

# Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services

Meeting Minutes  
Topeka, KS  
September 20, 2019  
1:00 PM

## **Members Present**

David Lindeman, Chair & Regents Representative  
Lisa Collette, Vice-Chair & Insurance Commission Representative  
Karen Pahls, Provider Member  
Ann Elliott, Provider Member  
Alix Kumer, Provider Member  
Laci Reamer, Parent Member (Families Together)  
Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena, Parent Member  
Heather Staab, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)  
Nichelle Adams, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF)

## **Members Not Present**

Stacy Harvey, Parent Member  
Gary Henault, KDADS  
Kate Walter, Parent Member  
Natalie McClane, Kansas State Dept. of Education (KSDE)  
Lesli Girard, Provider Member (Families Together)

## **Nonmembers Present**

Kim Kennedy, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF)  
Jordan Christian, SICCC Staff Person  
Megan Smith, KU CPPR  
Amanda Petersen, KSDE  
Heather Schrotberger, KU CPPR  
Heather Smith, KDHE  
Laura Smith-Everett, Pending Parent Member  
Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer, Provider NKEESC  
Susan Bowles, Pending Provider Member  
Corey Yarrow, Families Together

**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 August 2019 were reviewed and approved with edits.

Ann Elliott – Made motion to accept agenda

Karen Pahls – 2<sup>nd</sup> motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

**Meeting agenda:**

The agenda for September 2019 was reviewed and approved with edits.

Ann Elliot – Made motion to accept agenda

Lisa Collette – 2<sup>nd</sup> motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

**Public Comments:**

-None

**Preschool Development Grant/ Early Childhood Systems Building Grant (Amanda Petersen):**

- Kansas has been awarded a one-year planning grant of \$4,482,305. The Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five is authorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act.
- The Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund, the Kansas Department for Children and Families, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the Kansas State Department of Education and many other early childhood partners are engaging in this collaborative work.
- How information was gathered:
  - Reviewed existing needs assessment reports and information.
  - Hosted community engagement sessions and parent cafés.
  - Facilitated visioning sessions.
  - Collected stories and facilitate sensemaking workshops.
  - Gathered additional information – Professional Development Survey, Child Care Environmental and Facilities Scan, District Pre-K Survey.
- Statistics regarding “the journey”:
  - 53 community engagement sessions held across KS
  - A total of 8,312 miles were travelled by staff hosting these events
  - Over 1,300 voices collected from attendees
  - 33 communities were visited during the process, and two virtual sessions were offered online
- 2,221 stories were collected from families across KS (at least one from every since county) of when they were either thriving or struggling.

- Two key understandings:
  - The experiences of families with young children in Kansas are shaped by where they live.
  - Young children are growing up in families where basic needs aren't being met.
- 7 Key themes:
  - **ACCESSIBILITY** - Families with young children experience inequitable access to high-quality programs and services across the broader early childhood system.
  - **AVAILABILITY** - Families with young children experience a gap between the services that are available and their actual needs, especially among underserved populations.
  - **NAVIGATION** - Families must adopt a “connect the dots” approach to navigate services across sectors; disruptors are frequent and common.
  - **COLLABORATION and INTEGRATION** - Early childhood providers and stakeholders share a desire for collaboration and cooperation but these are often disconnected and uncoordinated.
  - **WORKFORCE** - Early childhood workforce needs at the leadership and direct service levels include preparation, compensation and financial relief, ongoing training and support, recruitment and retention.
  - **FACILITIES** – Needs exist related to the physical conditions and environments of early childhood facilities across the state.
  - **SYSTEMS ALIGNMENT** - Greater systems alignment is needed in order to fully realize an efficient and robust early childhood care and education infrastructure.
  - **BRIGHT SPOTS** - Efficient, innovative, responsive efforts are occurring amongst early childhood care and education system partners in communities throughout the state.
- What's ahead:
  - Oct. 7: Governor's Symposium on Early Childhood, Wichita
  - Nov. 1: Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund meeting, Topeka.
  - November: Estimated due date for federal implementation grant.
  - Nov. 15-16: Parent Leadership Conference, Topeka

### **Part C Needs Assessment (Heather Smith):**

- Overview provided regarding the Part C Needs Assessment. A formal strategic plan is still being put into place. Seven committees will work on this starting in September, and will meet into the spring of 2020.
- The full plan and implementation process will be shared with the SICCC at the October or November meeting. Since the assessment has not been made public yet, there is limited information at this time.
- There will be a push for aligning agency work and maximizing family engagement.
- Website links will be shared with the SICCC once they are made public

**SICC Handbook Review:**

Discussion regarding the first draft of the LICC handbook. A digital copy will be shared with the full council. Edits will be sent to Jordan by October 18<sup>th</sup>. This will be reviewed and released at the onset of the LICC Annual Retreat.

**Committee Reports:**

**Executive Committee** – per Lisa Collette – approved agenda for May meeting and began discussion of the LICC Annual Retreat.

**SPP/APR** – per Heather Staab – Grads 360 system discontinued. Will update the SICC when more information is available.

**Early Childhood/Funding Workgroup**- per Kim Kennedy- No meeting.

**Social-Emotional Workgroup** – per Karen Pahls- Mental Health Update from Lee Stickle with KSDE TASN. Creation of a school mental health guide on the TASN website. About 20% of students in KS are identified with mental health needs, but roughly only 1/3 of these students receive services. Plan on doing another ACEs overview and possible presentation. Using the interconnected systems framework to collaborate with providers in communities across KS.

**Agency Reports:**

**KSDE** – per Natalie McClane – Updates on Indicators 12, 7, and 6.

**DCF** – per Nichelle Adams – handout provided.

**KDHE** – per Heather Staab – Rush and Sheldon Conference on December 4-6. Master Coach Trainings continuing. Will be sharing out the Part C Needs Assessment with local programs starting next week. New monthly coordinator meetings are going well. There will be position realignment happening in the coming months to the Infant-Toddler team at KDHE.

**Insurance** – per Lisa Collette – no report.

**Families Together** – per Laci Reamer- handout provided.

**Others** –

**Other Reports:**

**Staff** – handout provided. Annual report shared and will be reviewed by members.

**Chair Report** – no report.

**Adjournment:**

Karen Pahls – Made motion to adjourn the meeting

Heather Staab – 2<sup>nd</sup> motion

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

The next State ICC meeting will be on Friday, October 18.