

MEETING SUMMARY

January 26, 2018

A regular public meeting of the New Jersey State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) was held on Friday, January 26, 2018 at Sunny Days Early Childhood Development Service in Manalapan, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 11:07 am by Catherine Colucci, who served as acting chair.

ATTENDANCE: Maintained at DOH office

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS -- Catherine Colucci, Acting Chair

Ms. Colucci welcomed attendees. At her request, SICC members and public members introduced themselves and identified their connection with early intervention. There were no Council announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of September 29, 2017 were unanimously approved upon a motion by Dr Joe Holahan and Michele Christopoulos. There were no comments or requested changes to the notes from the SICC meeting on 11/17/17 for which there was quorum.

LEAD AGENCY – New Jersey Department of Health (DOH)

Terry Harrison, Part C Coordinator, presented the following information on behalf of the Lead Agency:

1. Barbara Tkach, Preschool Special Education Coordinator and a designated SICC member representing Department of Education will retire at the end of the month.
2. Governor Murphy has nominated Shereef Elanhal, M.D., M.B.A. as the new Department of Health (DOH) Commissioner pending final approval by the legislature he will serve in an acting capacity. In addition, Jackie Cornell, MPAP has been appointed as the Deputy Commissioner for Public Health Services.
3. NJEIS will work with Kaitlyn Woolford as the designated DOH SICC member to address the appointment of new members to the SICC.
4. Oliver Giller, Data Manager for the New Jersey Early Intervention System (NJEIS), is on medical leave.
5. **Procedural Safeguards Office (PSO)**- The PSO report included receipt of one formal administrative complaint and two allegations of fraud. The PSO is conducting investigations on these matters.
6. **Family Cost Participation:** A report was emailed to Council members prior to the meeting. Covansys will continue to administer family cost participation through February 2018 and will send a notice of change to families. Approaching suspension notices will continue to be sent in February 2018 but suspension will be on hold in February and March. Public Consulting Group (PCG) will assume responsibility Family Cost Participation and Medicaid recovery in March 2018.
7. **EIMS Update:** The vendor (PCG) will be offering a web-ex training opportunity to address identified issues and resolutions. PCG has hired two additional developers to address issues. Migration issues seem to be the root cause of many EIMS implementation issues. REIC staff are assisting with entering back data into EIMS. NJEIS is arranging to temporarily provide weekly EIP payments. PCG has added additional staff to the Help desk to respond to questions and concerns.

8. **Annual Performance Report (APR)**- The draft of the APR including the performance data from Federal Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017) was presented to the Council. The Council by unanimously approved the submission of the APR through a motion by Kim Peto and Rosemary Browne. Kaitlyn Woolford as the representative of DOH abstained. In addition, the Acting Chair signed the SICC certification that the SICC is using the State's Part C SPP/APR for FFY 2016 in lieu of submitting the ICC's own annual report. It was noted that Indicator 11, State Systemic Improvement Plan, will be submitted as required by April 2, 2018.

SICC COMMITTEE/WORKGROUP REPORTS:

Administrative/Policy – Channel McDevitt reported for the group and recommended that the proposed SICC policies be voted on via email. A vote on an ad hoc committee to address SICC member orientation will occur via email.

Family Engagement – Rosemary Browne reported the group did not meet.

State Systemic Improvement Plan—Rosemary Browne reported the group met following the November SICC meeting. Susan Evans provided a continuity scale for collecting baseline data related to social emotional outcomes and development. There is a need to identify five volunteers from each region for a work group to recommend whether a second tool is needed to address social emotional development.

Service Delivery: Kim Peto reported the committee met on January 8th and discussed issues related to subcontracting and teleintervention service delivery.

Higher Education—Catherine Colucci reported that the committee met before the SICC meeting. The committee will be hosting a meeting on Friday, February 2, 2018 that will include fourteen higher education representatives (including Kean, Rutgers, Rowan, Seton Hall and Stockton.) Kristen Kugelman will provide an overview of NJEIS. The meeting will also focus on gathering information related to preparatory training and curriculum from each of the universities/colleges represented. The committee is considering a possible recruitment event for future practitioners. A long-term goal is to ensure every student in an early intervention related field has a holistic perspective and understanding of NJEIS.

Old Business – The SICC meeting schedule for calendar 2018 was unanimously approved for January 26, March 16, May 18, July 20, September 21, and November 16 through a motion by Dr. Joe Holahan and Rosemary Browne. The calendar is currently available on the DOH/NJEIS website.

New Business - None

Public Comment

David Holmes, ABCD EIP Provider Association - Presented comments on the implementation of EIMS

Bob Pruznick, Warren Arc - Expressed concerns about changes being made to NJEIS when it was working so well and asked when the EIMS would become fully functional.

Karen Olanrewaju, Sunny Days – Raised a question regarding how outstanding cost participation will be collected from families.

Adjournment: 12:51 upon motion Michelle Christopoulos and Chanell McDevitt.

Approved - March 16, 2018