

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

#### Thursday March 7, 2024, 7 pm-8 pm

### **Meeting Notes**

**Voting members in attendance:** Anna Alderete, Jennifer Arnaiz, Rachel Bonas, Beth Boyle, Aminata Cabrera, Myesha Carter, Susan Dowling, Faith Fischel, Deborah Gudger, Nancy Hiltbrand, Lauren Mangrum, Marie Marino, Tory Pegram, Tamieka Thomasson, Sophia Watts-Jenkins

Non-voting members and guests in attendance: Wendy Baber, Taryn Billand, Mauricio Chacon, Katherine Holt, Liran Laor, Cecilia Leger, Kelsey Lineberger, Jill Lyons, David Oakley, Johanna Pineda, Kari Weaver

- I. Welcome and Updates -7 PM 7.35 PM
  - A. **Minutes from November meeting** vote to approve 5 min
    - Minutes were approved with no edits. Nancy Hiltbrand made the motion and Susan Dowling seconded, with all members voting to approve.
  - B. **Introductions** 5 min
  - C. MCITP Monthly Parent Group update- Anna and Rachel 5 min
    - Met with Parent Ambassadors, discussed resources, worked on orientation, and scheduled meetings for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month.
  - D. Family Survey updates Deborah 5 min
    - 21% of families responded to the survey.
    - Received results from 2022-23 family surveys, benchmarks were met in each of three selected indicator areas
      - Area 4A: Do parents know their rights Montgomery County scored
        95%
      - Area 4B: Are parents able to effectively communicate their child's needs – Montgomery County scored 96%
      - Area 4C: Do parents feel the Infants and Toddlers Program helped their child develop and learn – Montgomery County scored 96%

### E. Community Portal (Pinwheel) overview – Cecilia – 15 min

Cecilia Leger, from Johns Hopkins University (JHU), shared a presentation of the Pinwheel, a program being developed by the university. The Pinwheel is a parent portal within the Maryland Online Individualized Family Service Plan (MOIFSP) that helps parent connect with community partners, and a way for community partners to be connected to families and the ITP. Families can choose who they would like to share information on their child with. An online questionnaire was shared with the group, as JHU is seeking feedback from the ITP community on the portal. The form can be found at <a href="Pinwheel Questionnaire">Pinwheel Questionnaire</a> and LICC members were encouraged to add any feedback over the next several weeks. Over the next few months, JHU will conduct information sessions with small groups to share the Pinwheel and will actively seek out candidates to be "early launchers" for the soft launch of the Pinwheel, JHU will share this date with the ITP when it is available.

# F. **Spring Training update** – Tory – 5 min

- On March 5<sup>th</sup> we completed a full day of professional learning focused on anti-racism, with the objective of: Analyzing and refining a practice using an anti-racist and culturally responsive lens and articulating what the intended impact will be and how it will be measured. We also shared the CEP listening session with all in attendance.
- Scheduled an asynchronous PL for the spring, continuing to focus on antiracism and the impact of race, ethnicity, and culture on your work with children and families.
- A professional learning day is planned in May that will be focus on streamlining work for ITP site staff.

#### II. Committee break outs 7:35-7:45

- 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
- 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 Tamieka 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 7:45-7:55

- 1. Family Engagement
  - i. The group is working to identify a date to meet to strategize and develop a plan to work with the Ethiopian Eritrean community.
  - ii. More program information needs to be translated to Amharic.

#### 2. Inclusive Child Care

i. The group has met and have started the Learning Language and Loving It (LLLI) program at the Mid County site, with 20 providers attending. Work is being done to add the program to the budget with the goal of scheduling the program at least once per year.

ii. The group is also discussing child expulsion at child care and are fact-finding on "Why and When".

#### 3. Transition

i. The group has met to streamline the transition process, and are working on how to connect with families when transition is upcoming. Families will also receive assistance in connecting the with the new school.

# IV. Adjournment

8:02 pm

## LICC Meeting Dates for FY '24:

•	9/21/2023	virtual	7-8 p8m
•	11/30/2023	in person	1-2 pm
•	03/07/2024	virtual	7-8 pm
•	05/09/2024	in person	1-2 pm

# Tentative LICC Executive Committee Meetings for FY '24 (Thursdays, 2 PM):

- 09/14/2023
- 11/17/2023
- 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