

# Maryland SICC

STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)  
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services  
Early Childhood Intervention & Education Branch  
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*Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Ph.D., M.P.H., Chair*

*Karen Larenas, M.B.A., M.Ed., Vice Chair*

## SICC General Meeting

February 4, 2016

### Minutes

- Attendance:** Valerie Ashton-Thomas, Laura Barbee-Matthews, Mike Berman, Cynthia Bouchard, Marcella Franczkowski (by proxy), Curtisha Hopkins, Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Miji Kim, Karen Larenas, Cecilia Leger, Mary Leppert, Shannon McRae, Karen Mull, Sarah Nadiv, Natasha Ramberg, Elizabeth Snyder, and Abila Tazanu-Legall.
- Excused:** Janine Aughenbaugh, Nancy Egan, Elizabeth Kelley, Mary LaCasse, Rachel London.,
- Guests:** Wes Campbell, Debbie Crosby, Jen Harwood, and Jane Nell Luster
- Staff:** Janette Guerra, Pam Miller, Brian Morrison, and Nancy Vorobey.

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- I. Welcome, Remarks & Introductions: Brenda Hussey-Gardner  
Meeting called to order at 1:10 pm. Brenda announced she is leaving for Saudi Arabia tomorrow and excited about presentations she will be giving.
  - II. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes: Brenda Hussey-Gardner  
Minutes approved. Brenda reminded the group that corrections could still be made by emailing her if members found something in the future.
  - III. Announcements & Public Comment  
Zack Peters reported for Nancy Egan that there are two bills in the current Legislative Session: SB 297 and HB 539, which deal with extending the period of time for coverage. If the 2 bills pass, then they will have to amend the Parents' Guide to Habilitative Services.
  - IV. SICC Report: Brenda Hussey-Gardner
    - A. Membership Update  
Currently one opening, the State Legislator seat. If anyone knows someone to recommend, please contact Brenda or Brian. A nominee (Anne Blackfield) was put forth as a recommendation. Brenda provided some background information, a motion was made and voted on to move the name forward to the Governor's office for review. Brian will forward the packet.
    - B. SICC/SESAC Joint Meeting Update  
The chair of SESAC made a request to postpone the joint meeting until 2017, due to so many projects going on now.
    - C. SICC Joint Meeting Topic Selection  
Scheduled for June 2, 2016, 12:00-4:00. St. Mary's and Montgomery Counties offered to host. Curtisha recommended going to St. Mary's because the group has been to Montgomery County. Group discussed location needs.

Suggestion from the group that the time be changed to 10:00-2:00 if at St. Mary's to accommodate travelers. Debbie and Natasha will each check to see if the technology needs are available. Group agreed on St. Mary's if technology available. If not, then meeting will be in Montgomery County.

The large group split in to 3 smaller groups to come up with topic ideas for the joint session. Recommendations were: focusing on resources and ways to get resources to families; behavioral concerns and social emotional development to include medical concerns, early childhood trauma and attachment, social trauma, and ill-equipped providers; the social emotional focus of the SSIP and where/how local providers are making connections to the behavioral health system; and the impact of child care screening on the MITP. Group discussion resulted in seeing how all ideas can be intertwined and linked to social emotional development. The Executive Committee will take this idea and begin to pull a plan together. Anyone interested in attending the executive committee meetings to help with planning are welcome. If anyone has ideas of programs to offer as models for any of these areas, please email the executive committee.

V. SICC Family/Provider/Local Spotlight

A. Family: Elizabeth Snyder

Elizabeth has many titles, which include being the parent rep. on the SICCC and St. Mary's LICC and being on the PTA. She quit her job as a 911 Dispatcher in Prince George's County about 3 years ago because she wanted to dedicate more time to her daughters (now ages 8 and 5). She shared photos of her family and said they do lots of "selfies". Her eight-year-old has Down Syndrome and is in a general education classroom with her peers and goes out for special education services. There are 24 children in her class and 20 of them came to her birthday party. Her five-year-old is in kindergarten. Elizabeth recommends reading, "Special Needs Moms – A Look Inside", although thinks it should say "Parents", and "The 10 Commandments of Parents of Children with Special Needs". Both provide good, uplifting things to read and laugh about every day. She shared the positive experiences they've had participating in the Rec. & Parks programs, even getting trophies. She wants everyone to know her and see her family to understand the importance of the work. She appreciates the work that is happening at the SICCC, too.

B. Provider: Mary Leppert

Mary is a Developmental Pediatrician at Kennedy Krieger. She was raised in a big family in New Jersey and spent summers in Ireland. She also attended medical school in Ireland. Her father was a surgeon at an institution for people with disabilities and she often was able to go with him to see his work. The integrity of his care and the profound respect he had for families was a huge influence for her. Professionally she has focused on early identification

of developmental disabilities and specifically on birth to five genetic conditions and the effects of early treatment. She feels privileged to do this work and to be on the SICC.

