



MISSISSIPPI FIRST STEPS EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM (MSFSEIP)

State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Meeting

July 19, 2019

9:00 am-4:00 pm

Present	SICC Members	Affiliation	Role
X	Brittany Herrington (C)	Parent (South)	Parent
X	Candice Taylor	MS Dept. of Education	State Agency: Education
	Carlen Henington	Inst. of Higher Learning, MSU	Personnel Preparation
X	Chad Allgood	Child Care Licensure	Personnel Preparation
	VACANT	Division of Medicaid	State Agency: Medicaid
	Holly Spivey	Office of Gov., Head Start Collab	Head Start
	Janet Slaughter	Independent Provider (Central)	Provider
	Julie Parker	Inst. of Higher Learning, MSU	Personnel Preparation
	Julie Waddle	Parent (North)	Parent
	Kamme Riddle	Independent Provider (North)	Provider
	Kara Butler	UMMC, EI, SI (Central)	Provider
	Kara Driver, MD	UMMC, Pediatrics-Newborn Meds	Provider
X	Keishawna Smith*	Parent (Central)	Parent
	Laura Smith	Parent (Central)	Parent
	Linda Shivers	Independent Provider (Central)	Provider
X	Lori Rolison	Parent (South)	Parent
	Natasha Bennett	Parent (Central)	Parent
	Nita Thompson	MS Head Start Association	Head Start
X	Ronjanett Taylor	Inst. of Higher Learning	Personnel Preparation
	Ryan Blakeney	MS Dept. of Insurance	State Agency: Insurance
	Sara Leathers	Parent (North)	Parent
	Shirley Miller	MS Dept. of Mental Health (Ret)	Parent; State Agency
X	Alberstine Pickett	MS Dept. of Mental Health	State Agency

* ex officio

Additional Attendees:

- Alyssia Thomas, MSDH, Lead & Healthy Homes
- Anissa Pace, MSDH, Local Early Intervention Program (LEIP) Coordinator - 9
- Beryl Polk, MSDH, Director Child & Adolescent Health
- Carey Bates, MSDH, Early Intervention Quality Technical Assistant - Central Region
- Debbie Duncan, MSDH, CYSHCN, Care Coordinator
- Gwen Woodard, Division of Medicaid
- Leri Elam-Knot, MSDH, Local Early Intervention Service Coordinator - 7
- Liza VanNorman, MSDH, Local Early Intervention Program (LEIP) Coordinator - 7
- Pamela Kendrick, MSDH, Early Intervention Monitoring Coordinator
- Paulita Childs, MSDH, Early Intervention Training Coordinator
- Stacy Callender, MSDH, Part C Coordinator
- Shay Newsom MSDH, Local Early Intervention Service Coordinator - 1
- Stephenie Bailey, MSDH, Local Early Intervention Program (LEIP) Coordinator - 8
- Valecia Davis, MSDH, Early Intervention Operations Director

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MINUTES

Welcome/Introductions (B. Herrington)

B. Herrington opened the meeting at 9:07 am. She welcomed all SICC members and attendees. All participants provided brief introductions.

Review and Approval of Minutes (B. Herrington)

Minutes from the April 12, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved as written by the SICC (motion by L. Rolison; second by K. Smith).

Committee Reports (B. Herrington)

The following updates were provided on the work of the committees:

- ***Personnel Preparation Committee:*** V. Davis, Co-Chair, reported the first Strategic Planning Team (SPT) meeting was held April 26, 2019, with guidance from ECPC. All six subcomponents of the CSPD were addressed and tentative committee work groups were identified. S. Callender provided an update regarding the EI credential, indicating the expected format of eight modules over the course of twelve months for attainment. No anticipated date of inaugural class provided at this time.
- ***Public Awareness Committee:*** L. Rolison, Co-Chair, reported Dr. Driver is waiting to get with EI central office staff to obtain data for report. The committee has decided to model the report after the Florida report as it is simple and easy to follow.
- ***Transition Committee:*** No report. Has not met since last ICC meeting.
- ***Retention/Recruitment:*** No report. Has not met since last ICC meeting. S. Callender mentioned she is currently working with MSDH HR to get an RFP for a Rate Study.

