 - School-aged there are protections for families/children
 - Seamless transitions if families have to move (change in housing status)
- C. Pinwheel
- Pinwheel system is LIVE!
 - “Soft launch”
 - Some families and providers in some jurisdictions are already in Pinwheel
 - Intro video regarding Pinwheel: [Intro video 1 | Biteable](#)
 - Please view the video and let Cecilia know your thoughts/recommendations for improvement: cleger@jhu.edu

-
- Cecilia: Creating supporting materials to get the word out about Pinwheel
 - D. McKinney-Vento & the IFSP (covered above)
 - E. MDAAP Exhibit
 - Part C will have table at the meeting
 - Encouraging families/physicians to make referrals – DO NOT WAIT!
 - E. DEI Statement Update
 - Creating a statement not a priority
 - Infusing DEI into everything we do
 - VI. Innovative Program Spotlight...Dollars to Development: An Early Intervention Collaboration for Financial Wellness (Tody Hairston-Fuller, Baltimore City Infants & Toddlers Program; Hilary Sigismondi, CASH Campaign of Maryland; Katie Ataviado, Undergraduate Assistant; Brenda Hussey-Gardner, University of Maryland School of Medicine
 - Gave presentation at Zero to Three conference
 - How did collaboration start?
 - Maryland's PRIDE (decades-long)
 - Publication: MD's PRIDE: Evaluation of an EI Program Embedded within a NICU and NICU Follow-Up Program
 - "Attempts to contact unsuccessful" data – not receiving EI, not receiving NICU f/u care
 - Instability: Housing, finances, etc.
 - Sarah Johnson: CASH Campaign of Maryland – want to add financial awareness to NICU families?
 - While in the NICU NOT the best time
 - What about during EI?
 - Creating Assets, Savings, and Hope in Maryland (CASH)
 - FWC (Family Wellness Coordinator) - Hilary
 - 195 referrals to date
 - Over 100 families this year alone
 - CASH Chat Feedback to June 30 (n=31)
 - 4.9 stars
 - Savings, resources, holiday ideas very helpful
 - Free activities, savings ideas, resources
 - Want more about savings and resources
 - A little over 40% said yes to 1:1 consultation
 - MJH: How do you get referrals, and how do you track success rate, outcomes
 - Service coordinators or Hilary/Davon provide CASH Chats virtually and the family can jump on and request support
 - Frequent surveys
 - Hilary has specific questions she asks – where do they start, where do they go as they continue working with her
 - Michelle Steelman: Applauded the bravery of the mothers who shared their stories (2 videos were shared)

VI. Adjournment

- Peace Day – September 22nd, 11am-2pm, Mattie Stepanek Park
- Executive Meeting rescheduled for October 8 – if interested in attending (must be SICC Member) reach out to Kristen Paul

SICC UPCOMING MEETINGS

*All Executive and General meetings are virtual. The Joint SICC/LICC meeting is in person with the location TBD. For questions about accessibility or to request accommodations, please contact Brenda Hussey-Gardner (bhussey@som.umaryland.edu) at least two weeks before the meeting of interest to allow us to provide seamless access.

October 3, 2024: Executive meeting, 1-2pm

November 7, 2024: General meeting, 1-3:30pm

December 5, 2024: Executive meeting, 1-2pm

January 9, 2025: General meeting (APP/APR presentation), 1-3:30pm

February 6, 2025: Executive meeting, 1-2pm

March 3, 2025 (Monday to accommodate legislative session): General meeting, 1-3:30pm

April 3, 2025: Executive meeting, 1-2pm

May 1, 2025: Executive meeting, 1-2pm

June 5, 2025: Joint SICC/LICC Meeting, 10am-2pm