



## MEETING SUMMARY September 25, 2015

A regular *public meeting* of the New Jersey State Interagency Coordinating Council was held on Friday, September 25, 2015 at the Mid-Jersey REIC, North Brunswick, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 11:06 by Catherine Colucci, who served as acting chair and declared a quorum present.

**ATTENDENCE** -- *Attached*

**WELCOME** -- Catherine Colucci, Acting Chair

1. Ms. Colucci *welcomed all attendees*. At her request, SICC members and *12 public members* introduced themselves and identified their connection with early intervention.
2. Ms. Colucci shared a *video by Kelly Anne Coyne* with the Council. The group discussed the relevant points of the video and determined that video or similar information should be shared at the start of SICC meetings.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the *May 29, 2015 meeting* were unanimously approved as previously distributed — upon motion by Joseph Holahan, seconded by Michele Christopoulos and carried.

### LEAD AGENCY -- New Jersey Department of Health (DOH)

Terry Harrison, Part C Coordinator

1. *Gloria Rodriguez* is preparing for retirement, which takes effect October 1, 2015.
2. Policy Statement on *Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood Programs* was presented by Ms. Harrison. Council reviewed and *voted in favor* of endorsing the policy statement (attached to file).
3. *Family Cost Participation* – The report was emailed in advance (attached to file). The Council had no questions.
4. *The Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems (DaSy)*-- DOH applied for and received an invitation to attend a 2-day meeting on the topic of “Supporting Local Data Use for Program Improvement”. Ms. Harrison and Oliver Giller from DOH will attend, in addition to a data manager from Mid-Jersey Cares REIC, Southern NJ Perinatal Cooperative Service Coordination Unit and Sunny Days EIP. The focus of the meeting will be on supporting and improving local data use for community programs.

5. *Procedural Safeguard Report* -- Coordinator Joseph Pergola distributed a report indicating 1 formal complaint was resolved through mediation, 828 informal complaints filed since July 1, 2015. Informal complaints include issues related to no practitioner available, disruption in services, missed services and family calls.
6. NJEIS will be collaborating with Danielle Thomas at the DOE Office of Homelessness to cross train regional staff from both programs to better *serve the homeless population in early intervention*. Ms. Thomas offered to bring some materials to share with the Council during an upcoming meeting.
7. *State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)* -- Susan Evans presented a Power Point update on *improvement plan activities and implementation timelines* (attached to file). There is continued focus on insuring data completeness with exit BDI evaluations. A webinar for targeted evaluation teams will be offered October 8, 2015 on the topic of the BDI and data management.
8. Ms. Harrison and Ms. Evans attended a state leadership team meeting on “*Reaching Potentials through Recommended Practices (RP2)*.” The purpose is to develop and provide intensive technical assistance to improve child engagement and outcomes.
9. Ms. Evans created a working draft master *calendar of NJEIS SSIP related activities*, which she shared with the Council and will be emailed to stakeholders group (attached to file).
10. Council viewed part of a webinar presented by Carl Dunst on the topic of *Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC)*, its recommended practices and support documents: 30 performance checklists, practice guides, free video- resources (copy distributed to each member/attached to file).
11. A stakeholders’ *Participation Survey* was distributed to all Council members (attached to file), with the request that they review, identify areas of assistance and return via email to Ms. Evans at [Susan.Evans@doh.state.nj.us](mailto:Susan.Evans@doh.state.nj.us)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Administrative Committee:** Chanel McDevitt and Susan Marcario

The draft *SICC budget* previously presented during the May 29, 2015 meeting was unanimously **approved** by the Council, including \$8,000 for the FY’16 EI week activities by the REIC’s (attached to file).

A draft format for updating the SICC website biographies was shared with the Council for review and input (attached to file). An updated version will be sent to the Council prior to the November meeting. Please return to Susan Marcario via email at: [Susanm@njeis.org](mailto:Susanm@njeis.org)

2. **Early Learning Challenge** -- No report.
3. **Family Support** -- Patti Ciccone and Rosemary Browne, Co-Chairs

Susan Evans met with the Committee and shared *outcome measurements from several states*. It was agreed that Colorado has an engaging website containing descriptions of family outcomes, banner states “measuring outcomes helps everyone” which fits nicely into the state plan. Next steps -- DOH will use Colorado as a model for developing future materials.

4. **Service Delivery** – Joyce Salzburg, Chair

Ms. Salzberg provided an update on the ongoing activities in reviewing the *ECTA System Framework*.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **SICC Retreat** -- Addressed during the Lead Agency report.
2. **2016 Meeting Location** – For calendar year 2016, *SICC meetings* will be held at the Sunny Days office in Manalapan. Terrie Goeke will be asked to contact CSH and thank them for offering their space to the SICC.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ms. Colucci shared a summary of information she gathered from the *OSEP conference* in July (*attached*).
2. Ms. Salzberg shared information about an amendment to the original *Senator Sinter bill*, which now focuses on the Lakewood community.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Peter Chen of ACNJ* ... Gave an update on a project working with Medicaid agency to put in place systemic changes to encourage developmental screening at recommended intervals. They are looking for families, providers, REICs who might be willing to share their stories.

**ADJOURNED** -- 1:15

Upon motion by Rachel Badalamenti, seconded by Ms. Browne and unanimously carried.

**APPROVED**

**11.10.15**