

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Governor's Birth to 3 Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)		Attending: Virginia Brath, Provider (Chair); Jennifer Bibler, Department of Public Instruction (DPI) /Early Childhood Special Education; Jacci Borchardt, Provider; Lisa Hankes, Department of Children and Families (DCF); Laura Holmes, Child Care Representative; Jenna Jacobson, State Representative/Legislator; Kristine Nadolski, DPI/MCKinney-Vento; Rosemarie Navarro-Red Hail, Parent; Deb Rathermel, DHS/Division of Medicaid Services; Trisha Wicinsky, County Representative; Theresa Wixom, Parent Council Members Excused: Rachel Cissne Carabell, Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) Representative, Linda Hall, DHS/Office of Children's Mental Health. State staff Attendees: Cooper Parnell (BCS); Clara De La Garza (BCS); Lori Wittemann (BCS), Dana Romary (BCS) Regena Floyd-Sambou (BCS); Tessa Freedberg (BCS), Elizabeth Gullickson (BCS), David Sorensen (BCS), Dan Kramarz (BCS); Laura Zimmerman (BCS), Kristin Carlton (BCS), Soktheap (Tip) Pom (BCS) Becky Hoffman (CESA5/RESource), Michelle Davies (CESA5/RESource), Lana Edwards (CESA5/RESource), Karen Katz (Office of Children's Mental Health), Debra Borquist-Conlon (BCS), Michelle Lund (CYSHCN).
Date: 5/12/2023	Time Started: 9:03 AM Time Ended: 11:51 AM	
Location: Circles of Life Conference - Wisconsin Dell and Virtual Zoom Meeting		Presiding Officer: Ginger Brath

Minutes

Welcome

- Call to Order, Greetings, and Introductions
- Council Members Updates and Announcements
 - No announcements

Public Comments:

- No public comments given.

General Business

- Approve Meeting Minutes from March 2023
 - Laura Holmes motioned to approve.
 - Jacci Borchardt seconded. Motion passed

Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program Data

- The Bureau of Children’s Services (BCS) reviewed monthly enrollment data current track for the Birth to 3 Program including additional data points requested previously by the ICC related to enrollment, disenrollment and in progress referrals.
- 72.6% of children enrolled are eligible based on a 25% delay with communication delay most common.
- 18.7% of children enrolled are eligible due to a diagnosed condition. Highest three diagnosed conditions are

significant prematurity, down syndrome, and neurological conditions.

- 8.7% of children enrolled are eligible due to atypical development.
- Data shows that:
 - Enrollment numbers continue to increase
 - Disenrollment increases in June
 - Highest reason for disenrollment for children over age 3 is that the child turned 3 and was referred to the local education agency (LEA) for special education services
 - Highest reasons for disenrollment for children under age 3 are 1) Child is no longer in need of services with successful complete of the individualized family service plan (IFSP) and 2) Family choose to discontinue services
 - Physicians continue to be the high referral source
- ICC members discussed the importance and value of improving data and exploring ways to learn why families choose to disenroll before age 3.
- ICC members were encouraged to see that families are choosing to have their child referred to the LEA and that a high number of children referred to the LEA were found eligible

Differentiated Monitoring and Support (DMS) 2.0

- BCS provided information about the revised monitoring system by OSEP aimed to improve outcomes and results and ensure compliance.
- Part B and Part C will be monitored in a 5-year cycle
- In preparation, BCS has conducted a gap analysis and identified the five focus areas: comprehensive child find, IFSP service delivery, ICC membership, dispute resolution and procedural safeguards and record maintenance protocols.
- Specific to comprehensive child find, BCS identified three specific populations: 1) children experiencing homelessness, 2) Tribal/First Nations children and families, and 3) drug-affected children

Child Find: Specific Populations

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and Collaborating Partners Presentation/Child Find for Children Experiencing Homelessness

- DPI and Collaborating Partners (Kristine and Maria) shared DPI definition of homelessness: fixed, regular, adequate housing. This definition includes living with others (friends or relatives), in shelters, camping, in a hotel, in a car, and with migratory conditions.
- DPI shared national and state statistics and school districts' requirements for children of families experience homelessness.
- DPI provided suggestions of outreach at laundromats, playgrounds, homeless liaisons, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Family Resource Centers and child care resource & referral agencies (CCR&Rs), local shelters, and HeadStart
- DPI shared barriers of participation in programs like the Birth to 3 Program for families experiencing homelessness including but not limited to: fear of human services and Child Protective Services (CPS), high mobility, idea of having an annual parental cost share, engagement during working hours, and a family's capacity: being overwhelmed getting basic needs met.
- ICC members discussed the importance of identification, sharing of information and connecting families to resources.
- ICC members identified the need to help professionals (including physicians) and parents understand the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness to support identification of families, address and dispel stigmatism and directly address barriers in identification such as fear of children being taken away.
- ICC members discuss resources for identifying best practices and the need to look at the Birth to 3 Program definition of "natural environments" to determine its inclusivity for families experiencing homelessness.
- ICC members discuss the importance of programmatically reviewing transition practices for families experiencing homelessness and importance of finding people where they are.
- ICC member discussed the global lack of housing and affordable housing and the importance of identifying families living in doubled-up situations with other families as families experiencing homelessness and making them aware of resources that can be provided.

