



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

MISSISSIPPI FIRST STEPS EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM

**State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Meeting
February 17, 2017 ● 9:00 am – 2:00 pm**

Present	SICC Members Current/Proposed	Affiliation	Role
X	(C) Shirley Miller (Chair)	MDMH (Retired)	Parent
X	(C) Linda Shivers (VC)	Independent Provider (Central)	Independent Provider
X	(C) Candice Taylor	MDE	State Education Agency
X	(C) Carlen Henington	MSU, School Psychology	Personnel Preparation
X	(C) Dorothy Young	Division of Medicaid	Medicaid/Insurance
	(C) Hollia Thompson	The ARC	Advocate
	(C) Holly Spivey	Head Start Collaboration Office	Head Start
X	(C) Nita Thompson	MS Head Start Association	Head Start
X	(C) Ronjanett Taylor	IHL, Academic & Student Affairs	Higher Learning
X	(C) Ryan Blakeney	MS Insurance Commission	Insurance
	(P) Alicia Deaver	IHL	Personnel Preparation
	(P) Brittany Herrington	Parent (South)	Parent
X	(P) Christina Perigoe	IHL, USM	Higher Learning
X	(P) Elizabeth Pell	Director CPICC (South)	Independent Provider
	(P) Gay Logan	Child Care Licensure	Personnel Preparation
	(P) Janet Slaughter	Independent Provider (Central)	Independent Provider
	(P) Julie Parker	IHL, Human Dev& Family Studies	Personnel Preparation
	(P) Julie Waddle	Parent (North)	Parent
	(P) Kammie Riddle	Independent Provider (North)	Independent Provider
	(P) Kara Butler	UMMC, EI, SI (Central)	Public Provider
X	(P) Kara Driver, MD	UMMC, Pediatrics-Newborn Meds	Public Provider
X	(P) Keishawna Smith	Parent (Central)	Parent
	(P) Laura Smith	Parent (Central)	Parent
	(P) Lori Rolison	Parent (South)	
	(P) Natasha Bennett	Parent (Central)	Parent
	(P) Sara Leathers	Parent (North)	Parent
X	(P) Stacy Davis	Healthy Homes, MS	Human Services
	(P) Tanya Rogillio	Child Protective Services	Human Services

Additional Attendees:

Alice Smith, *Peterkin & Assc of MS*
 Anissa Pace, *District IX Coordinator*
 Claudia Shedd, *District II Service Coordinator*
 Debra Koonce, *Quality Technical Assistant*
 Diamond Whitker, *EHDI-M Director*
 Dinah Bell, *Quality Technical Assistant*
 Jacqueline Carrena, *Dist VII Service Coord*
 Linda Proctor, *District V Coordinator*
 Marty Chunn, *Quality Technical Assistant*
 Michelle Masterson, *District I Coordinator*

Miranda Richardson, *EI Data Manager*
 Pam Dollar, *MS PTI*
 Pamela Kendrick, *EI Monitoring Coordinator*
 Paulita Childs-Edwards, *District II Coordinator*
 Stacy Callender, *Part C Coordinator*
 Tanya Churchill, *Quality Technical Assistant*
 Valecia Davis, *MSDH, EI Division Director*
 Valerie Linn, *Director, MSS*
 Valerie Smith-Silas, *District III Coordinator*
 Yolanda Dixon, *Peterkin & Assc of MS*

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MINUTES

Welcome/Introductions (Shirley Miller)

Ms. Miller, SICC Chair, opened the meeting at 9:07am. Ms. Miller welcomed new SICC appointees to the meeting and explained their new role. The SICC members and attendees introduced themselves.

Review and Approval of Minutes (Shirley Miller)

The minutes from the October 21, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Ms. Shivers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Henington, to approve the minutes.

Program Updates (Miranda Richardson & Stacy Callender) –see presentation for details.

