

SICC MEETING MINUTES

Truman Building, Room 400

November 6, 2015

Members Present:

Pam Thomas

Melinda Sanders

Julie LePage

Molly White

Donna Cash

Christy Collins

Stacey Owsley Wright

Dr. Carlotta Kimble

Dr. Tracy Stroud

Sherri Bramhall

Matt McTeer (rep. for DSS)

Members Not Present:

Wendy Witcig

Kayla Kapica

Lesley Bickel

DESE Staff Present:

Pam Schroeder

Sara Massman

Sarah Camp

Heather Crosby

Tina Lawson

Marcy Morrison

Michele Utt

Judy Goans

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 November 6, 2015 meeting.

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions – Wendy Witcig, SICC chair, was unable to attend the meeting. Pam Thomas chaired the meeting in her absence and brought the meeting to order at 10:10. Introductions were made by those at the meeting in person and via conference call.

Approval of the SICC Minutes from September 2015 – Pam Thomas asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2015 SICC meeting. Stacey Owsley Wright made a motion to approve the minutes and Donna Cash seconded the motion. All were in favor with no one opposed. Motion carried.

Mission Moment – Stacey Sartin, service coordinator from SPOE Region 5, read a thank you letter from a family in Lees Summit, MO who received services through the SPOE 5 office.

Update from SICC members:

- Kathy Fuger, University of Missouri Kansas City (UMKC), stated that the Chamber of Commerce in Kansas City has taken on kindergarten readiness in their area. The chamber met with area school superintendents as well as other local agencies involved in early childhood education. Jovanna Rohs, UMKC, is working with kindergarten teachers to come up with a common screening tool. Another project in the Kansas City area is called Trauma Matters KC. This trauma-informed care project recently received several grants, including one from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Trauma Matters KC hopes to raise awareness about trauma sensitive practices.

- Donna Cash, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), informed the group that the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth conference would be held November 15-17 in Phoenix, AZ. Several of the sessions at the conference are earmarked for early childhood.
- Christy Collins, Department of Social Services (DSS), said their agency is working to improve their timeline for ensuring children placed in the custody of the Children's Division receive a full Healthy Children and Youth (HCY) screening within 30 days. These children are also required to receive physical, developmental and mental health screening every six months. Children's Division started working with Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital this summer to get the screenings done more quickly and Cardinal Glennon is also providing care coordination for those children. Children's Division hopes to expand the program statewide. This will help ensure that even if children move to a different part of the state they are still connected with their health services. The DSS budget submitted for next year includes expanding this program.
- Stacey Owsley Wright, Head Start, reported that Head Start is looking at convening a round table discussion on homelessness in February 2016. They plan to bring in a facilitator along with representatives from state and local agencies to talk about what is happening in Missouri and existing policies and programs for homeless children and families. Stacey also mentioned the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership and Early Head Start Expansion grant. The grant is for new or existing Early Head Start programs that partner with local child care centers and family child care providers.
- Melinda Sanders, Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), stated their office was awarded an opportunity to participate as a state in the Child Safety Collaborative Innovation and Improvement Network (CoIIN) on child safety. This summit will be held later in the month in Boston.
- Molly White, Department of Insurance (DOI), shared information on a settlement agreement with Chesapeake Life Insurance Company, the Mega Life and Health Insurance Company and Mid-West National Life Insurance Company of Tennessee. Information on the settlement can be found at the following link:
http://insurance.mo.gov/news/2015/Insurance_companies_pay_First_Steps_Program_and_Thompson_Foundation_for_Autism.

Project ECHO – Missouri Telehealth Network – Dr. Tracy Stroud shared a PowerPoint on Project ECHO. Project ECHO provides virtual access to experts at the Thompson Center for providers and is led by Dr. Kristin Sohl. Providers can sign up to share a case and receive feedback by participating virtually every first and third Wednesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This program would be beneficial to First Steps providers seeking strategies for a child/family they are serving.

Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood (CBEC) - Stacey Owsley Wright shared an update on the CBEC. A copy of the *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Policy Statement on Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood Programs* was distributed to the group. As discussed during the last SICC meeting, the CBEC has agreed to assist in furthering inclusion in Missouri. The CBEC workgroup on mental health received a request from the chair of the group for \$5,000. The money would be used to bring existing mental health professionals together to build mental health expertise with existing providers in Missouri. The \$5,000 will be distributed from the CBEC budget. Stacey also shared that Linda Rallo, interim director of the Raise Your Hand group, explained to the group the status of their petition to raise the cigarette tax. The Raise Your Hand group is proposing the tax be used to fund grants to early childhood programs around the state.

