

Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services

Meeting Minutes – Topeka, KS
September 26, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mary Duncan, Chair & Governor's Representative
Pamela Beach, Dept. for Children & Families
Sharon Hixson, Public Member
Dr. David Lindeman, Regents Representative
Tammy Scheopner, Parent Member (phone)
Heather Smith, Ks Department of Health & Environ.
Vera Stroup-Rentier, Ks State Department of Educ.
Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer, Provider Member

NON MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Doug Bowman, Council staff
Peggy Kemp, KITS
Misty Gossen, KITS
Janet Newton, KSDE
Marcia Boswell-Carney, KDHE
Kelly Jorgensen, KDHE
Kim Kennedy, Head Start Collab.

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Kansas Insurance Department Rep
Melisa Schellhamer, Parent Member
Matthew Connell, Provider Member
Representative Valdenia Winn
Senator Elaine Bowers

Call to Order: Mrs. Duncan called the meeting to order with a welcome and asked for introductions.

Meeting Minutes: Pamela Beach moved that the August 2014 meeting minutes be approved as written. Dave Lindeman seconded the motion. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Meeting Agenda: Dave Lindeman made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Vera Stroup-Rentier seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Forum: None at this time.

Old Business: There was none at this time.

Social-Emotional Development – A Panel of Experts: Mary welcomed our panel, and invited each to speak about a program offered to families in support of their young children. A series of questions had been provided in advance to get started. Janet Newton spoke to Parents-As-Teachers, Vera Stroup-Rentier spoke to preschool services, Kim Kennedy spoke to Head Start and Early Head Start, and Peggy Kemp spoke to Part C, or *tiny-k* services.

Meeting of the Minds: We broke up into small groups for further discussions around each of the speakers from the panel. A series of follow-up questions were provided. Upon reporting back to the full group, the following points were made:

- Social Emotional Skills and Development is a foundation upon which later development builds
- We need to examine pre-service curriculum to see if social-emotional is emphasized
- A Research Question – what is used for curriculum and assessments? Should recommendations follow?
- What are the connections between PAT, Healthy Start Home Visitors, and the MCV programs?
- Compare/Contrast Home Visitation vs Parenting Classes
- Is there a research basis for which family supports are most effective?
- Can families readily access supports and services?
- What is the status of data sharing across agencies or programs?
- Can our web site link to: ReadyForLearning.net? CSEFoundation? Or TACSEI?

Committee/Work Group Reports:

Executive Committee: Mrs. Duncan reported that this group met on September 18. The agenda for the Council meeting was set. A panel of state agency staff to address social emotional development is planned. The web site progress was reviewed. A proposal for additional support for the web site was discussed. This proposal will be taken to the full Council. All of the committees were discussed. The document concerning "Decision-Making" between council meetings will also go forward to the full Council. An update was given on the Interagency Agreement document.

Staff Report: Mr. Bowman gave a preview of recent trips to Local ICCs. He will visit Hays and Southwest Kansas counties next month.

The local Part C coordinators met in Topeka last week. Mr. Bowman reminded them of the opportunity to participate in State ICC committees, of the new ICC web site, and his willingness to travel & visit LICCs. He also told them to be on the lookout for a survey from the Kansas ICC later this autumn.

Mr. Bowman reported on the Interagency Agreement (or Memorandum of Agreement) that makes possible the funding for all Council activity. Completion of this document was accomplished earlier today.

Website workgroup: Pamela Beach gave a full report. The web site is live, and Council members were encouraged to visit the new web site. A proposal was made to create a contract with Susan Threinen for web site support and services. Included in the contract would be: completion of Phase II (including a Families tab), monitoring of hyperlinks, research, and writing. Some of the support would extend into the next fiscal year – FY 2016. Pamela made the motion, and it was seconded by Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer. The motion passed unanimously.

Communication/Collaboration workgroup: They met next earlier today. Kim gave a report on plans for a survey of Local ICC. Kim then made a motion to approve the document titled "Decision-Making between Council Meetings". Vera seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The committee will meet by telephone at least once next week.

Research Committee: They will have their first meeting in October.

SPP/APR work group: Marcia reported that they have been meeting. Plans are to meet regularly through the next several months.

Agency Reports:

KDHE: Heather Smith noted the written report.

Insurance: No insurance representative present.

KSDE: Vera Stroup-Rentier noted the written report that was sent out in advance.

Families Together: No report was given.

DCF: A written report was given.

Adjournment: The next Council meeting will be the October 17th in Topeka at the DCF Learning Center.

