

Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services

Meeting Minutes
Topeka, KS
April 15, 2022
1:00 PM

Members Present

David Lindeman, Chair & Regents Representative
Lisa Collette, Vice-Chair & Insurance Commission Representative
Nichelle Adams, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF)
Julie Rand, Kansas State Dept. of Education (KSDE)
Laura Leistra, Medicaid Representative
Doug Bowman, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS)
Tricia Waggoner, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
Debbie Deere, Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund
Susan Bowles, Provider Member
Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena, Parent Member

Members Not Present

Alex Red Corn, Public Member
Ann Elliott, Provider Member
Shannon McMahon, Head Start
Laurie Schmitt, Parent Member
Jennifer Oborny, Provider
Laura Smith-Everett, Parent Member
Lesli Girard, Ex-Officio Member (Families Together)
Melinda Kline, Foster Care Representative

Nonmembers Present

Kim Kennedy, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF)-Ex-Officio Member
Erin Schuweiler, Kansas School for the Deaf
Barbara Kramer, KITS
Monica Ross- Johnson County Infant-Toddler Services
Local Program Presenter, Jonni Brown-Harvey County ITS

Call to order:

Chair Dave Lindeman introduced himself and called the meeting to order with introductions of all present and on the phone (it was noted that there was a quorum).

Meeting Minutes:

The minutes from January 2022 were reviewed and approved.

Lisa Collette – Made motion to accept minutes

Laura Leistra – 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

The minutes from March 2022 were reviewed and approved.

Debbie Deere - made motion to accept minutes

Susan Bowles - 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

Meeting agenda:

Jonni's presentation moved up, on the agenda, due to scheduling

The agenda for April 2022 was reviewed and approved with amendment.

Tricia Waggoner – Made motion to accept agenda with amendment.

Elizabeth Brunscheen – 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

Public Comment:

No comments

Local Program Presentation:

Harvey County tiny-k Infant Toddler Services- Jonni Brown-Tiny K Coordinator

- Semi-Urban: Burrton, Halstead, Hesston, Walton, North Newton, Newton and portions of Moundridge, Sedgwick, and Whitewater depending on county lines.
- Largest employers served: USD 373, Stanley Black and Decker.
- Specialize in early childhood education. Focus on child's learning, play and thinking skills.
- 2 full-time providers on the team, 3 part-time service providers, 6 supporting team members.
- Harvey Co Coop and USD 373 are the lead fiscal agency.
- Increase in services since 2018-2019 and currently serving 91 families and anticipate growth by end of fiscal year.
- Increase in referrals and initial IFSP since 2018-2019 and currently have 99 referrals and 39 initial IFSPs and also anticipate growth by end of fiscal year.
- Majority of families receive weekly services.
- Celebrations:
 - United Way Grant-\$8,000
 - Women's Community Foundation-\$3000
 - Virtual Conferences during Pandemic

- Collaborative Community: PAT and Healthy Families
- Reflective Supervision
- Work well as a team
- Participate in community awareness activities.
- 20 members attend LICC regularly.
- Face common challenges such as paperwork, time, staff.

State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report Updates:

Part C: OSEP responded. In clarification period. A few things to address but currently working on it.

Part B: Also in clarification period. Nothing to report at this time.

KCCTF, Early Childhood Recommendations Panel:

- Recommendation Statement: The Kansas Children’s Cabinet, in its role as the Early Childhood Advisory Council, recommends the State Interagency Coordinating Council and Local Interagency Coordinating Councils collaborate to implement the following strategies:
 - Broaden local ICC participation and membership
 - Research funding opportunities to provide stipends to EC professionals and family members serving on State and local ICC’s.
 - Promote communication of LICC members
 - Sponsor community engagement events and informational materials
 - Propose monies be included in the SICC budget to fund community projects proposed by LICCs in support of the *All In for Kansas Kids Strategic Plan*, Goal 2.
- Discussed how the recommendations came to be, the benefits of implementation, and the impact of the implementation.

The recommendations were reviewed and approved.

Tricia Waggoner – Made motion to accept recommendations

Lisa Collette – 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes, Debbie Deere abstained

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee

Resignation letter received from Shannon McMahon- representative for Head Start

The resignation letter was reviewed and accepted.

Debbie Deere – Made motion to accept resignation letter

Lisa Collette – 2nd motion

Motion Carried – All members voted yes

- Dave reached out to Kim Kennedy and Jennifer Adhima to ask for recommendations for Head Start representative for the Council.

Funding and Workforce Committee-

- Meeting was cancelled and waiting for survey to come back from review. Plan is to meet next month once Jordan's position is filled.

LICC Committee-

- Holding patterned for LICC retreat. Discussing pushing retreat to later summer or Fall 2022. Plan to meet Tuesday May 3rd @ 3:30pm

ECLRE Committee-

- Committee met on March 31 (large group)
- Discussion focused on next steps for this committee
- Continue collection of information from community child care providers and their experiences with including children with disabilities and interaction with school based special education programs.
- Solicit additional providers to complete online survey
- Plan additional focus group
- Continue conversation with KSDE staff to coordinate efforts related to LRE

Agency Reports:

KSDE Report-

- Attached to the KSDE agency report is a letter written to the dedicated personnel of the Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education Workforce. This letter, from the U.S. Department of Education (Department), thanks personnel for the extraordinary response and continued dedication to serving and supporting infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities and their families over the last two years.
- KSDE is glad to share that we have hired for the staff position that supports the State Interagency Coordinating Council. Thank you to the members of the State ICC Executive Committee for your support in this process. We are excited for our new team member to begin on May 2, and to introduce them to the full State ICC at the May meeting!
- In March the Kansas State Board of Education approved the establishment of a Literacy Advisory Council for the purpose of helping support and advance gains in literacy achievement for all Kansas students. Dr. Laurie Curtis is our new Dyslexia and Early Literacy Program Manager and will be leading this work.
- School districts and private school systems may submit a short survey if they would like to administer the 2022 Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot (ASQ) beginning in the springtime for the 2022-2023 school year. Since districts first implemented the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot statewide in Fall 2018, KSDE has gathered feedback on how to best use this tool to improve kindergarten readiness. Last year KSDE received positive feedback around offering the flexibility to begin partnering with families of incoming kindergarten students to complete the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot (ASQ) in the springtime prior to children entering kindergarten.