- C. Local: Wes Campbell, Queen Anne's County  
Wes has been with the Queen Anne's Infants and Toddlers Program for about a year-and-a-half and was in Pennsylvania prior to that. Queen Anne's is the first county on the other side of the bridge and has about 8000 total students in the county. The ITP has about 100-125 children enrolled at any given time. The work there is very collaborative in nature due to a lack of resources. There is a consortium of specialists that serve the Eastern Shore. There has been lots of change in the program: new staff - some staff left, some went back to school; they created a designated service coordinator position; and they've had new challenges, specifically an increase in children with really complex/profound needs. He feels they are beginning to see progress now, as it takes time for things to change. They are working on video case reviews and have found the videos to be very powerful tools, with staff and families. They use individual reflection to watch what you've done and think about how to do it better next time. He has realized we have a very short window of time to make a difference. They are doing the best they can even though they are small.

- VI. RTT-ELCG: Liz Kelley  
No updates

- VII. Developmental Screening Initiative & Preschool Expansion: Tracy Jost  
Change of regulation to be effective July 2017. As of January 2016, 355 enrolled in Director Course, to make a total of 4220 and 574 enrolled in Teacher Course, to make a total of 5383. Since June 2015, 9603 have completed online training, with an estimated workforce of 13,810. To date, 4921 screening tools, mostly ASQs, have been ordered in print and online.

- VIII. Online IFSP Enhancements: Cecilia Leger  
Cecilia met with the tech team this morning about the IFSP enhancements. There are three components:
1. The Community Compass, which anyone has access to, to see developmental milestones and make online referrals;
    - Will have two tailored views – one for medical professionals that allows them to track referrals they have initiated, and one for parents and the general community with more of a “warm & fuzzy” feel to it that provides information on developmental milestones and why to identify delays early
  2. The Family Compass which gives parents access to their child's IFSP and relevant tools and resources, such as a calendar option to track meetings;

3. The existing Online IFSP database and tool, which is being streamlined to support providers.

The tech team is building three wireframes to see what each screen will look like. They are taking a mobile approach so building it for smart phones, tablets, etc. The next step is to look for specific users to see how it works and get input from particular audiences. Cecilia asked for suggestions of who to include. The group recommended: parent(s) of a premie; family who has been through the ITP; child care providers, specifically those who have completed training on screening for child care; related service providers; DSS; pediatricians and pediatric hospitals. Cecilia will email jurisdictions for director input.

#### IX. MSDE Birth Through Five Updates

##### A. Preschool Updates: Nancy Vorobey

1. Early Childhood Team at MSDE DES/EIS is now fully staffed. Newest member, Jennifer Parker, started January 6, and comes with lots of experience from DC Public Schools as their Director of Inclusion. She will be looking at the joint policy paper on inclusion and possibly forming a workgroup to operationalize some of the recommendations set forth in the paper.

2. ELA has had some challenges to roll-out (technology issues mostly) but doing some problem-solving and slowing down the implementation. We are still moving forward though and hope to see how the ELA can help in planning for instruction.

3. COS Interviews have been happening with the four SSIP jurisdictions and Queen Anne's County to gather information about statewide implementation, particularly around fidelity of implementation and integration. Results will be summarized and then a plan for next steps will follow.

##### B. Part C Updates: Brian Morrison

1. The 2016 Legislative Booklet was finalized yesterday. It is very similar to previous years but with an additional section focusing on social emotional development. It will be available online.

2. The Application for Federal Funds will be posted online soon, as it needs to be posted 60 days prior to submission and requires a 30 day public comment period. It is due April 1<sup>st</sup>. Natasha offered to use Survey Gizmo as a mechanism to get input from SICC members. Brenda will send her the questions from past years.

3. The annual grant meeting for the CLIG will be March 17<sup>th</sup>. More info to come.

4. Professional Learning Institute (PLI) will be March 9<sup>th</sup>.

5. SEFEL Reflective Coaching training on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, for SSIP Counties. Everyone else will have training in summer/fall.

6. If Directors are interested in staff being trained in RBI, please let Brian know as a summer institute is being considered.

- X. SSIP Action Plan Activity: Brian Morrison & Jane Nell Luster
- A. Brian presented the Annual Targets and explained that the calculated weighted total of SSIP counties with populations last year was 57.4% and is slightly up this year. Possible explanation is that some SSIP jurisdictions have already been implementing some of the evidence-based practices. Everyone agreed to keep the current targets with no adjustments. Jane Nell reminded the group that targets can be revised later.
  - B. Pam shared the revised Theory of Action, based on feedback from the SICC in December, 2015. She highlighted the emphasis on Systems Coaching and the liaisons' work, and Content Coaching.
  - C. Jane Nell presented the revised Logic Model, reminding group that in Dec. 2015, they looked at it and asked what was missing and what else do we need to do. Group offered a few more suggestions. How do we get feedback from the provider level and outside ITP?
- XI. Adjournment  
Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

*UPCOMING MEETINGS:*

Executive Meetings (1:00-3:00, MSDE)

March 17, 2016

May 5, 2016

General Meeting (1:00-4:00, CTE)

April 7, 2016

Joint Meeting (10:00-2:00)

June 2, 2016

