

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Governor's Birth to 3 Program Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)			Attending: Council Members: Julie Walsh, Jennifer Bibler, Virginia Brath, Kristine Nadolski, Deb Rathermel, Lisa Subeck, Terri Wixom
Date: 5/7/2021	Time Started: 10:06 a.m.	Time Ended: 11:33 a.m.	Council Members Excused: Jennifer Eggert, Lisa Roberts, Linda Hall Public Attendees: Michelle Davies, Michelle Schmolesky State Staff: Lisa Hanks (DCF), Kate Johnson (BCS), Rebecca Granger (BCS), Matt Rundle (BCS), Lori Wittmann (BCS), Regena Floyd-Sambou (BCS), Amy Pulda (BCS), Nancy Bills (BCS), Clara De La Garza (BCS), Dana Romary (BCS)
Location: Zoom Conference Call			Presiding Officer: Julie Walsh, Chair
Minutes			

Welcome:

Call to Order at 10:06 a.m.

General Business:

- Approval of February 10, 2021, Draft Meeting Minutes. Motion made by Lisa Subeck seconded by Kristine Nadolski to approve minutes approved. Motion passed unanimously.
Reapproved at 11:15 a.m. when quorum was met. Motion carried.
- Council member updates and announcements
Discussed status of new council member. No updates at this time.

Annual Performance Report Findings–Improvement Strategies:

The ICC was briefed about the child and family outcomes results reported in the Annual Performance Report (APR) and next steps to improvement data, demographic representation and survey responses. Comments were gathered from the ICC to inform the work.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Recommendations and Request Council Input:

A review of what is currently known and unknown about the ARPA funds was shared. ICC members with expertise in any of the strategies identified by the department were encouraged to participate in a mini-think tank group being formed. Ginger Brath volunteered. ICC members have until May 12, 2021, to contact Deb Rathermel about interest.

Bureau of Children's Services (BCS) Updates:

Budget Updates

The Joint Finance Committee within the state legislature is currently developing and reviewing budget proposals after statewide listening sessions. Three items related to the Birth to 3 Program were proposed in Governor Evers' state budget: 1) additional general purpose revenue (GPR) funding which had been in last budget; 2) strategies to identify and address lead exposure, including necessary funds to provide services to children exposed to lead and changing the eligibility criteria to match Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) criteria; and 3) a provision to increase the payment rate for speech therapy services through Medicaid.

Annual Submissions: Part C Grant Application and State Systemic Improvement Plan

BCS submitted the annual Part C grant application to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) on May 3.

Wisconsin received a \$45.00 increase to the annual grant this year. The State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) report was submitted to OSEP in April.

Part C Procedure Guide

A Part C program manual guide has been drafted to provide programs with all fundamental information about the requirements of the program in one place. The guide is currently being reviewed by local program staff and partners for input. Once finalized, this guide will be posted to our website and will be updated as needed for ongoing program guidance.

COVID-19 and Program Impacts

BCS has issued ongoing guidance to programs about flexibilities to apply during COVID-19, and all flexibilities remain in effect at this time. The Birth to 3 Program continues to have low enrollment, a 15-17% reduction in numbers.

The public service announcement (PSA) campaign will support universal messaging and emphasize the necessity of intervening early. ICC members were asked to provide input to the PSA materials by May 12, 2021. A recommendation was made to be up front about what services we provide and how we are delivering them.

Wrap Up and Action Items:

- Next ICC meeting will be held on July 7, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.
- Terri Wixom moved to adjourn; Ginger Brath seconded.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Prepared by: Lori Wittemann on 5/7/2021.