



**Montgomery County Infants and Toddlers Program
Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)
Thursday, May 4, 2023, 12 noon – 1:00 pm
Members and Guests
Meeting Notes**

- Welcome and Updates –
 - A. Minutes from November meeting approved: The March session was informational only; no minutes were taken.
 - B. Guests: Nasser Ideis and Aminata Camara;
Chair and Vice Chair candidate teams Anna Alderete & Rachel Bonas, and Ernest Ojito & Jamie Hecox were introduced.
 - C. MSDE Consolidated Local Implementation Grant Application Update: All jurisdictions submit this grant for annual funding. The grant application includes child outcome summaries, community outreach, Percentage of children served relative to the number of children in Montgomery County, Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) process, Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC) procedures, and professional development plans for Infant and Toddlers Program (ITP) providers. Data is being collected, and the grant is being written. The LICC should review the grant, prior to submitting.
 - D. Mask Mandate Uplift May 11: Montgomery County ITP will lift the Mask Mandate on May 11, 2023, the same date the Federal Government will end the COVID national emergency. Providers and families are welcome to continue wearing masks. Providers will carry supplies with them on family visits and will follow the requests of families to wear masks.
 - E. Increase in Family Engagement: Mary shared that Deborah Gudger, the Family Support Network Coordinator, reported increases in Family Learning Series workshops. These sessions are held in the evenings and provide information and resources on multiple topics. Many ITP parents have shown interest in volunteering and filling leadership roles on projects and groups within the ITP community.
 - F. Baby Leaders training from Parents' Place of MD: Parents' Place of Maryland provides resources, support, and information to families with special needs children. The Infants and Toddlers Program will contract with Kristin Paul of Parents' Place of Maryland to provide a 5-session workshop called Baby Leaders. This series will include information on the IFSP, transitioning from early intervention services to special education, leadership and advocacy and developmental milestones. Participating parents will be required to join a board or do community service around work of infants and toddlers. Targeting August/September time frame. More information will be shared as it is received.

- G. Medical Outreach/Early Screening Initiative: ITP received grant from the Montgomery County Council to actively engage with the medical community. Ama Asamoah will spearhead the program, with coordination by Jill Lyons. Outreach and printed materials will be ready for distribution soon. Visits to area NICUs are pending. DHHS is hoping to purchase a mobile medical unit to work with underprivileged community members. The ITP looks forward to participating with this.
- H. Up County new location – Faith: Up County ITP has moved to the Germantown Up County Regional Services Center at 12900 Middlebrook Drive.
- I. MCITP Flyer: Mary will send copy of flyer to members via email after this meeting. A brochure has also been developed and this will be shared as well. Members were asked to share with their networks.
- J. Family Involvement Centers are family centered classrooms for children and parents to interact and receive information and resources from the ITP and others. Centers are in the Watkins Mill area and in Rockville. A third center at Cofield Community Center in Silver Spring will open in June; an email blast will go out to the community as soon as a date is identified.
- K. Description of Committees
- a. Family Engagement: Focus on exploring ways to reach out to families already in the ITP and to new families in the community. New members are being recruited for the FY24 LICC session which begins in November.
 - b. Inclusive Child Care: Focus on improving communication with childcare programs, family childcare centers, and providers on making classrooms more inclusive to ensure children in the ITP can engage with their peers who are not in the ITP program.
 - c. Transition: Focus on improving the transition process of ITP children to next level, prekindergarten and kindergarten. Families often struggle with this, and the committee works to make the process more user friendly.
- LICC Membership Nominations: Committee: Beth Boyle, Kathy Toscano, Deborah Gudger
 - new voting members – Jamie Hecox and Ernest Ojito
 - Anna Aldrete and Rachel Bonas are already voting members.
 - Jamie Hecox and Ernest Ojito were approved as voting members.
 - Chair/Co-Chair Candidates slides and introductions: Two teams applied for the Chair/Co-Chair positions: Anna Aldrete and Rachel Bonas, and Ernest Ojito and Jamie Hecox. Their biographies were shared with the group.
 - Chair/Co-Chair Election: Final votes were:
 - **Anna Aldrete & Rachel Bonas – 11**
 - Jamie Hecox & Ernest Ojito – 4
 - The State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) meeting will take place on June 1, 2023, at 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville MD 20852 from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. A presentation on Equity and

Diversity will be shared. Members were invited to attend.

LICC Tentative Meeting Dates for FY '24 (Thursdays, 7 pm?):

- 09/21/2023
- 11/09/2023
- 03/07/2023
- 05/09/23

LICC Tentative Executive Committee Meetings for FY '24 (Thursdays, 9 am):

- 09/14/2023
- 11/02/2023
- 02/29/2024
- 05/02/2024

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