Task Force Committee Reports

- **SICC Membership Update** – Pam Thomas reported that there has been no news from Boards and Commissions regarding vacant positions on the SICC.
- **Parent Committee Update** – Tina Lawson shared copies of the finalized ICC brochure. The brochure is posted on the SICC website at the following link: <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/state-interagency-coordinating-council-sicc>. Tina thanked the members of the parent committee for their input on the brochure. Tina explained the First Steps survey sent to families in May included a section to indicate if families would like more information on participating on a First Steps advisory council in their region and almost 100 families expressed an interest. Those names were distributed to the SPOEs along with copies of the brochures. Julie LePage will also send out a link to the new brochure through the Department of Mental Health (DMH), Developmental Disabilities, listserv.

The next task that the parent committee has been asked to assist with is updating the Transition booklet. Once the committee has a draft it will be brought to the SICC and MPACT for input.

Communication from Guests – none

DESE Report – *working lunch*

- **Top 10 by 20** – Pam Thomas explained that DESE developed the Top 10 by 20 about five years ago and the second goal of the Top 10 by 20 is “All Missouri children will enter kindergarten prepared to be successful in school.” At a recent joint staff meeting of the Early Learning and Early Intervention programs, the group discussed how their programs connect and gaps/overlaps at the state level. One particular task the group is working on is a flow chart of the process of screening, evaluation and services. The group will hopefully have something to share with the SICC next year. Also related to the second goal of the Top 10 by 20 is a pilot project to coordinate preschool programs and their funding. There are a few districts participating in the pilot representing small, medium and large districts. This will hopefully lead to better efficiency and coordination of preschool programs.
- **CAPTA** – DSS, Children’s Division and the Office of Special Education (the Office) have been looking at the number of children referred to First Steps based on the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). By January, the Office will have a final report to share with the SICC that includes how many are found eligible and what services children are receiving. The Office is planning this as an annual report to track CAPTA referrals. Local SPOE offices may want to share this information with their Regional Interagency Coordinating Councils (RICCs).
- **SSIP** – The Office is currently working on Phase II of the plan. Missouri was selected to attend a two-day Social Emotional Outcomes Learning Collaborative meeting in September in Chicago with 12 other states. The Office will be asking for volunteers from the SICC to read the plan before it is submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in March.
- **Financial Report FY16** – Pam Thomas reviewed the FY16 First Steps Monthly Expenditure/Revenue Tracking handout. The anticipated budget for direct services was increased slightly to \$29 million because the amount spent last year was \$28.6 million. The “other” amount in August was for resource folders, in collaboration with the University of Missouri Kansas City (UMKC) and several state agencies. On the revenue side, the general revenue budget is a little over \$28 million. The anticipated revenue for family cost participation was slightly reduced because more families have a zero fee based on poverty level, Medicaid or the child is in foster care. An increase in revenue last August was due to a settlement from

AETNA for past declarations to the First Steps program. This will be the first full fiscal year for Medicaid expanded direct services and the Office is working on coding claims to Medicaid for DAYC evaluations.

- **Year at a Glance – Annual Report to the Governor’s Office** – Pam Thomas shared the First Steps Year at a Glance for 2014-15. The Year at a Glance is generally used as the annual report to the governor’s office from the SICC. Pam recognized Heather Crosby, First Steps Area Director, for her efforts in putting this information together every year. Pam asked for a motion from the council members to submit this report to the governor’s office as their annual report. Christy Collins made a motion and Carlotta Kimble seconded the motion. Pam asked for any additional discussion. Stacey Owsley Wright suggested that Pam attend one of the CBEC meetings to share the report. Pam asked for a vote from council members to approve the report as the annual SICC report to the governor’s office. All were in favor with no one opposed.

Old Business – None

New business – None

Upcoming SICC meetings:

- **Friday, January 8, 2016** – 10:00 a.m. - conference call only. There will not be a videoconference this year. Everyone can participate from their home, office or if they are in Jefferson City they can come to the 4th floor of the Jefferson Building to participate in the conference room. The primary purpose of the meeting will be the review of the Annual Performance Report (APR) that goes to the United States Department of Education. Feedback from council members as well as audience members is requested.
- **Friday, April 8, 2016** – Truman Building, Room 400

Pam asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Christy Collins made a motion to adjourn with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:30.