- Ms. Callender explained the proposed budget for Grant FFY2017.
 - The application with attached budget will be posted for 60 days by/before February 21, 2017. Public comments will be allowed for 30 days.
 - Questions from the floor:
 - Is there a plan in place for funds reduction?
 - Who at MSDH makes the decision to cut funding and/or services?
 - How will reimbursement rates be affected because of potential cuts?
 - Ms. Callender informed the SICC members that neither the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) nor MSDH had yet addressed final allocations for the coming year, including funds allocated through the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) for Maintenance of Effort (MOE), i.e., state funding for early intervention that must be maintained each year. Ms. Callender also informed the SICC members that most of the reimbursements for services were provided through public and private insurance, including Medicaid, and federal funds when no other payor source is available. Ms. Callender also explained about funding provided by Medicaid to support service coordination through Targeted Case Management (TCM) funding.
 - Ms. Callender described subgrants developed at the state-level to benefit all District Programs. For example, Ms. Callender described a plan to partner with the Mississippi Parent Training and Information Center (MSPTI) to provide parent training and increase access to parent liaisons who would be able to follow children and families from birth through 21 years of age.
- Ms. Young suggested other stakeholders be sought out to participate on SICC.
 - Ms. Callender highlighted potential barriers that may inhibit greater provider involvement, including financial barriers and distance, and recommended the use of online meetings to enable greater access.
 - Ms. Pell agreed with the challenges faced by providers for participation and added that due to limited internet access in rural communities even online access would not completely eliminate those barriers.
- Ms. Miller inquired about increases in participation due to new Autism legislation and the impact on current services.
 - Ms. Young explained Medicaid's move toward person-centered therapy/treatment and the expanding role of Medicaid for various services. Ms. Young stated that these changes may lead to greater participation in early intervention services. Ms. Young also

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provided information about the submission of *Prior Authorization Form* for justification, which should indicate the medical necessity for services.

- A concern was voiced about obtaining medical records to justify the medical necessity of services.
 - Ms. Young volunteered to provide training and/or a demonstration for staff on using the *Provider Portal* for Medicaid, to expedite access to patient's insurance history for faster access to services.
- Ms. Richardson reviewed the Mississippi Part C Annual Progress Report (APR) that was submitted on February 1, 2017. The MS Part C APR was reviewed and signed by the SICC Chair before submission. Major results include:
 - There has been a continued decrease in the meeting of the 45-day timeline and the provision of timely services due to limited provider availability.
 - There was a slight dip in natural environments as some Districts rely on clinics when home-based services are not available; although, the rates are high compared to national averages.
 - Some of the child outcomes on "growth" are lower making them more in line with national numbers. This was seen as a result of more accurate measurements.
 - Some of the family outcomes have also shown a dip.
 - Child find numbers for the birth to one population is lower than expected; however, the overall child find numbers for birth to three is very close to targets.
 - Questions from the floor:
 - Are disaggregated data available for Districts, Service Coordinators, and/or Providers?
 - Ms. Richardson informed the SICC members that the current data report is State-level data; however, District-level data would be presented at the next meeting.

Business

- Appointments and orientation
 - Ms. Miller again had members introduce themselves and thanked them for agreeing to serve.
 - Ms. Callender noted that the appointee names had been submitted to the Governor and were being review. As soon as appointments were official, an orientation session would be scheduled.
- Vision/Mission Statements and Bylaws Revisions
 - Ms. Callender recommended the development of Vision and Mission Statements, aligning with the Vision, Mission, and Principle Statements developed for the MSFSEIP.
 - Ms. Miller noted Vision and Mission statements could be reviewed and revised by a committee of volunteers also working on bylaws revisions.
 - The following members volunteered to serve on a *Mission and Bylaws Revision Committee*: Ms. Miller, Ms. Shivers, Ms. Pell, Ms. S. Davis, Ms. Hennington, and Ms. Dixon
- Standing and Ad Hoc Committees and SSIP Workgroups
 - Ms. Callender reviewed the existing standing committees according the current Bylaws, ad hoc committees developed under the previous Part C Coordinator, and the workgroups addressing components of the MS Part C State Systemic Improvement Plan

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(SSIP). Ms. Callender noted that SICC members serve as “stakeholders” for the SSIP, including providing feedback on work and

- Ms. Miller recommended the members select committees after the revision of the Bylaws.
- SICC Meetings
 - Ms. Miller asked if funds were available to accommodate different meeting locations (e.g., north, central, south).
 - Ms. Callender noted the MSFSEIP allocates IDEA funds to support SICC Meetings.

Public Comments

The next SICC Meeting date was originally scheduled for April 14, 2017; however, as this date occurs on Good Friday, the meeting was rescheduled for April 7, 2017 to accommodate participation.

Adjourn

The SICC Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. to enable a review of Program Standards developed by the SSIP Program Standards Workgroup.