

**Montgomery County Infants and Toddlers Program  
Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)**

**Thursday May 9, 2024, 1 pm- 2 pm  
Lobby-Level Training Room 1003  
1401 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852**

**Members Present:** Wendy Baber, Beth Boyle, Susan Dowling, Debi Edick, Liran Laor, Jill Lyons, Lauren Mangrum, Marie Marino, Ernest Ojito, Tory Pegram, Tamiaka Thomasson, Sophia Watts-Jenkins

**I. Welcome and Updates –**

**A. Minutes from March meeting – vote to approve**

Motion: Tory Pegram, Second: Beth Boyle. Motion was carried unanimously.

**B. Introductions**

**C. Staffing updates- Wendy and Faith**

**Hiring:**

- **Central – 1401 Rockville Pike:**
  - Four Community Service Aids (CSA) - Currently CSA Whalezka Perez processes all intakes with help when needed.
  - Additional hires would each be responsible for a specific site, in hopes of creating a more family-friendly intake process, and to create less duplication of work.
- **Site Increases:**
  - SLP increase with 7 additional SLPs – divided between sites.
  - One additional PT at Down County.
  - Para-educator support will be increased, will hire for all sites by the end of June.
  - Moving to using staff in new ways and identifying specific individuals as Evidenced-Based Practice Coaches who will support across all 5 sites, to ensure onboarding process has new staff all working with all evidence-based programs and methods.
- **PreK, Special Programs, and Related Services**
  - Director Amy Cropp will begin a new role as a school psychologist with Child Find.
  - The Director position within MCPS will be changing, with additional levels of screening for candidates, and changes within MCPS hierarchy. Unknown when Director position will be filled.

**D. Family Support Network/Community Outreach updates – Jill**

- Nurse position accepted – Ann Morrison will be starting in June, working with Emory Grove and the Central location at 1401 Rockville Pike,
- FSN Assistant – beginning interviews, should be hiring by 7/1
- Family Engagement
  - Three parent workshops remaining. FSN is working on developing workshops for FY25.
  - Seeing more attendance by fathers and working on additional father-centered workshops for FY25.
  - Considering a support group for fathers.
  - Ethiopian/Eritrean community returned surveys showed the FSN met participation goal for engagement with this community!

- Made connections with a Ethiopian/Eritrean special needs group who are collaborating with the FSN on workshops for this population. Looking at pre-school readiness.
  - Transitions workshops have been expanded to five for FY25 – one at each ITP site. Workshop times will be experimented with to determine what time of the day works best.
- Pediatric Outreach
    - Community Outreach Coordinator position was filled in December 2023.
    - Connecting with pediatrician offices and programs throughout Montgomery County
    - Attending a Special Education Fair on May 11, 2024
    - Magnets and window clings will be shared with pediatrician offices and childcares throughout the county.

E. CLIG – Wendy

The CLIG is due on May 15, 2024, and due to delays in receiving data, as well as the 6-week county signature process, an extension was requested and granted.

Wendy Baber and Jill Lyons shared highlights of the CLIG with the group, including details of data collected, assessment tools used, personnel standards and maintenance of standards, data analysis and comparison with previous years, and elements of programs and strategies for the upcoming year. The MSDE Family Survey will be sent out in September/October 2024.

II. Committee break outs

- A. Brief introductions
- B. Chair: review committee goal
- C. Review meeting schedule
- D. Action plan for committee meetings

1. Family Engagement:

- a. Chaired by Deborah Gudger (Jill will be substitute)
- b. Goal: Focus on exploring ways to reach out to families already in the ITP and to new families in the community.

2. Inclusive Child Care:

- a. Chaired by Tamiaka Thomasson and Lauren Mangrum
- b. Goal: 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.

3. Transition:

- a. Chaired by Faith Fischel
- b. Goal: 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.

III. Committee Chairs share back:

- **Family Engagement** – Talked about ways to increase family engagement. Noted that there is no FIC in down county area, so perhaps that will be a goal in the future. The FIC staff is supporting

Eritrean families and are encouraging referrals to ITP, as well as engaging with, and encouraging the families in that community to support one another by connecting at the FIC.

- **Inclusive Child Care** – In April, a cohort of 5 were trained in Learning Language and Loving It (LLLI) Another cohort of 15 will begin training in May. Money has been budgeted for the program to be shared at one childcare center each school year. Survey: special needs children are still being asked to leave childcare facilities the group is hoping the survey can help answer what, and why.
- **Transitions** – PEP and Cap Tours – streaming into classrooms so families can see what a day looks like for children. Ernest Ojito was present in the group today and provided feedback on what improvements could be made. There is still concern that streaming presents confidentiality issues, but Part B can be a tough transition for families and seeing the tours would be helpful/comforting.

IV. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn meeting was carried unanimously.

**FY24 JOINT LICC/SICC MEETING**

Thursday June 6, 2024, In-Person 10 AM – 2 PM - **No option for virtual**

Anne Arundel County Community College, 101 College Pkwy, Arnold, MD 21012  
(Health Science Building, Room 145 A)

**FY25 Full Committee Meetings:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Platform</b>	<b>Time</b>
Thursday, September 19, 2024	In-Person	1-2 pm
Thursday, November 14, 2024	Virtual – Zoom	7-8 pm
Thursday, March 20, 2025	In-Person	1-2 pm
Thursday, May 22, 2025	Virtual – Zoom	7-8 pm

**FY25 Tentative Executive Committee Meetings:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Platform</b>	<b>Time</b>
Thursday, September 12, 2024	Virtual – Zoom	2-3 pm
Thursday, November 07, 2024	Virtual – Zoom	2-3 pm
Thursday, March 13, 2025	Virtual – Zoom	2-3 pm
Thursday, May 15, 2025	Virtual – Zoom	2-3 pm

**Acronyms**

**ADA - American with Disabilities Act**

**CLIG - Consolidated Local Implementation Grants**

**COS - Child Outcome Summary**

**DHHS – Department of Health and Human Services**

**ECCE - 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**