Post on Web site approved minutes, and Decision-Making document	Council Staff	October 3, 2014

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Phyllis Gilmore, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

ICC – REPORT – September 2014

Head Start State Collaboration Office (HSSCO) Report:

HSSCO Needs Assessment Survey

The HSSCO conducted an annual Needs Assessment of the Head Start and Early Head Start programs. The Needs Assessment Survey was opened June 15th and closed August 15. The survey is designed by the Office of Head Start (OHS) and is consistent with the surveys administered by HSSCO in other states. This is done as part of the HSSCO grant requirements. At this time results are being compiled to be put into a report that will be submitted to DCF, Region VII ACF, and OHS.

Bidders Conference

On September 3, 2014 OHS held a Bidders Conference in Barton, Pawnee and Rice Counties.

Currently the Head Start programs in Barton, Pawnee and Rice Counties are in need of a new sponsor. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start, are looking for community-minded; community-based organizations, including faith-based organizations, that are interested in operating a high quality Head Start program that provides comprehensive services to low-income preschool children from ages 3 to 5.

The Office of Head Start (OHS) has created an opportunity for prospective applicants to meet with a Regional Office Representative, view a presentation on the application process and to walk through three (3) of the facilities used to provide Head Start services for the Barton, Pawnee and Rice, Kansas service area.

Head Start Collaboration with Part B and Part C Early Childhood Disability Services

This summer the HSSCO has facilitated a meeting between the Head Start Training and Technical Assistance team and the Kansas In-service Training Services (KITS) team to begin discussions on coordinating services. A follow-up meeting is to be scheduled for this fall. As part of the Head Start Performance Standards 10% of children enrolled in Head Start are to have a disability. Therefore it is critical to have coordinated special education services

Early Head Start Expansion & Child Care Partnership Grants

In June the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) announced the availability of *approximately \$500 million to be competitively awarded for the purpose of expanding access to high-quality, comprehensive services to low-income infants and toddlers and their families through Early Head Start-Child Care (EHS-CC) Partnerships, or through the expansion of Early Head Start services. ACF solicits applications from public entities, including states, or private non-profit organizations, including community-based or faith-based organizations, or for-profit agencies that meet eligibility for applying as stated in section 645A of the Head Start Act.*

This Funding Opportunity Announcement was posted on June 18th with an application closing date of August 20th. At this time we believe there may have been a couple of applications submitted from Kansas at the local level.

Child Support Savings Initiative (CSSI) Report:

The Child Support Savings Initiative (CSSI) was created in partnership with the State Treasurer's Office to provide incentives for noncustodial parents to save for their children's higher education. Noncustodial parents with arrears owed to the State of Kansas (because the child has been on TANF, in foster care or had Medicaid birthing expenses) can open a Learning Quest 529 education savings account and receive a \$2 reduction in state owed arrears for every \$1 deposited in the saving account. The funds may only be used to fund the child's qualified higher education expenses. Earlier this year a grant was received from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to expand the CSSI program to noncustodial parents with arrears owed to the custodial parent. The Kellogg Foundation grant funds will match the funds deposited into the 529 savings account; however, the Kellogg matching funds will be sent to the Kansas Payment Center and distributed out to the custodial parent as a payment on arrears. In this instance the noncustodial parent will still receive the arrears reduction, the custodial parent will get the needed payment *and* the child will get the savings for higher education. Currently, Child Support Services has 57 accounts with \$23,413 invested. The total amount of Kansas debt forgiven is \$45,289. These totals are as of September 15, 2014.

KDHE & Part C Infant-Toddler Services Report – September 26, 2014

- State Systemic Improvement Plan work continues. Three members of the Part C staff attended the DaSy conference in New Orleans which was focused primarily on SSIP development. The panel at today's ICC meeting will be helpful. Last week, the local Part C coordinators were included at their quarterly meeting.
- Other topics at the September 19 meeting of local coordinators were: Assistive Technology, collaborating with the Child Welfare system, and Engaging Physicians. We also discussed using the Quality Indicator Rubric to evaluate IFSPs.
- Public comment on changes to General Supervision section of the Procedural Manual will be open until October 14, 2014. This mainly involves changes to the IFSP review process.
- An interagency agreement is being developed between KDHE and KSDE regarding data, and transitions at age three years.
- KDHE has begun a second year of trainings for local Part C Coordinators. The first year was very successful, and in addition to the new coordinators, we have several existing coordinators who wished to attend. Due to the request of the initial cohort of Coordinators, the Coordinator Connections has been implemented quarterly, to discuss leadership topics and provide additional support to local coordinators.

