

SICC MEETING MINUTES

Truman Building, Room 400

April 8, 2016

Members Present:

Pam Thomas	Donna Cash	Kayla White
Jennifer Bax (rep. for DSS)	Christy Collins	Lesley Bickel
Melinda Sanders	Stacey Owsley Wright	Sherri Bramhall
Molly White	Dr. Tracy Stroud	

Members Not Present:

Julie LePage	Dr. Carlotta Kimble
--------------	---------------------

DESE Staff Present:

Pam Schroeder	Marcy Morrison	Sara Massman
Rachel Terbrock	Michele Utt	Judy Goans
Tina Lawson		

To review copies of handouts referenced in the minutes below, go to the following website <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/state-interagency-coordinating-council-sicc/meeting-dates> and click on “Handouts” for the April 8, 2016, meeting.

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions – Wendy Witcig was unable to attend the meeting. Pam Thomas, First Steps Coordinator, chaired the meeting in her absence and called the meeting to order at 10:10. Introductions were made by those attending at the Truman building and via conference call.

Approval of the SICC Minutes from January 2016 – Pam asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 2016 SICC meeting. Stacey Owsley Wright made a motion and Christy Collins seconded the motion. All were in favor with no one opposed. Motion carried.

Mission Moment - Tina Lawson, First Steps Area Director, introduced Christy Carel. Christy’s family received First Steps services through the SPOE 6 office for their daughter. Christy shared how their First Steps providers went above and beyond to provide support for her daughter and family.

Update from SICC members:

- Christy Collins, Department of Social Services Children’s Division, shared that April is Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention month. Everyone was encouraged to wear blue today, April 8, to raise awareness. Missouri KidsFirst will be creating awareness by sponsoring Pinwheels for Prevention at the Missouri State Capitol on April 14. The Children’s Division has almost completed their online training for mandated reporters. Christy said having the standardized training online will make it easier for everyone to access.
- Dr. Tracy Stroud, Thompson Center, said that the wait time for evaluations at the Thompson Center should get shorter with their increased capacity for evaluations. World Autism

Awareness Day was held in Columbia on Saturday, April 2, at Faurot Field with many families participating.

Special Reports

- **Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood (CBEC)** - Stacey Owsley Wright presented a follow up to the January SICC meeting on the Missouri Roundtable on Homelessness that was held in Jefferson City on February 11. She will share a link with council members to online videos from the meeting. Many state and local organizations attended the meeting. The group is looking for disconnects in various state and federal programs, funding and laws as well as cross-sector opportunities to promote alignment of policies.

Stacy also shared a definition of inclusion that the CBEC developed with the Division of Early Childhood (DEC). CBEC has embedded this inclusion statement in their state plan for a couple of years. There has been renewed emphasis and discussion on what the CBEC can do to support inclusion. The next task will be for the CBEC workgroups to see where the current CBEC state plan connects to inclusion and what else can be done to include inclusion in their state plan. The July CBEC board meeting will include a designated agenda item on inclusion. Stacey asked for feedback on the definition from the council and others present at the meeting.

- **Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health – Emily Koenig** – Emily Koenig, Missouri Department of Mental Health, presented on Early Childhood Mental Health. The PowerPoint can be found at the following link: <http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/se-fs-infant-and-early-childhood-mental-health.pdf>. More resources for parents and providers can be found on the Early Childhood Mental Health website at the following link: <http://dmh.mo.gov/healthykids/>.

Task Force/Committee Reports

- **SICC Membership update** – Pam Thomas indicated there is no new information on the pending appointments to the SICC. Pam shared with the council that Wendy Witcig was unable to attend today's meeting due to a family emergency. Wendy had planned to attend the meeting and inform the council in person that she would be resigning her position on the council as the SICC co-chair. She recently accepted a new position with the Missouri Department of Mental Health. Pam thanked Wendy for her dedication to the council and highlighted several accomplishments that Wendy was instrumental in during her time as the co-chair.
- **Parent Committee – Transition Guide update** – Tina Lawson shared that the parent subcommittee has been charged with the task of updating the Transition Guide with the support of DESE. The committee has participated in a couple of conference calls recently to discuss the purpose and content of the guide. They would like to create a guide that is more user friendly with less regulatory language, more content from a parent's perspective and testimonies from parents who have been through the transition process. The subcommittee will discuss their next steps based on the feedback from today's discussion. The goal is to have a draft to share with the SPOEs sometime this summer and with the SICC in the fall.

Communications from Guests - none

DESE Report – Working Lunch

- **Financial Report FY 16** – Pam Thomas reviewed the FY16 First Steps Monthly Expenditure/Revenue Tracking report with the council. As a reminder, payments made in one

month (e.g., January) are for services in the previous month (e.g., December). The SPOE training budget for the fiscal year was \$10,000 and that amount has been surpassed due to additional training for new guidance on the System of Payments. DESE anticipated about \$41 million in the budget for expenses and at this time that budgeted amount looks to be on track. On the revenue side there is nothing remarkable to report at this time. For child count, Pam noted the April 1 child count this year was 6,119, compared to last year this is approximately 600 more children with an IFSP. There has been a gradual and steady increase in the number of children entering the First Steps program. A question was asked if Medicaid reimburses for ABA services delivered in First Steps. Pam said ABA services are not included in the DESE-DSS agreement for payment of First Steps at this time.

- **Brief Update on State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)** – Pam Thomas presented an update on the SSIP that included the evaluation plan and data sources for measuring child outcomes.

Old Business – none

New Business – The group discussed the challenges of finding parking near the Truman building for the SICC meeting, as well as concerns with members who call into the meeting having difficulty hearing people from the audience speaking. DESE will look into some other options in Jefferson City for the SICC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25.