

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Governor's Birth to 3 ICC Council		Attending: Virginia Brath, Provider (Chair); Jennifer Bibler, Department of Public Instruction (DPI) /Early Childhood Special Education; Jacci Borchardt, Provider; Rachel Cissne Carabell, Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI); Lisa Hanks, Department of Children and Families (DCF); Kristine Nadolski, DPI/McKinney-Vento; Rosemarie Navarro-Red Hail, Parent; Deb Rathermel, DHS/Division of Medicaid Services; Trisha Wicinsky, County Representative; Theresa Wixom, Parent
Date: 1/25/2023	Time Started: 9:00 a.m. Time Ended: 11:30 a.m.	Council Members Excused: Lisa Subeck, State Representative/Legislator State Staff Present: Tessa Freedberg (BCS), David Sorensen (BCS), Olivia Antlfinger (DHS), Priya Bhatia (DCF), Debra Borquist-Conlon (BCS), Cooper Parnell (BCS), Beth Gullickson (BCS) Pom Soktheap (BCS)
Location: 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 November 2, 2022
 - Rachel Cissne Carabell motioned to approve.
 - Lisa Hanks seconded. Motion passed.

Annual Performance Report (APR)

- Tessa Freedberg provided an overview of the Annual Performance Report due to Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) on February 1, 2023. This APR reports findings from the period July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022. (FFY 2021)
- Briefly reviewed the 11 Indicators, including five compliance and six performance indicators
- Wisconsin was in Meets Requirements for FFY 2020 and anticipated Meets Requirements for FFY 2021
- Wisconsin increased percentage from previous year for Indicator 5 and 6 (Child Find/Child Enrollment)
- Several factors contributed to this increase
 - Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) First 1,000 Days Campaign and public outreach
 - Birth to 3 Programs returning to pre-pandemic practices and referrals
- Timely Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs) (Indicator 7) increase to 99.84% from 99.59%
- Timely Services (Indicator 1) improved to 100% from 99.98%
- Natural Environment (Indicator 2) met our target of 99% to 99.35%

- Timely Transition (Indicator 8ABC)
 - 8A Transition Steps 99.5, slight decrease from 99.8%
 - 8B Referral 98.6% slight decrease from 99.0%
 - 8C Transition Planning Conference (TPC) 99.7% slight increase from 98.9%
- Child Outcomes (Indicator 3)
 - 3A positive Social-Emotional skills
 - Summary Statement 1 increase from previous year
 - Summary Statement 2 increase from previous year
 - 3B Acquisition of Knowledge and Skills increased
 - Summary Statement 1 increase from previous year
 - Summary Statement 2 increase from previous year
 - 3C Improved Use of Appropriate Skills to Meet Needs
 - Summary Statement 1 increase from previous year
 - Summary Statement 2 increase from previous year
- Several factors are believed to be contributing to the increase across all six summary statements:
 - Social Emotional Innovation grants.
 - Ongoing technical assistance on behalf of the Bureau of Children’s Services (BCS) team.
 - Enhanced and targeted effort in the professional development system.
 - Third year of the Program Review Protocol implemented via MetaStar.
 - Increased knowledge and skills of local Birth to 3 personnel.
- Continued efforts toward improvement include:
 - Ongoing development and improvement within our professional development system.
 - \$1.6 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grants to 23 local programs.
 - Infant Mental Health Consultation Pilot in seven local Birth to 3 Programs.
- Family Outcomes (Indicator 4)
 - Slippage with 4A/4B slippage
 - An increase in survey response rate from 7.07% to 11.16%
 - Changes made to Family Experience Survey in FFY2021:
 - Survey frequency: mailed monthly at transition/program exit
 - Shortened the length of the survey
 - Enhance distribution methods to include to U.S. mail and email
 - Slippage attributed to increased responses and challenges for families related to COVID-19

Council Discussion APR

- Child Outcomes Data and Performance:
 - Answered question on why the formula was changed as part of our local Determinations. Explanation was given as to why the formula was changed, which included putting more emphasis on the performance indicators like Child Outcomes (Indicator 3) for continuous improvement, weighing the compliance and performance indicators more equally, and replicating a formula similar to the one OSEP sets at the federal level.
 - Discussion about the importance of looking at whether there are children with more significant delays or diagnosis closer to age 3 and how that effects Indicator 3 from year to year.
 - State and local staff concur that the process of child outcome rating is close to fidelity due to the number of years of training and support around the child outcomes rating process.
 - Michelle Davies, from CESA-5 RESource Team, discussed professional development efforts to provide more consistency and accessibility of trainings statewide as part of the ARPA-funded professional development work.
 - Outcome rating are accurate, but progress for an individual child isn’t always reflected in Indicator 3.
 - Summary statements and diagnosed conditions- there must be a correlation to those qualifying for early childhood special education that are not leaving at age expectation if qualifying for part B. How to measure the growth that is happening but not always reflected in child outcomes process and other gains occurring. Likely children are not exiting within age expectations if they qualify for Part B services.