Native American Population and County Birth to Programs Presentation/ Children Find Tribal Children

- ICC member and Early Interventionist for the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin presented on child find and participation barriers for Tribal families based on Tribal family experiences and generational trauma of Tribal Nations-related government interactions.
- ICC member and Early Interventionist for the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin discussed the importance of individualizing child find, outreach and services to each tribe and family.
- Additional information was shared regarding:
 - Disclosure and obtaining tribal identification information
 - Language use to explain the Birth to 3 Program service model
 - The importance of programs having a reciprocal relationship between First Nations and counties
- ICC member and Early Interventionist for the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin provided proposed solutions including:
 - Provision of services at various location on reservations
 - Identifying tribal liaison who are present on reservations and visible at community events and
 - Diversity of service providers
 - Education of service providers regarding cultural awareness and cultural competence

Next Steps

- BCS plans to review the definition of “natural environment” to determine if the definition accurately and broadly enough captures possible locations where services might be provided
- BCS will seek opportunities to improve child find for tribal families and families experiencing homelessness and bring this discussion to a future ICC for more ideas.

Children’s Mental Health Month

- The Wisconsin Office of Children’s Mental Health (OCMH) presented on children’s mental health.
- Strategic focus of the OCMH is Social Connectedness of Youth with a theme of: Awareness, Acceptance, Action
- OCMH shared 2022 Well-Being Trends including data on children who self-harm, report feelings of depression and anxiety and the importance of quality peer friendship and relationships.
- OCMH provided mental health resources including the Mental Health Crisis Card and Accessing Children’s Mental Health Services Guide for parents, and OCMH websites.
- ICC members expressed interest in the data and learning more about the work happening.

Part C Grant Application – Public Comment Summary and ICC Approval

- BCS shared information regarding the posting and submission of the federal Part C Grant Application and federal fiscal year (FFY) 2023 Part C Grant awarded.
- The Part C Grant Application was posted on March 16 for 30-day public comment period and 60-day posting period. BCS reviewed all public comments for consideration.
- Wisconsin will submit an electronic copy of the application May 24, 2023. Funds will be received on or around July 2023.
- For Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023, Wisconsin has been awarded \$8,515,069 (an 8.7% increase from FFY 2022).
- BCS shared that most of the additional funding will go out to the local programs for direct services and as recommended at the last ICC meeting. Remaining funds will be used to fund Infant Mental Health Capstone scholarships and professional development (PD) activities.
- ICC members provided comment regarding challenges for county programs in subcontracting for specialized services beyond the core services inhibiting the provision of supports and services for children with low incidents.

BCS Updates

- BCS provided updates on four American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) projects
 - Professional Development System Update
 - Reviewed the mission for the reimagined PD System – comprehensive PD System, support evidence-based practices implemented by a highly trained and qualified workforce to improve

- outcomes for children and their families
- Reviewed, experiences of county leadership, service providers and impact on families
- Provided updates on new professional development materials available and status updates for each of the PD System activities have and how each will directly impact families
- ICC member commented that these were great PD ideas they'd like to share with their program.
 - ARPA Information Technology (IT) System Update
 - BCS shared that the focused of this project was on updates to PPS System to improve collection of data for federal reporting, analysis and correct common system errors and included seven updates to the Program Participant System (PPS)
 - Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC)Pilot
 - BCS shared updates on this two-part project which includes consultation at seven sites in five county programs and individual case-specific assessment and consultation for limited cases
 - BCS shared that quarterly meetings are being conducted with the seven sites and that referrals for individual case consultation are continuing after expanding eligibility criteria
 - Birth to 3 Program Pandemic Relief Grants Media Campaign
 - BCS shared updates regarding the Birth to 3 Program Pandemic Relief Grants focused on families that were disproportionately affected by the pandemic and the Birth to 3 Program Pandemic Relief Grants Media Campaign.
 - A total of 23 grants were awarded totaling \$1.6 million. The award period is from July 1, 2022, to September 30, 2023
 - BCS will be highlighting accomplishments shared in reports via media blast and government delivery messages as well as a website specific to the grants
 - BCS will send a link out to ICC with link to social media campaign folder
- ICC members thanked BCS for presenting updates and continuing to address areas the ICC has identified and that the program continues to focus on.

Wrap Up & Overview of Future Agenda Topics:

- Next ICC meeting is on October 18, 2023
- Meeting ended at 11:51 a.m.

Prepared by: Regena Floyd-Sambou on 5/12/2023.

These minutes are in draft form. They will be presented for approval by the governmental body on: 5/12/2023