

Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services

Meeting Minutes
Topeka, KS
October 15, 2021
1:00 PM

Members Present

David Lindeman, Chair & Regents Representative
Lisa Collette, Vice-Chair & Insurance Commission Representative
Ann Elliott, Provider Member
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)
Shannon McMahon, Head Start
Tricia Waggoner, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
Debbie Deere, Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund
Melinda Kline, Foster Care Representative

Members Not Present

Alex Red Corn, Public Member
Laurie Schmitt, Parent Member
Susan Bowles, Provider Member
Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena, Parent Member
Jennifer Oborny, Provider
Laura Smith-Everett, Parent Member
Lesli Girard, Provider Member (Families Together)

Nonmembers Present

Kim Kennedy, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF)
Jordan Christian, SICCC Staff Person
Erin Schuweiler, Kansas School for the Deaf
Rebecca Clancy, RCDC
Nichole Honeywell, USD 409
Emilee Wilke, REACH Infant-Toddler
Barbara Kramer, KITS
Erica Figueroa, KU CPPR
Doug Tressler

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 September 2021 were reviewed and approved with edits.

Lisa Collette – Made motion to accept minutes

Debbie Deere – 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

Meeting agenda:

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

Ann Elliott – Made motion to accept agenda

Tricia Waggoner – 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

Public Comment

No comments

REACH tiny-k Infant Toddler Services- Emilee Wilke

- 127 children served currently, 8 staff, and cover 3 counties (Cowley, Elk, and Chautauqua)
- Overview of home visits and evidence-based practices used
- Message from parent served by REACH was shared
- Funding for program
 - 40.7% Part C Grant
 - 35.8% Categorical Aid
 - 13.8% Mill Levy
 - 9.6% Medicaid
- Challenges include program size, service area, fluctuation in enrollment, high poverty levels
- Strengths include staff, support from Greenbush, reputation within the community, and size of the program
- Overview of the LICC provided and its membership

Statewide ASQ Implementation Update- Erica Figueroa

- All tiny-k programs have an ASQ account up and running. Beginning to add community partners
- Walkthrough of the Ages and Stages Kansas sitelet
- Presenting at LICCs regarding the ASQ system, good results and feedback so far

- Presented at the Help Me Grow national conference regarding ASQ implementation along with Heather Staab and Jordan Christian

Systems Building Resources for All in for Kansas Kids Strategic Plan- Sara Gardner

- Update on strategic plan implementation efforts
 - Intent is to support early childhood care and education governance to be collaborative and take an active role in implementation of the strategic plan
 - System-level efforts or initiatives to support implementation of specific strategic plan tactics and/or strategies
 - Alignment with Preschool Development Grant (PDG) goals, objectives, and activities
 - System-building (versus direct service and capacity)
 - Narrative can be found on the Cabinet website:
<https://kschildrenscabinet.org/>

Committee Reports:

ECLRE Committee-

- Committee met on September 28 (full committee)
- 2nd/reminder email sent to child care providers and community preschool programs inviting them to complete the online survey with invitation to volunteer for focus groups
- A packet of 10 children’s board books on social emotional development were provided to seven early care/education providers for early response to the survey. Additional packets will be sent.
- Committee members Chavis Lickvar-Armstrong and Eva Horn conducted a poster presentation at the Annual Division for Early Childhood Conference in September. The poster was based on the work of the SICC committee with extension focusing on the research design of the survey project. Title of poster: ECE LRE: Community Provider Perspectives in Highly Performing Districts.

Funding and Workforce Committee-

- The group reviewed the funding chart and discussed when they’ll update it each year with new numbers. This will be done in April before the ICC Retreat in June.
- Group is going to look over the Needs Assessment from the previous year again to get an idea of what the finance section and the insurance section.
- Jordan will send out questions and comments from when the Kansas Insurance Department presented in March of 2021 for review.
- The committee discussed potential members to their group from different organizations and/or agencies.

Agency Reports:

KCCTF Report-

- Child Care Aware of Kansas, in partnership with Kansas Department for Children and Families, is awarding Sustainability Grants – Round 2! These grants aid in continuing operations of child care programs through the COVID-19 pandemic. All Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) licensed child care facilities that demonstrate substantial compliance with KDHE child care licensing are eligible to apply.
 - Amounts:
 - Licensed Home/Group Home: \$5,000
 - Small Centers – Capacity <25: \$10,000
 - Medium Centers – Capacity 25-99: \$30,000
 - Large Centers – Capacity 100+: \$60,000
- The “Kindergarten in Kansas” booklet is available for distribution. These booklets provide information about kindergarten readiness, kindergarten transition, checklists and more for families and other caregivers. Paper copies are available for free in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Swahili, Arabic, and Burmese.
- Researchers in the Department of Applied Human Services at Kansas State University are inviting you to participate in a survey that focuses on how early educators are facilitating the socio-emotional development of children in their care during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The research aims to understand the factors influencing how early educators facilitate the socio-emotional development of children in their care during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Quality & Environments group was joined again this month by Jordan Christian, and conversations continued on ideas of how to work with the LICCs to implement more provider and family engagement, as well as the possibility of drafting comments to bring to a future SICC meeting during the public comments section. I anticipate that this would take place at either this December or January meeting.

