



MEETING SUMMARY

November 21, 2014

A regular *public meeting* of the New Jersey State Interagency Coordinating Council was held on Friday, November 21, 2014, at Children's Specialized Hospital, New Brunswick, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 11:07 by Catherine Colucci, who served as acting chair.

ATTENDANCE -- Attached

WELCOME/UPDATE -- Catherine Colucci, Acting Chair

Ms. Colucci welcomed all attendees. At her request, *SICC members and 15 public members* introduced themselves and identified their connection with early intervention. Ms. Colucci announced the *resignation from SICC of Annette Ristoro* (on the Council since 2007) because her daughter aged out of the system at 13.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 19, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved as distributed – upon motion by Rosemary Browne, seconded by Kimberley Peto and carried.

LEAD AGENCY-- NJ Department of Health -Terry Harrison, Part C Coordinator

1. *Gloria Rodriguez* is on medical leave and expected to return shortly.
2. *Procedural Safeguards* - Coordinator Joe Pargola distributed/discussed the status report since the last meeting.
3. *Family Cost Participation* - Discussed reports emailed in advance (attached to file copy). Continue on target for FY 2015. Claims for EIP continue to increase.
4. The *Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)* issued an email on November 18, 2014 to clarify OSEP's plan to suspend the current round of Part C fiscal monitoring. NJEIS was last monitored in 2011, and OSEP intends to put the information collected during that round of monitoring to identify fiscal issues for which further guidance and attention are needed. OSEP is currently developing new guidance and a technical assistance plan and anticipate that the next fiscal monitoring will be risk-based and focused in nature. It is not clear when New Jersey may be monitored again.

5. Ms. Harrison distributed several handouts describing the proposed *use of child outcome data for OSEP determinations*. Ms. Harrison is working closely with the Infant Toddler Coordinators Association to review and provide comment on the proposal. The focus of the proposal is on quality and child achievement. The quality measurement proposed is focused on identifying the number of children that exited with an evaluation contributing to the child outcome data. One recommendation is that children in the system less than 6 months should not be included in the reporting.
6. *Childcare development block grant* has been reauthorized and signed into law by the President (see attached announcement).
7. The *Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Education (DOE) and Rutgers University* to establish the New Jersey Learning Training Academy has been executed and is moving forward for implementation (see attached announcement).
8. The first potential case of fraud regarding the *Procedural Safeguards Modules* was identified when a certificate of completion submitted to CSC could not be confirmed by the Learning Management System (LMS) with Mercer County Community College. Investigation showed that there was no intent to commit fraud but was the result of a breach of log-in/password information. The practitioner was required to re-do the modules. Difficulty continues with practitioners completing the modules exceeding the required timelines by 60 to 90 days. DOH is beginning to disenroll practitioners who have not completed the modules timely and do not have active authorizations. DOH has issued a memo to the field related to this topic.
9. *Peter Chen* was introduced as a law fellow working with ACNJ and has a particular interest in IDEA and early intervention.
10. The New Jersey Intervention System (NJEIS) has a lot of work to do on increasing the number of *exit evaluations* being completed for all children exiting the system. Annual evaluations will be considered as an exit evaluation if the child exits within 4 months of the annual Battelle Developmental Inventory. Child outcome measures are very complicated when comparing state-to-state data.

STATE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PLAN -- Susan Evans, NJEIS Results Accountability Coordinator

The project continues to move forward. Updated information has been added to the "impact scale" document. Theory of Action plan is under development. Opportunity exists for DOH to submit a draft to OSEP in mid January. NJEIS will submit a draft in hopes of receiving feedback prior to the submission of the plan in April. The SSIP focus is on Child Outcome Indicator 3a, although all data related to 3(a,b,c) is included in the Annual Performance Report (APR).

NJEIS is looking at disaggregated data to determine appropriate activities. Ms. Evans is meeting with a workgroup exploring existing tools which evaluate social emotional development to determine if any of these will be useful supplemental tools for NJEIS. A training meeting was held in October with the TET's and SCU to discuss the SSIP and the importance of offering exit BDI evaluation's to all children exiting NJEIS. There is also a need to improve data completeness. Evaluation administrators were provided with a fidelity checklist and asked to observe their evaluators and gather baseline data for later consideration.

Discussion was held with OSEP about narrowing the statewide NJEIS intended social emotional result. States are being encouraged to consider focusing efforts on a smaller target (10 counties, for example) for purposes of SSIP Indicator 11 and to consider partnering with other activities already occurring in the state -- for example, consideration of focusing on 10 Sandy Counties covers all 4 regions. If a decision is made to narrow the focus of improvement planning to a smaller subset of identified counties, some improvement activities would also be implemented statewide (example, overall data completeness and fidelity has to improve statewide).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Family Support** -- Rosemary Browne presented for the committee. Desiree Bonner, Malia Corde and Michelle Safrin have been added as committee members. The committee held a conference call and discussed the importance of focusing on working with DOH to improve exit Child Outcome performance by increasing the number of exit BDI evaluations statewide.
2. **Service Delivery** -- Ms. Harrison presented for the committee, which continues to work with the system framework identified by ECTA to propose criteria for a competitive EIP RFA. The committee is now completing a crosswalk of components, subcomponents and elements. The Data component may likely merge into other identified components. More work is needed to drill down and look across categories. Next meeting is January 7, 2015.
3. **Early Learning Challenge** -- No report.
4. **Administrative** -- Susan Marcario presented for the committee. All current SICCC members have a biography on the DOH/SICC website. Several former members need to be removed. Ms. Marcario will share the names with Ms. Harrison. Next meeting will focus on developing a format for the bios, so new members can more easily create their statement. Ms. Marcario will contact former chair Celine Fortin to see if she has copies of updates that were sent to her and not yet updated on the website. Michele Christopoulos continues to work towards identifying potential new members for the SICCC. Rachel Badalamenti has expressed interest in serving as vice-chair.

REIC

The new REIC System Point of Entry referral telephone system "Ring Central" was described to the Council. It is a Cloud based system where calls travel over the internet and are recorded on a website.

Some benefits of the new system include: Caller ID, log of calls received, web based so calls can be retrieved from any location, HIPPA compliant.

OLD BUSINESS

Dates and locations need to be finalized for the coming calendar year (2015). Upon motion by Ms. Peto, seconded by Ms. Christopoulos and unanimously carried, the following dates and locations were approved:

- January 23 -- Children's Specialized Hospital, New Brunswick
- March 27 -- Mid Jersey REIC, New Brunswick
- May 29 -- Children's Specialized Hospital
- July 24 -- Mid Jersey REIC, New Brunswick
- September 25 -- Mid Jersey REIC, New Brunswick
- November 20 -- Mid Jersey REIC, New Brunswick

NEW BUSINESS -- There was none.

PUBLIC COMMENT -- There was none.

ADJOURNMENT -12:45 p.m.

Upon motion by Joseph Holahan, seconded by Ms. Badalamenti and unanimously carried.

APPROVED
1.23.15