- The increase in Indicator 3 is because we have gotten better with data and now with a single year of data going up, we know that one year does not make a trend.
- We expect to continue to see improved results. The trend we see we believe are in large part attributable to actions taken in BCS professional development, ARPA, and overall support of local programs.
- BCS plans to continue support for improvement efforts.
- Approval of the APR:
 - Rosemarie Navarro-Red Hail motioned to approve the APR.
 - Rachel Cissne Carabell seconded. Motion passed.

Part C Grant Application

- Annual Office of Special Education Part C Grant Application
 - Tessa Freedberg shared an overview of the Part C Grant budget categories and solicited council input on opportunities for adjustments in anticipation of planned posting in March 2023.
 - Grant application will be posted for public comment 60 days prior to the State's submission date to OSEP
 - Fiscal Year 2023 Part C funds become available in July 2023
 - Grant funds have remained relatively the same over the years
 - FFY2022 Wisconsin received \$7.8 million from OSEP, not including ARPA funds
 - FFY2023 anticipating the same amount, if not a bit higher
 - Federal guidelines require us to include our proposed allotment and to assure it does not supplant other funds. Each state allots their funding differently.
- Council Discussion, Inputs, & Recommendations
 - Council member inquired about the UW Capstone Program and the amount of funding allocated to the Program previously. Provided an explanation to what the UW Capstone program is and allocations from FFY2022.
 - Recommendations for funding:
 - Supporting Program Participation System (PPS) for enhanced data collection
 - Funding towards cultural diversity and inclusion: It was noted this may be an opportunity for Birth to 3 and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to expand their collaboration since we serve many of the same families and children
 - More intentional trainings for providers that serve children with sensory disabilities (Deaf/blind)

Child Care Coordination – Department of Children and Families (DCF)

- Priya Bhatia from DCF Early Care and Education presented on collaboration efforts between Birth to 3 Program and DCF and shared the breakdown of the five bureaus within Early Care and Education. The collaboration projects include:
 - DCF ARPA Inclusive Childcare for children in the Birth to 3 Program
 - \$16 million allotted
 - Provide childcare assistance to families whose child is in the Birth to 3 Program
 - Intent to improve efforts between Birth to 3 Program and childcare
 - Funding available for 1300 children
 - Once enrolled child will be eligible for one year
 - Project due to end June 30, 2024
 - DCF ARPA Statewide Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC)
 - \$5 million allotted
 - Pairs mental health professionals with early childhood educators and families for children with challenging behaviors
 - Cross collaboration taking place between DCF and DHS on ARPA Infant Mental Health Consultation work for building sustainable model across agencies

Birth to 3 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Initiatives- status update

- Infant Mental Health Consultation and Services Pilot
 - Pilot functions in two arms. The first arm focuses on an integrative model approach to IECMHC with emphasis on workforce development and capacity to better support children and families with social and emotional concerns. An Infant Mental Health Consultant joins the IFSP team at seven Birth to 3 Program

sites across five counties to provide office hours and consultation services. The second arm of the pilot focuses on an IECHMC providing direct service to infants and toddlers enrolled in the Birth to 3 Program through Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) and child welfare. BCS recently expanded eligibility criteria to include child welfare children in addition to CAPTA to increase referrals.

- Program evaluation will be conducted by our partners at UW-Madison to inform future infant mental health work.
- PPS improvements for more functionality for federal reporting
- Local relief grants related to covid and support their families
- Reimaging our Professional Development System
 - Enhancing high-quality support including a dedicated website. Recent activities include,
 - Creating a website from ground up “EI in WI”. Designed for the Birth to 3 workforce to access trainings and professional development opportunities.
 - Research team to look across tools and practices that we can bring back to our state and offer high quality supports. We use data to drive our professional development efforts and guide our direction and decisions.

BCS Council Project

- Three different councils in BCS (ICC, CLTS, and Autism)
- This project is aimed to support council members, recruitment, onboarding, communications, compliance for requirements and lifting the voice of council memberships.
 - Including increase in diverse voices across councils
- Lean into how we can use this council to its fullest capacity.
- Debbie Borquist-Conlon is the project lead/coordinator
- Looking for the ICC to make recommendations for this project
- Is there a timeline for this work?
 - Q1 and Q2 of 2023 will be focused on planning
 - After, BCS will begin implementing enhancements, changes, and recommendations.

Wrap Up & Overview of Future Agenda Topics:

- Future 2023 Meeting Dates
 - March 8
 - May 12 – Circles of Life Conference Wilderness Resort Wisconsin Dells and Remote
 - October 18

Rosemarie Navarro-Red Hail motioned to adjourn
 Seconded by-Rachel Cissne Carabell seconded
 Adjourned 11:30 am