

State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Meeting Minutes March 27, 2020

Members Present:

Kayla Burkholder
Dr. Tracy Stroud
Lori Masek (rep. for DSS)

Stacey Wright
Dr. Carlotta Kimble

Hallie Malone (rep. for DSS)
Kelly Dudley (rep. for DMH)

Members Not Present:

Lesley Bickel

Sherri Bramhall

DESE Staff Present:

Beth Loethen
Marcy Morrison
Tina Lawson

Sarah Camp
Brittany Montoya
Sara Massman

Jodeen Maness
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 March 27, 2020, meeting.

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions – Beth Loethen temporarily filled the role of chair for the meeting in the absence of a co-chair. The meeting was brought to order at 8:30. Beth facilitated a roll call of SICC members only to check for their attendance. All other guests were welcomed to the meeting.

Approval of the SICC Minutes from January 2020 – Beth asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2020, SICC meeting. Dr. Kimble made a motion to approve the minutes and Kelly Dudley, Department of Mental Health (DMH) seconded the motion. All were in favor with no one opposed. Motion carried.

Task Force/Committee Reports

- **SICC Membership** – Beth indicated that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is working with the governor’s office on the status of the SICC vacancies.
- **Parent Committee** – none

Mission Moment – Tina Lawson introduced Diana Perry, SPOE Region 5 Director, who read a letter from Amber Bloecher. Amber and her son, Judah, received services through the SPOE 5 office. The family became familiar with First Steps through their association with The Center for the Visually Impaired (CCVI). The family was appreciative of the support they received from their First Steps service coordinator. Judah continues to receive services from First Steps via a FaceTime consult and will be transitioning to an early childhood program in the fall. The family’s picture and story will appear in the First Steps Year at a Glance publication in the fall.

Early Childhood Home Visiting - Christina Elwood, Beth Stieferman and Melinda Kirsch shared a PowerPoint on the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) home visiting programs. The

PowerPoint can be found at the following link: <https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/se-fs-dhss-early-childhood-home-visiting.pdf>.

Financial Report – Fiscal Year 2020 - Shelley Woods shared the Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2020. The report was reorganized to remove some duplicative and blank lines. Expenditure are a little lower than this time last year, but that could be due to inclement weather and the flu season. Before COVID-19, DESE anticipated that expenses would start increasing, but now believe that due to COVID-19 they will be lower. At this time, DESE is not sure if we will make up the expenditures by the end of the year by providing compensatory services. DESE will be working with MO Healthnet to discuss billing for telehealth visits. Shelley indicated that state resources are tight at this time as they are all being directed at battling COVID-19.

First Steps Response to COVID-19 - Beth Loethen shared that the majority of DESE efforts and focus has been on the response to COVID-19. Effective March 18 all face-to-face visits for meetings were suspended statewide. Providers and service coordinators are encouraged to do phone consults or something virtually. The situation is changing and DESE staff are working to get accurate guidance to the providers and SPOEs. At this point, DESE will keep moving forward and doing what can be done for families in First Steps. Kelley Dudley, DMH, shared that DMH has moved to telehealth as well. The DMH website has many resources to help manage mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic at: <https://dmh.mo.gov/>.

Beth moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20. Dr. Kimble made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Kayla Burkholder seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.