KSDE Report - September 2014

Early Childhood Special Education, Section 619 (Submitted by Vera Stroup-Rentier))

Early Childhood-Least Restrictive Environment---- While we do not yet have our 2013 data available yet, our 2012 data indicates that 39% of Early Childhood Special Education programs are not meeting statewide target of 38.9%

July 1st marked the statewide implementation of the Part C to Part B Electronic Referral (CBER). We are having a higher number of Part B programs rejecting referrals from Part C. We are working to resolve this situation.

A team from KSDE attended the DaSy conference in New Orleans early in September. The main emphasis of this conference was to discuss how data can be used across early childhood programs. One session highlighted EC LRE, the research in early childhood special education is also very clear: preschool inclusion is effective and benefits all children. Despite legal, philosophical and research support for early childhood inclusion, over the last 27 years, the practice of providing special education and related services in regular early childhood settings to preschoolers with disabilities has increased only 5.7% and many young children with disabilities continue to be educated in separate settings.

We continue to make progress on our SPP/APR. We are working hard to finalize our work for Indicator 17 (SIMR).

Parents as Teachers (submitted by Janet Newton)

The Parents as Teachers' Coordinator's meeting occurred September 10-11 including a celebration of the local PAT Programs' dedicated work to the implementation of Essential Requirements, continuous quality improvement and fidelity with the PAT National model to improve outcomes for families and their children. This is also the 25th year for PAT in Kansas!

During the 2013-14 program year, 9,039 families with more than 10,000 children participated in the Kansas Parents as Teacher program. More than 97% of families enrolled in the Parents as Teachers program report that the program has increased their understanding of their child's development. In addition, the program motivated them to try new parenting strategies and that the program activities in their visits helped strengthen their relationship with their child. Sixty-eight percent of families reported building new relationships with other families. Nearly 80% of families stated the program made them feel less stressed. Most families partnered with their Parent Educator to set goals for themselves or their children with 64% achieving at least one goal during the year. Most families connected with at least one community resource that helped them achieve their goal(s).

Early Identification of concerns is critical to provide children with the extra supports they need to alleviate later more expensive remediation. Parent Educators screened 90% of the children enrolled in PAT identifying 1,361 children recommended for further evaluations. As a result, 874 children were identified early and received the support and services they need. Parent Educators identified not only developmental and social/emotional concerns, but hearing and vision concerns; critical for early brain and language development occurring in the child's first three years.

Each child's developmental milestones are noted with the families helping parent to learn about their child's emerging development. Parent-Child interaction is a key component of the PAT model with research informed foundational curriculum that involved parents in their child's activities and emphasizes the important of reading. Ninety-eight percent of families reported that their Parent Educator encourages them to read book to their child and 76% of families stated someone reads to their child daily. More than 90% of families engage in daily discussions with their child about what happened during the day and was actively involved in their child's play.

Overall, 98% reported being very satisfied with the Parents as Teachers program and would recommend the program to a friend. Parents as Teachers achieves a high level of family retention (85%) in the program.

State Pre-Kindergarten (formerly the Four Year Old At-Risk) Program (Submitted by Gayle Stuber)

The new year has started! Data collection using the Early Childhood-Success in School web application will begin October 1. This year programs can generate their own reports beginning this year.

Kansas Preschool Program (formerly the Pre-K Program) (Submitted by Gayle Stuber)

KPP leaders from the sites of the Kansas Preschool Program continue implementing MTSS. The first meeting for the 2014-15 year took place September 3rd. Future meetings in the 2014-15 year will provide technical assistance around analyzing the data collected via using myIGDI's in literacy. Program Leadership Teams will be put in place in all KPP sites.

Kansas Early Learning Standards (Submitted by Gayle Stuber)

The Kansas Early Learning Standards are posted on the KSDE website. Please go to: <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=3321> for your copy. In the past, the Early Learning Standards have been printed for distribution, however due to a lack of funding, no hard copies are available.

School Readiness Framework: (Submitted by Gayle Stuber)

The School Readiness Framework provide a structure for

The Kansas School Readiness Framework includes four school readiness components: Community, Educational Environment, Family, and Child. This Framework acknowledges that school readiness depends on family practices, a range of community features, diverse auspices for early learning programs, and children's development and health. It carefully distributes responsibility across all four components. The result is a cohesive and compelling frame of reference for catalyzing efforts to promote and support school readiness in Kansas through a State Framework. Updates on using the Framework at local and state program levels will be available in 2015.

Homeless (Submitted by Tate Toedman) The National conference for professionals who work with homeless children will have a strong early childhood presence this year.

The 2014 national conference will be in Kansas City—an exciting opportunity to support children and families and to learn more about programs and supports as professionals. We have started working on the 2014 national NAEHCY conference that will be in Kansas City, Missouri at the Westin Crown Center October 25-28. We typically have between 900-1000 attendees.