SICC Business: (B. Herrington)

The following business items were discussed:

- ***Member Resignations/Vacancy Appointments:*** S. Callender mentioned several members have resigned for various reasons, e.g. moving, no longer EI providers, and change in roles from previous agencies. She also mentioned the need to request replacements for Medicaid representation on the ICC. She asked the group for recommendations so names can be submitted to the new Governor after the November election, as ICC members are appointed by the Governor. C. Allgood will assist in identifying representation from DHS/CPS. K. Smith will assist with parent outreach. Alberstine Pickett was introduced as a representative from the Department of Mental Health. S. Callender has reached out to representatives from the MIECHV program to increase involvement between the MSFSEIP and MIECHV program as both are home visiting programs.
- ***New Partnerships/Initiatives:*** S. Callender shared information regarding the “Kinship Cares” program in which EI is partnering with Joy Hogge, Mississippi Families as Allies, and the Human Services Research Institute to identify families where children are being raised by family members other than their biological parents who may need additional supports. C.

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Allgood shared MSDH is currently working with DHS to develop more/better guidance for a comprehensive level of childcare development practices. C. Allgood stated DHS will be requesting a letter of support for Part C and Part B as they develop improved guidelines for serving children with special needs.

- **Medicaid/MS CAN Concerns:** A. Pace, LEIP 9, reported UnitedHealthcare – MS CANS continues to deny services for children in EI. She reported many providers are refusing to serve EI children because of this reimbursement issue. G. Woodard asked Ms. Pace to provide guidance on how this could be addressed? G. Woodard informed the SICC these issues should be shared with “Provider Relations” and arrange a training or forum to address these specific concerns. EI central office will provide assistance with hosting a forum if it could be arranged.

Public Comments:

The following public comments were shared:

- A. Thomas, MSDH Lead and Health Homes, informed the SICC the decrease in lead level percentage for referral to EI services has been beneficial to families. A. Pickett also stated Dr. Cannon-Smith shared information with the DMH community as well.
- D. Duncan, MSDH CYSHCN Program, reported CYSHCN wants to increase collaboration with EI for better provision of services to families as some families are dually enrolled in both programs.
- C. Allgood, MSDH Child Care Licensure, reminded attendees of the upcoming Head Start conference. He offered to share promotional materials for those not able to attend.

Program Update

The following updates were provided by the Program personnel:

- **EI Determinations:** S. Callender reported on Local and State determinations. She explained how the compliance matrix works, noting how it is used by the federal government to make determinations. The MSFSEIP use the same compliance matrix when making local determinations. The State determination for FFY2017 is “Needs Assistance” as we did not meet the 80% threshold for Results and Compliance ratings. These ratings include comparing Mississippi’s results with other state as well as compared to past performance. Factors that have negatively impacted our rating are (1) LEIP 5 is in “long standing” noncompliance on timely services, and (2) Mississippi results were flagged as having data quality issues due to having too few results reported for existing children. V. Davis reminded LEIP Coordinators of the need for Service Coordinators to work with Service Providers to update outcome scores so all child outcome data are reported.
- **EI Monitoring Updates:** P. Kendrick reported on noncompliance and annual monitoring:
 - LEIP 5 remains in longstanding noncompliance for Indicator 1: Timely Services (i.e., all services started within 30 business days). Additional monitoring activities are being conducted.

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- For annual monitoring next year, Region 2 LEIPs will receive onsite monitoring from the State office, and Regions 1 and 3 LEIPs will complete self-assessments.
- Revised/Updated LEIP-School District Communication Plans to facilitate smooth and effective transitions between Part C and Part B are due September 1, 2019.
- S. Callender reminded programs of the shared drive on the MSDH network. All evidence of corrective actions for LEIP CAPs should be placed in the shared drive for review.
- **EI Training Updates:** P. Edwards reported on status of LEIPs in relation to EBPs:
 - LEIP 2 is using the RBI interview and the process is being fully implemented throughout the entire program.
 - LEIPs 5 & 9 are at different stages of implementation of the RBI, but both programs have fully implemented use of the ECO Maps. Both programs should be in full implementation of the RBI by December 31, 2019.
 - ALL LEIPs are using the *Individualized Growth & Development Indicator-Early Communication Indicator (IGDI-ECI)*, a play-based assessment to measure progress on communication. This training supports the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) to promote language development. S. Newsome and L. VanNorman provided feedback on the use of the IGDI in their programs.
 - The Annual EI Skills Conference for all EI personnel, including LEIP staff and contracted service providers was held July 9-12, 2019. Over 300 EI personnel were trained.
- **Programmatic Updates:** S. Callender provided information regarding the centralization of the EI program effective July 1, 2019. All EI programs have been placed under the direction of the Office of Child & Adolescent Health. This provides for a single line of supervision to ensure efficiency and continuity of services among local programs throughout the State.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.