

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Instructions: [F-01922A](#)

Name of Governmental Body: Governor's Birth to 3 Program Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)		Attending: Council Members: Julie Walsh, Jennifer Bibler, Virginia Brath, Shalene Fayne, Linda Hall, Laura Holmes, Kristine Nadolski, Rosemarie Navarro-Red Hail, Deb Rathermel, Lisa Roberts, Lisa Subeck, Terri Wixom	
Date: 2/10/2021	Time Started: 9:00 a.m.	Time Ended: 1:17 p.m.	Council Members Excused: Jennifer Eggert Public Attendees: Josh Mersky (ICFW) State Staff: Lisa Hankes (DCF); Autumn Knudtson (BCS), Dan Kramarz (BCS), Kate Johnson (BCS), Matt Rundle (BCS), Dana Romary (BCS), Laura Grulke-Rueter (DMS), Lori Wittemann (BCS), Lydia Essenmacher (BCS)
Location: Zoom Conference Call		Presiding Officer: Julie Walsh, Chair	

Minutes

Welcome/Introductions and Announcements: Julie Walsh, Chair

Call to Order, Greetings and Introductions of Council members, and Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) staff.

Operational

- Approval of October 21, 2020, Draft Meeting Minutes Motion made by Laura Holmes seconded by Rosemarie Navarro-Red Hail to approve minutes approved. Motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of January 27, 2021, Draft Meeting Minutes motion to approve by Rosemarie Navarro-Red Hail seconded by Laura Holmes minutes approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

None

Membership Recruitment

- Vacancies
 - Member from the state agency responsible for childcare and state child welfare agency responsible for foster care. (Both of these functions are housed in the Department of Children and Families, or DCF.)
- Parent Representative(s)
 - It was noted the critical need to keep the parent perspective on the ICC through parent membership. Each ICC member was encouraged to reach out and consider parents and family members. Interested individuals can contact Deb Rathermel or Nancy Bills of the Bureau of Children's Services (BCS) with questions.
- All members appointed by the Governor.

DHS Updates

- DHS Leadership Changes
 - DHS Secretary-Designee Andrea Palm was nominated to serve as the Deputy Secretary of the federal Department of Health and Human Services. Karen Timberlake has returned to DHS and began serving as interim Department Secretary effective January 25, 2021.

- COVID 19
 - The flexibilities to provide services remotely in the Birth to 3 Program during this pandemic will continue, including remote services and interim individualized family service plans (IFSPs).
 - Medicaid also is continuing telehealth to assure access to services, including Birth to 3 Program services; this includes the flexibility to provide any previously covered services as long as it meets the requirement of being functionally equivalent.
 - The State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) developed vaccination recommendations including direct caregivers in group 1a. Direct caregivers include paid/unpaid caregivers and affiliated/unaffiliated health care providers; paid and unpaid caregivers includes parents, foster parents and other caregivers of children enrolled in BCS programs, A letter was issued to all families of children in BCS programs communicating their inclusion in group 1a and also distributed to county program contacts for sharing with families.
 - The ICC discussed questions regarding how Birth to 3 Programs are providing services during the pandemic. Members, specifically providers, reported offering families remote, in person or combination of services.

Early Intervention Access

- BCS Family website
 - BCS is developing at statewide child find effort through a public service announcement (PSA) campaign titled “The First 1000 Days.” This campaign will include family-focused updates to the Birth to 3 Program website to include details about eligibility, developmental milestones, how to access eligibility determination, etc. Changes are intended to make the information easier to access and navigate.
- Public Service Announcement (PSA)/State-Level Child Find
 - Several documents are being developed including a set targeted towards medical professional and another geared toward parents/families. Draft documents compare primary coach approach to teaming and traditional outpatient approach and outline common misperceptions about primary coach approach to teaming. Draft information was distributed to ICC members for comments and suggestions.
 - Two Birth to 3 Program family input sessions will be held the morning of March 9 and the evening of March 11 for families to provide direct input and to ask questions. Sessions will provide an overview of the Birth to 3 Program and information on the PSA.
 - Finally, round 2 PSA materials are scheduled for distribution in June 2021 including more in-depth Birth to 3 Program topics highlighting benefits of the program, family success stories and a webinar for doctors from doctors to more successfully reach health care professionals

Social and Emotional Innovation Grant Initiative

- Josh Mersky, professor from the UW-Milwaukee Institute for Child and Family Well-Being (ICFW) provided an overview of an evaluation project of the Birth to 3 Program’s Social Emotional Innovation Grants. The ICFW project will evaluate the innovation grant, provide feedback directly to individual grantees and provide recommendations and enhance best practices to the state Birth to 3 Program. Dr. Mersky anticipates this project will identify best practices and where or how to invest more resources and disseminate resources/practices statewide.
- The evaluation will include surveying and interviewing grantees and Birth to 3 Program recipients (families) at two different points in time and reviewing state-level data. A review of program practices will include strengths and concerns about screening, evaluation, training and professional development.
- Two reports will be shared with the state Birth to 3 Program and with the grantees near the mid-term of the project (April/May) and at the conclusion of the grant period.

Child Outcome / Recap of Annual Performance Report (APR) Results and Summary

- Birth to 3 Program Data Manager shared the Child Outcomes (Indicator 3) data with analysis based upon various data criteria, such as child characteristics, referral sources, race and ethnicity and region.
- ICC members discussed various questions about child outcomes data and analysis with following recommendations:
 - Continue to analyze and review population characteristics data.
 - Examine differences in population characteristics at a regional level.
 - Review county program infrastructure and practices and identify program operations that result in improved outcomes.

- Address implementation variability across counties and their approach to intervention/services and support all programs with implementation.

Additional Updates

Prior to the next meeting, DHS will submit the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) report and publically post the next Part C grant application. The Part C grant is expected to be approximately the same amount as last year, \$7.6 million.

Next Meeting

- Next ICC meeting will be held on May 7, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.
- Rosemarie Navarro-Red Hail moved to adjourn Laura Holmes seconded.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Prepared by: Dana Romary on 2/9/2021.