

SICC MEETING MINUTES

Truman Building, Room 750

April 10, 2015

Members Present:

Pam Thomas	Donna Cash	Wendy Witcig
Steve Cramer (rep. for DHSS)	Christy Collins	Sherri Bramhall
Julie LePage	Dr. Carlotta Kimble	
Rob Reichert (rep. for DOI)	Dr. Tracy Stroud	

Members Not Present:

Melinda Sanders	Stacey Owsley Wright	Kayla Kapica
Molly White	Kathy Fuger	Lesley Bickel

DESE Staff Present

Marcy Morrison	Sarah Camp	Sara Massman
Pam Schroeder	Michele Utt	Judy Goans
Heather Crosby	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 10, 2015 meeting.

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions – Wendy Witcig called the meeting to order at 10:05. Introductions were made by those attending at the Truman building and via conference call.

Approval of the SICC Minutes from January 2015 – Wendy asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 2015 meeting. Carlotta Kimble made a motion to approve the minutes and Julie LePage seconded the motion. Wendy asked if there was any discussion or corrections. All were in favor with no one opposed to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Mission Moment – Sherri Bramhall - Sherri Bramhall shared her experiences with First Steps as a parent and also as a provider. She noted that it is imperative that First Steps continue to educate hospitals, doctors and parents on the benefits of early intervention services for children with developmental delays.

Christy Collins – Trauma 101 presentation – The PowerPoint handout is available at <http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/se-fs-sicc-trauma-101-SICC.pdf>.

Update from SICC members:

- **Donna Cash** – The St. Joseph school district will be holding a one day workshop on April 28 that will focus on understanding trauma.
- **Christy Collins** – The Department of Social Services has some new initiatives, but they will have to wait until the budget process goes through before moving forward with them.

- **Julie LePage**— There is a soft implementation date, around October 1, 2015, for children that are enrolled in MO HealthNet to be paid by Medicaid for Behavior Analysis services. Therapists providing the services must be licensed. Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT), a section of the Social Security Act, requires medically necessary treatment for children. Missouri’s program is called Missouri’s Healthy Children and Youth (HCY) Program. For more information on the program go to: <http://dss.mo.gov/mhk/healthy-children-and-youth-program.htm>.

Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood (CBEC) – Stacey Owsley Wright – Stacey sent in a written update on the CBEC in her absence. The CBEC continues to have vacancies on their board. The following definition of home visiting was approved by the CBEC and will be revised in the existing strategic plan: *A prenatal, infant and early childhood health and development approach in which the design assumes home visits with parents as the primary method for delivering a service or intervention, and through which an ongoing relationship is developed with enrolled families over time.* The next CBEC meeting is on July 7, 2015.

Communication from Guests – none

DESE Report – *Working Lunch*

- **Financial Report FY15** – Pam Thomas reviewed the FY15 First Steps Monthly Expenditure/Revenue Tracking handout. The expenditures are very similar to the previous two years. Provider training costs were from reimbursing providers for attending training on the Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) pilot project conducted by the First Steps Area Directors. On the revenue side the general revenue is higher because of the increase received from the legislature for this fiscal year. The Office of Special Education (the Office) did not have any additional funding requests because it is expected there will be sufficient funds to sustain the program in the upcoming fiscal years. Revenue from administrative claiming for Medicaid Services is starting to be more consistent. Medicaid Direct Services and Medicaid Administrative Claiming Service are coming in as expected.
- **Private Insurance Information** – Per request by the council at a previous SICC meeting for more information on private insurance, Pam Thomas distributed a handout on Private Insurance Information for the First Steps Program. State law allows three options for insurance companies: bulk payment, percentage payment or direct claims. The Central Finance Office (CFO) tracks the number of carriers using direct claims as part of a state law requirement. The majority of insurance carriers choose the direct claims option. In 2012 the Office was required to change the policy for the use of insurance and Family Cost Participation (FCP) by families because of a change in the federal regulations that went into effect 7/1/12. Families may now choose to decline the use of their private insurance without the Office imposing a higher monthly fee. Currently the cost to administer the insurance program is around \$380,000 a year. At this time the Office does not have additional fiscal information planned for the September SICC meeting. If any council members would like additional information on a particular topic for an upcoming SICC meeting, please contact Pam Thomas at pam.thomas@dese.mo.gov.
- **First Steps Exit Survey – Preliminary Results** – In recent years the council has discussed the parent survey and how to be more targeted with questions to families. The Office will send a revised version of the First Steps Annual Survey to families participating in First Steps at the

beginning of May. It was also determined the need to target families that exited the program with a different survey. The Office worked with council members and parents to develop a short targeted exit survey. The survey also included a section for parents to include their contact information and if they were interested in sharing their First Steps experience or participating in an advisory council. At this time there are no preliminary results, but the Office will have the full report at the September meeting. Families were given the option to fill out the survey online or a hard copy that they could mail back to the Office. There were 1,459 exit surveys mailed in February to all families that had children who turned three in 2014. Families who were unable to locate or moved out of state were excluded from the mailing.

- **State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) submitted to OSEP** – Pam Thomas distributed the Missouri Part C Annual Performance Report (APR) – Indicator 11 document. Indicator 11, the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), is a new indicator in the Missouri Part C APR this year. The documentation for this new indicator was recently submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) by the April 1 deadline. The Office has passed the initial requirements review by OSEP and now OSEP will do a more intensive content review. The Office expects to receive results of OSEP’s review at the end of June. The information submitted to OSEP will be posted on the First Steps website after the Office receives the final results. The ECO pilot project is a critical part of the SSIP. The first group started in October of 2012 and there are now three pilot groups in Southeast, East Central and Kansas City regions. The Office is working to catch up all three groups currently in the pilot and then the plan is to move toward statewide implementation. For the next two years the Office is allowed to make changes to their SSIP, during Phase II and III. The Office will provide follow up to Indicator 11 at the September SICC meeting.

Task Force/Committee Reports

- **SICC Membership update** – The Office has not received any new information from Boards and Commissions about the SICC vacancies. Wendy will make a call to Boards and Commissions and report back at the September meeting.
- **Parent Committee Update**– The Parent Committee was charged with creating a parent informational brochure about participating on the RICC/SICC. The draft will be distributed at the September SICC meeting.

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Wendy asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Julie made a motion to adjourn and Carlotta seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 1:00.

Upcoming SICC meeting dates:

- September 11, 2015 – Truman Building, Room 400
- November 6, 2015 – Truman Building, Room 400