KSDE Report-

- The Kansas State Department of Education, Special Education and Title Services Team is inviting you to apply for the KS DB Fund during the SY2021-2022. This invitation applies to students who are on the KS DB Census, as well as those students who have multiple disabilities (who are not DB) on the December 1st Child Count. Currently, there are some SY2021-2022 funds available. We will be accepting applications until March 1st, 2022. Applications will be processed in the order in which they are received. Students may receive up to the \$3,000 maximum. Please remember to contact your LEA SPED Director to see if he/she is willing to have you as his/her designee prior to submitting your proposal.
- KSDE is in the process of developing the FFY 2020 – 2025 State Performance

Plan and Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR). This evaluates the State's efforts to implement the requirements of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and describes how the state will improve special education. The SPP/APR includes indicators that measure child and family outcomes, as well as other indicators that measure compliance with IDEA requirements. There are PowerPoints that explain the indicator changes and KSDE's final decisions on indicator targets for the next SPP/APR cycle on the SPP/APR page of the KSDE website, <https://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=520>. Please review the Kansas SPP/APR data visualizations and stakeholder survey results at <https://public.tableau.com/profile/general.supervision.timely.and.accurate.data#!/>.

DCF Report-

- The Kansas Racial Equity Collaboration announces learning sessions to examine racial inequities to grow understanding and create changes for Kansas children. The Collaboration is a partnership between the Kansas Department for Children and Families, the University of Kansas School of Social Welfare, and CarePortal, created by The Global Orphan Project. Group conversations, both virtually and in person, led by nationally respected speakers will be the cornerstone of the Collaboration. There is an upcoming virtual session on October 27 from 11:30am-1:30pm on the topic of Addressing Racial Inequities in Child Welfare. The main speaker will be Dr. Iheoma U. Iruka. To register for the virtual session go to <https://www.careportal.org/kansas-racial-equity/>
- Sustainability Grants: Kansas Department for Children and Families in partnership with Child Care Aware of Kansas, is launching a second round of Child Care Sustainability Grant program to aid child care providers in meeting the costs of operating their business. With grant awards again ranging from \$5,000 for family child care programs to \$60,000 for large centers. The Child Care Sustainability grant application will be available via the Child Care Aware of Kansas website starting October 1 and must be received by November 5, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. CST. More information is available at this website: <https://ks.childcareaware.org/grants/>

KDHE Report-

- Members of the KDHE Part C Team attended the DEC Conference September 20-24. Team member Heather Staab presented on developmental screening in Kansas at the Help Me Grow National Forum on September 23. Then the Team attended the Home Visiting Conference September 27 and 28. These conferences help the KDHE Team keep up to date on policy and best practices in early childhood development.
- The KDHE Team with the help of KITS have been crafting the Strategic Plan to be released soon. Once complete focus groups will be set up to help implement the vision laid out in the plan.
- The KDHE Team is working on the SPP/APR and SSIP in order to present it to

the board for review in December.

- The new Language Assessment Program is about ready to be initiated. The interagency agreement between KDHE and the Kansas State School for the Deaf has been finalized and the program will start serving Kansas children this year.
- A new branding initiative is in development and KDHE will be working with the *tiny-k* Alliance to develop a uniform logo and look for the *tiny-k* programs across the state. There will also be a promotional video. This initiative will make it easier for parents to find their local program.
- We sent out a survey to the local programs about their current staffing and any open positions they may have. We will be using this information to allocate some of the American Rescue Plan funds that will be going directly to local programs.

Other Reports:

Staff –

- Presented at the Help Me Grow National Conference on 9/24 regarding statewide developmental screening
- Executive Committee Elections-Update
- Discussions at Recommendations Panel meetings involving SICC and LICCs
- ASQ Screening Update-
 - 96 programs screening statewide
 - Over 66,360 total screenings entered as of 10/11. Compared to 55,319 total in 2020.
- SAP/SICC National Webinar (Quarterly)
 - SICC during COVID- September 28, 1-2:30
 - [SAP/SICC September 2021 Webinar Lessons Learned During COVID Pandemic on Stakeholder Engagement](#)
- Upcoming LICC meetings prior to November SICC meeting
 - Butler County Task Force 10/20
 - Riley County ICC 10/25
 - Shawnee County ECC 11/1
 - REACH ICC 11/12
 - Children and Families Network LICC 10/12

Chair Report – no report.

Adjournment:

Tricia Waggoner – Made motion to adjourn the meeting

Ann Elliott – 2nd motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

The next State ICC meeting will be on Friday, November 19th.