

Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services

Meeting Minutes
Topeka, KS
March 19th, 2021
1:00 PM

Members Present

David Lindeman, Chair & Regents Representative
Lisa Collette, Vice-Chair & Insurance Commission Representative
Ann Elliott, Provider Member
Heather Staab, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
Julie Rand, Kansas State Dept. of Education (KSDE)
Alix Kumer, Provider Member
Debbie Deere, Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund (KCCTF)
Gary Henault, KDADS
Lesli Girard, Provider Member (Families Together)
Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena, Parent Member
Alex Red Corn, Public Member
Melinda Kline, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families- Foster Care
Shannon McMahon, Head Start
Jennifer Oborny, Provider Member

Members Not Present

Laci Reamer, Parent Member
Nichelle Adams, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF)
Laura Smith-Everett, Parent Member
Liz Long, Medicaid Representative
Kate Walter, Parent Member
Susan Bowles, Provider Member
Karen Pahls, Provider Member
Laurie Schmitt, Parent Member

Nonmembers Present

Kim Kennedy, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF)

Jordan Christian, SICC Staff Person
David Deloach, RCDC
Deanna Berry, RCDC
Maria Torrez-Anderson
Jani Kozlowski, Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA)
Kathy Whaley, Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA)
Nancy Ochoa, Kansas Insurance Department

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 February 2021 were reviewed and approved with edits.

Ann Elliott – Made motion to accept agenda

Lisa Collette – 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

Meeting agenda:

The agenda for March 2021 was reviewed and approved with edits.

Heather Staab – Made motion to accept agenda

Ann Elliott – 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

Public Comment

None

Kansas Insurance Department Q&A- *Nancy Ochoa*

- Discussion on “how-to” guide. Possibly have a rep from major insurance companies talk to programs in Kansas.
- Blue Cross Blue Shield- “Coding Corner” for providers. Online tool that might provide more information to Part C programs.
- Reminder to Part C programs to submit further questions to the SICC, which can then be passed along to the Kansas Insurance Department
- Reviewed questions previously submitted by the SICC Funding Committee. These questions were drafted in the spring of 2020.

Strengthening Systems of Preschool Inclusion in Kansas- *Kathy Whaley and Jani Kozlowski*

- Division for Early Childhood (DEC) position statement on inclusion provided.
- Federal Policy Statement on Inclusion of children with disabilities reviewed and discussed
- Three key features
 - Belonging
 - Participating
 - Learning
- Research shows:
 - Children with disabilities can be effectively educated in inclusive programs using specialized instruction.
 - Individualized, embedded instruction can be used to teach a variety of skills in inclusive settings. (DEC, 2014; Strain & Bovey, 2011; Rafferty, Piscitellu, & Boettcher, 2003)
 - Inclusion benefits children with and without disabilities.
 - High-quality inclusive classrooms with higher ratios of more competent peers in particular, are related to positive outcomes. (Camilli, Vargas, Ryan, & Barnett, 2010; Guralnick, 2001; Justice, Lin, Strain & Bovey, 2011; Pianta, Barnett, Burchinal, & Thornburg, 2009; Strain & Bovey, 2011).
- Indicators designed to support state and local program leaders to examine and implement strategies that strengthen their capacity to provide high quality inclusive options in their communities.
- Goal is to improve and increase inclusive opportunities for young children with disabilities and their families, through system and practice refinements.
- Need for indicators:
 - Ongoing challenges that exist to implementing high-quality inclusion
 - Need for consistent messages and alignment across programs (e.g., Head Start, Child Care, EI/ECSE, Pre-k)
 - Need for a more unified approach to support high-quality inclusion across programs at all levels (e.g., state, local program, and classroom level)
- Indicators of High-Quality Inclusion
 - State Indicators
 - Community Indicators
 - Local Program Indicators
 - Early Care and Education Environment indicators
- Community Inclusion Team (CIT)

- Bring service providers and families together to build community-wide awareness and vision of the importance of inclusion.
- Coordinate program information and resource sharing among programs and agencies.
- Facilitate agreements among community programs.
- Provide guidance and information to colleagues on effective and facilitative policies and procedures.
- Collects information on successes and challenges and share that information with a State Leadership Team, if appropriate, so that the state team can better support efforts.
- Field testing indicators with 6 other states at this time

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee – per Dave Lindeman – approved agenda for March meeting. Discussed quarterly newsletters and when they will be implemented. Two membership openings; parent member and provider member.

SPP/APR – per Heather Staab – N/A, already reported.

Early Childhood/Funding Workgroup- per Lisa Collette- written report provided.

Social-Emotional Workgroup – per Karen Pahls- written report provided.

LICC Support and Planning Committee – per Alix Kumer- written report provided.

Agency Reports:

KSDE – per Julie Rand – written report provided.

DCF – per Nichelle Adams – written report provided.

KDHE – per Heather Staab – written report provided.

KDADS- per Gary Henault – written report provided.

KCCTF- per Amy Meek- written report provided.

Insurance – per Lisa Collette – no report.

Families Together – per Lesli Girard – written report provided.

Others –

Other Reports:

Staff – Report provided.

Chair Report – no report.

Adjournment:

Lisa Collette – Made motion to adjourn the meeting

Ann Elliott – 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

The next State ICC meeting will be on Friday, April 16th.