**State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC)**

**Quarterly Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday, October 8, 2020

**Time:** 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** VirtualZoom Meeting

**Members Present:**

Marilee Andrews

Tracy Barker

Leslie Doyle

Jennifer Hannon

Kathryne Hart

Antiqua Hunter

Colleen Klein-Ezell

Angela Lorio

Shanida Mathieu

Ursula Oustalet Meaux

Chriscella Metoyer

Tawnya Moore

Joy Pennington

Ann Phillips

Bambi Polotzola

Brenda Sharp

Libbie Sonnier-Netto

Kahree Wahid

**Members Absent:**

Mike Billings

Rebecca DeLaSalle

Marc Garnier

Soundra T. Johnson

Fiona Ritchey

**Others present:**

Melanie Washington Brittany Braun

1. **Call to order**: at 1:00 PM by SICC Committee Chairperson, Shanida Mathieu
2. **Roll Call and Introductions**

**Quorum Present**: 18 of 23 Committee members present (12 required)

**II. Old Business**

1. **Review and Approval of Minutes from Past Meetings**:Minutes of the July 9, 2020 quarterly meeting were reviewed.

**Motion to approve July 9, 2020 minutes by Angela Lorio. Seconded by Colleen Klein-Ezell. Motion Carried.**

1. **New Business**
2. **Family’s EarlySteps Journey/Blue Bridge ASL**: Jill Hudson provided Council members and public attendee’s with information about the Blue Bridge ASL Program.
3. **Executive Directors Report:** **Melanie Washington** *(see attached report for full details)*

SICC Member Vacancies: **Louisiana Legislator position vacant**. Representative Hilferty has been contacted but there has been no response. If no word from her office by the end of October, the Council will begin to seek another Legislator for the seat. There is also a **vacancy for a** **service provider**.

On September 15-16, 2020, SICC hosted a member training and orientation by the TAESE Center’s John Covenhaver.

SICC 2021 Action Plan will be refined and updated.

SICC 2021 Meetings are scheduled but unsure at this time if they will be virtual or in-person, this is TBD.

1. **Lead Agency Report:** **Brenda Sharp** *(see attached report for full details)*

Annual Performance Report: There will be changes implemented in the reporting of the APR in the 2020-2021. These include:

* More reporting on stakeholder involvement in development of APR and SPP, including how families with children with disabilities are included in the decision-making.
* Increased demographic information from families surveys (Who is responding to the surveys?).

State Performance Plan (Indicator 11): This section is now due in February, instead of April, when the rest of the APR is due for the 2020-2021 year.

There is a new process for Differentiated Monitoring and Support. There will be a new three-year cycle. Part B and Part C will work together in Cohorts. Louisiana was not selected for the first two cohorts.

State Improvement Systemic Plan: EarlySteps online modules are being revised using the DEC- Recommended Practices and can be found on the EarlySteps website.

State of the Region: Region 5 has a vacancy for Regional Coordinator. Some meetings for this region have been on hold due to impact from the hurricanes.

Budget and Finance: Part C Grant Award on July 1, 2020 was $7,021,584 (an increase of $6,407). Currently, there are no cuts to EarlySteps.

EarlySteps COVID 19 Sequence of Events (see report for full details): Currently in phase 3, a hybrid approach is being utilized for service delivery. Families that are not able to receive services virtually are being prioritized for home visits.

Child count is currently: 4,874

Children’s Medicaid Option (TEFRA-like program): January 1, 2021 is the anticipated date for full implementation of the program. This will be a waiver program and there may possibly be a waiting list. Families can apply through the Human Services Districts and Authorities in each region.

Central Finance Officer: There was an ownership change with the CFO Contractor in September. This contractor pays providers from part C funds. Due to the change in ownership, there was a delay in payments, but it has since been resolved.

**SSIP Committee Reports**

1. **Family Assessment Workgroup –** Monica Stampley (EarlySteps COS): A couple of workgroups were developed but work was interrupted due to Hurricane Laura. They discussed change of direction and are working on updating two ES modules. They will meet again on October 26, 2020.
2. **Service Delivery Supports Family Priorities** – April Hearron (RC for Region 7 – Shreveport Area): This committee has updated the practice profile for gaps in profile and to incorporate home visits and teletherapy. They will be recommending two professional developments or activities.
3. **Team Based Practice Supports** –Brenda Sharp (RC for Region 3 – Lutcher Area): This workgroup drafted changes to two teaming modules and discussed how to use the modules, maybe for the onboarding process. The next meeting is TBD.

* Tim Butler retired.

1. **Other Business**
2. **ICC Questions, Comments, Concerns**

**Angela Lorio** **made a motion to table SICC special elections to fill SICC – Parent-at-Large seat until regular 2021 elections. Motion seconded by** **Ursula Oustalet Meaux. Motion carried.**

A nominating committee was created. Members include Ursula Oustalet Meaux, Tracy Barker, Joy Pennington, and Marilee Andrews.

1. **Agency Updates**

The Governor’s Office of Disability Affairs (GODA) – Bambi Polotzola: GODA is still taking nominations for GOLD Awards and accepting art for the Inclusive Arts Contest until November 2, 2020.

Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) – Brittany Braun: The Early Childhood Webpage has information and resources that supports children with disabilities. Guidance has been added and there is a ***Developmental Screening Guidebook***. ***Partnership for Success Vender Guide for Special Education Professional Development*** and ***Learn the Signs Ambassador*** were also updated.

**Public Comments**

None.

**VII. Adjournment**

* **Motion to adjourn by Kahree Wahid, seconded by Angela Lorio. Motion Carried.**