

**Montgomery County Infants and Toddlers Program
Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)
Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families**

**Thursday, November 4, 2021
Meeting Notes**



I. Welcome and Executive Committee Update – Jody

A. Approval of Minutes from September meeting minutes

II. MOIFSP Community Portal – Guest Cecilia Leger of Johns Hopkins University Center for Technology in Education (JHU-CTE), shared a presentation about using the MOIFSP as a community portal to assist parents, providers, and caregivers in forming a community around a child. Delivery will be in 2023 and participants are being sought for ongoing formal and informal conversations, project workgroups, recommendations about products and features, usability, and functions, and to create and implement a development plan. Anyone who would like to participate should contact Cecilia.

Action: Mary will send a short description of the portal, along with Cecelia’s email address, to MCITP Leadership to be shared with providers, who will share with families.

III. Updates from Offices

A. MCITP (Mary)

1. **Mask Mandate Policy Update** – mandate in place during home visits – families must wear masks while providers are in the home, otherwise visits must be outdoors or rescheduled (this includes children, age 2+).
2. **Fall Professional Development** – Investing in Racial and Cultural Equity was attended by 280 MCITP providers and staff. Child outcome summaries were also discussed. Each site looked at their own data and brainstormed ideas. Contracting with Children’s Equity Project to help develop equity piece of program going forward.
3. **Year End Report** has been submitted. There were many accomplishments in 2021. Zoom for Telehealth is in place, secure and HIPAA compliant. Routines-based Interview (RBI) participation is up from 49% of providers trained and implementing to 70% trained and implementing RBI. A Pyramid Model leadership team was formed at East County and is meeting monthly. Reflective coaching training for all staff continues with cohorts of 90. Currently 56% of mentor coaches are fidelity trained and 42% of

reflective coaches are trained and reached fidelity. MCITP has hosted national-level guest speakers for workshops with staff. In-person services to families resumed on July 6th. Families are being offered a choice between virtual or in-person services currently.

4. **MSDE Program Monitoring** occurs every 4 years and includes case studies of 4 families. All appointments have been set up. 28 additional files are also being reviewed. MCITP is also answering about 25 questions regarding the program. All documentation has been uploaded to Maryland's performance system, ELEVATE.

Action: Need a member of the LICC for a quick 15-minute interview – please let Mary know if you're willing

5. **MA Audit** – Every year 40 files are reviewed. This year we had 1 minor finding, so this was the best audit ITP has had.

B. Family Support Network/Family Involvement Center

1. **FIC Updates (Deborah)** – The FIC at 1401 Rockville Pike will be reopening November 16th. The Emory Grove site will be relocating to Watkins Mill Elementary school in January. Services will include in-person on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and virtual services on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
2. **FSN (Deborah)**
 - i. **Holiday Giving** – Working to refer FIC families to the program.
 - ii. **Playgroups Updates** – Beginning in January 2022, playgroups will be held at the PlumGar Recreation Center and will serve the Up County, and Emory Grove areas and the surrounding community. Jody offered to connect Deborah with the Thriving Germantown team for future playgroups.
 - iii. **Pyramid Model Leadership Team** – No updates

C. MCPS -Faith

1. **MCPS Staff Vaccination Requirement**- The deadline is November 15th, 2021.
2. **Service Updates** – Still searching for staff for many positions presenting a significant problem for all programs throughout MCPS.

D. **ECEI/Budget/Legislative Updates-(Jody)** – No major updates for the ECEI, many projects for the ECEI and throughout the county are stuck in procurement, and legislatively the wait continues for the proposals for the Early Childhood Coordinating Entity. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

E. **Child Care (Jennifer)**

1. **Facebook Live Events** – In October there were two Facebook Live events clarifying three main concerns of families with children in child care:

a: Is childcare a viable option for children with special needs?

b: Families need help understanding the subsidy system.

c: what rights do parents have around children in childcare; are they allowed to visit the facility? Can they ask questions about day-to-day activities?

Based on these, the family resource specialist will help families find childcare and help them to navigate system

IV. **Committees-** The group broke out into committees.

V. **Committee Report Outs**

1. **Family Engagement** – The group hasn't met since the last LICC meeting. They have scheduled their next two meetings for November 16th and December 9th. An agenda was created for those meetings

2. **Inclusive Child Care** – Learning Language and Loving It, may not be appropriate right now, but the group will look at the program details, finding trainers and participants.

3. **Transitions** – The group has not met since the last LICC meeting but will revisit information from previous sessions to look at plans that were not brought to fruition due to COVID.

VI. **Wrap-up and closing** - Jody and Mary will discuss a 6:00 p.m. start for future meetings. Written updates may be shared prior to meetings to shorten the overall meeting time as well. More guest presentations may also be part of meetings in the future.

Acronyms:

ADA - American with Disabilities Act

CLIG - Consolidated Local Implementation Grants

COS - Child Outcome Summary

DHHS – Department of Health and Human Services

ECCC - Early Childhood Coordinating Council
ELA - Early Learning Assessment
EXCELS - Excellence Counts in Early Learning and School-Age Care, Maryland's quality rating improvement system
FIC - Family Involvement Center
IEP - Individualized Education Program
IFSP - Individualized Family Service Plan
KRA – Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
LIR--Local Implementation Results
LISS – Low Intensity Support Services
LRE - Least Restrictive Environment
MCPS – Montgomery County Public Schools
MSDE - Maryland State Department of Education
OCC - Office of Child Care
Part B - Children (ages 3-21) receive special education and related services through Part B of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
Part C - The Infants and Toddlers Program is established through Part C of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
PBIS – Positive Behavior Intervention Support
RBI - Routine Based Interviews
R&R - Montgomery County Child Care Resource & Referral Center
SEFEL - Social Emotional Foundation for Early Learning
SICC – State Interagency Coordinating Council
SSIP - State Systemic Improvement Plan