- On April 12 the Kansas State Board of Education is scheduled to consider Kansas Preschool Pilot grant awards for the 2022-2023 school year. KSDE will continue to work with school districts to help them understand the various sources of funding, including school finance formula funding, special education categorical aid, and federal Head Start funding that can support early childhood opportunities.
- KSDE is currently reviewing Preschool-Aged At-Risk program applications for the 2022-2023 school year. The Kansas State Board of Education will approve programs in May.
- KSDE is currently reviewing Kansas Parents as Teachers grant applications for the 2022-2023 school year. The Kansas State Board of Education will consider grant awards in May.
- On Monday [Governor Kelly signed Senate Bill 62](#), which amends state standards for free school-administered vision screenings. [Here is a link to the Senate Bill 62 summary](#) and [here is a link to the Senate Bill 62 text and other information on the Kansas legislative webpage](#).
- On Tuesday the Kansas State Board of Education voted to increase the amount of funding requested for special education for Fiscal Year 2023, from a \$68 million dollar increase to a \$155 million dollar increase. [The Kansas Association of School Boards summary of the State Board's action is here](#). Legislative budget committees will meet next week Thursday, April 21 to review updated revenue estimates and the Governor's proposed budget amendments. The Legislature returns from its spring recess on Monday, April 25.
- KSDE continues to promote inclusion in Kansas. As part of this effort, we heard from district staff and administrators that an infographic would help to spread the word. We have created a draft version of an inclusion infographic and would appreciate the feedback from the SICC (Infographic for review attached to KSDE agency report).

DCF Report-

- The Kansas Department for Children and Families is offering virtual office hours 11 a.m. to noon every Wednesday until May 4th to answer questions about child support services, food assistance, child care programs, Low Income Energy Assistance Program, Emergency Water Assistance, employment services, foster care and other DCF programs. Families can visit <https://shorturl.at/rGIMU> to speak with a DCF representative.
- DCF's Child Care and Development Fund is being used to support the KCCTO-KITS Infant Toddler Specialist Network Director's Alliance. The Director's alliance provides once-monthly FREE trainings on topics relevant to the specific needs of center directors. Registration is available for upcoming training at www.kccto.org
- The Kansas Institute for Early Childhood Education and Research (KIECER) is the recent recipient of a sub-award in the amount of \$1.5 million from the Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities (KCCTO) organization to direct an extension of

their KCCTO-KITS Infant-Toddler Specialist Network (ITSN). These 2 new projects are the result of America Rescue Plan Act funding through the Department for Children and Families (DCF) and target supporting children with disabilities in childcare environments and early childhood mental health consultation. Both projects will work directly with the early childhood community, including childcare providers and other practitioners to support children and families. Early childhood providers will have the opportunity to access professional development and technical assistance around inclusion and early childhood mental health.

KDHE Report-

Kansas Infant-Toddler Services (KSITS), Part C tiny-k Program, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE).

- Local grant application packets were posted in the Kansas Grant Management System at the end of February.
- The Federal Part C grant has been posted to KDHE's website for the 60-day public comment period. The grant is due May 13, 2022. The new federal budget has been passed and includes \$14.5 million additional funds for Part C. We will hear soon what that will mean for the Kansas.
- The KSITS team and the KITS team are working with Welligent to develop a new database for Part C services throughout the state.
- The KSITS team has been working with KDHE communications department and stakeholders on a new name and branding initiative.
- Tricia Waggoner has been in training with the ECPC Leadership Academy with other Part C and 619 Coordinators.
- Part C Coordinators were invited to a meeting with members of the White House planning team to discuss the President's proposed budget for FY2023. The administration proposes nearly doubling federal Part C funding and adding new language related to eligibility.
- A new branding initiative is in development and KDHE will be working with KDHE communication to develop a uniform logo and look for the *tiny-k* programs across the state. There will also be a promotional video. This initiative is being paid for with American Rescue Plan funds and will make it easier for parents to find their local program.
- Part C is working with Part B to renew the five-year Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for practices for child transition and information sharing, this process should be complete by the end of This month.

KDADS Report-

- Proposed letter to SICC regarding the initiative that will transform the Kansas community mental health system to create Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC).

The proposed CCBHC letter was reviewed and accepted.

Doug Bowman – Made motion to accept letter

Tricia Waggoner – 2nd motion
Motion Carried – All members voted yes

KCCTF Report-

- Nothing else to report from above discussion regarding recommendations.

Families Together-

- No report

Other Reports:

Staff –

- Special Education funding needs support. Feel free to show support as private citizens.

Chair Report – no report.

Adjournment:

Debbie Deere – Made motion to adjourn the meeting
Tricia Waggoner – 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

The next State ICC meeting will be on Friday, May 20, 2022 @ 1:00pm