



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

EDUCATION

**District of Columbia Interagency Coordinating Council (DC ICC)
Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
1050 First St. NE, Conference Room 523, Fifth Floor, Washington, DC 20002

Members in Attendance:

Colleen Sonosky (Medicaid Program), Daniel Reily (Parent), Cynthia McEwen (Parent), Howard Liebers (Private Insurance), Amy Cullen (Provider), Toby Long (Comprehensive System of Personnel Development). New members: Michele Gerstein (Parent), Judith Curry (Parent), Sharice Lane (Provider)

Members not in Attendance:

Raeshawn Crosson (Chair/Parent), Quiana Mitchem (Provider), Royace Hagler (Early Head Start), Elizabeth Groginsky (Agency for Child Care, Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)), Nicole Lee-Mwandha (OSSE Representative on Homeless Populations), Denise Ballard (Foster Care Agency), Tiffany Phoenix (Provider), Madonna Coates (Parent), Lavdena Orr (AmeriHealth Managed Care Organization), Linda Flores (Parent)

OSSE Support Personnel:

Dr. Margareth Legaspi (Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Early Learning and Head Start State Collaboration Director), Melanie Newkirk (DC ICC Liaison), Sandra Smith (Program Manager), Allan Phillips (Special Assistant Part C), Andres Alvarado (Director of Strong Start), Rosalia Villalta (Supervisor), Jasmyn Price (Supervisor), Neal Riemer (Service Coordinator), David Harper (Staff Support)

Call to Order:

- A. In the absence of the Chair, the meeting was facilitated by Amy Cullen. The meeting was called to order at 11:20 a.m.
- B. The facilitator informed the audience that the meeting serves as the third quarterly DC ICC meeting for calendar year 2018.
- C. The facilitator opened the floor for a vote to approve meeting minutes from June 9, 2018. Amy moved to approve the June 9 meeting minutes and it was seconded by Toby Long with the correction that should read "second quarterly meeting". The meeting minutes was approved.

Open Issues:

- A. Timeline for completion and finalization of DC ICC bylaws was discussed. The facilitator discussed the efforts from the Executive Board sub-committee meeting, which was held in early spring. The board set a hard deadline for completion, which is December 2018.
- B. The facilitator discussed availability for the annual board retreat in December before or after the final scheduled meeting for 2018.
 - The retreat is expected to be half-day and will include reviewing the mission, vision and role of the DC ICC and finalizing the by-laws.

- The facilitator suggested that the board send Melanie Newkirk any additional retreat agenda items. Members discussed the need to revitalize public awareness and parent support efforts.
- C. Facilitator concluded the discussion with a recap and asked for volunteers for the By-Law Committee. She explained that any person in attendance can join the committee and the committee participation is not limited to board members only. Cynthia McEwen, Howard Liebers and Allan Phillips volunteered to join the committee in addition to the full Executive Board Committee. The facilitator motioned for a vote to schedule the retreat for Dec. 8, 2018 from 1-4 p.m. The location will be determined at a later time. Toby Long moved the vote and Michele Gerstein seconded. The Dec. 8 retreat was approved.

Meeting Business:

- A. DC Early Intervention Program (DC EIP) Quarterly Updates
1. Andres Alvarado (Director of Early Intervention) reported 1,194 current children in the program that includes 250 children going through the eligibility process and 370 children in the extended option. DC EIP has 26 service coordinators and one vacancy. DC EIP plans to add two new positions by the end of October 2018. The change in eligibility has had little impact on the program; however, more families are receiving services due to better engagement from the beginning of the process. Mr. Alvarado updated the DC ICC on the expansion of the playgroup and collaboration with DC Library to cover every ward and also serve as a Child Find point of entry.
 - i. Michele Gerstein (Parent) asked if there is a process in selecting which library the program chose to partner with to host the playgroup. Mr. Alvarado responded that the selection process focused on wards that did not have an active playgroup. A comment was made that the “Anacostia playgroup is awesome”. Another question was raised regarding how to find the locations of the playgroups. Mr. Alvarado responded that the locations can be found on the website, libraries, through service coordinators and the DC ICC. Mr. Alvarado also mentioned that interested parents can register online.
 2. Announcement: Strong Start office has relocated to OSSE due to water damage at the Harvard Street location.
- B. Part C Updates
1. Allan Phillips (Special Assistant, Part C) shared that OSSE received the “meet requirements” determination from the US Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) this month. OSSE has been awarded a grant from OSEP amounting to \$170,000 to fund the extended option program. Mr. Phillips also attended the annual meeting to discuss the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and other initiatives with other states.

Committee Quarterly Reports:

- A. Executive Committee: The facilitator discussed the board retreat, purpose/responsibilities of the board.
- B. Nominating Committee: Three positions were filled during this quarter.
- C. Legislative and Social Policy Committee: Toby Long discussed the importance of making sure that proposed legislations include children with disabilities. She asked if DEL will attend the Mayors Maternal and Infant Health Summit.

- D. Parent Advocacy Committee: Amy Cullen reported that she is recruiting parents and currently has five active members. She also plans to reach out to Advocates for Justice. She highlighted the need develop parent engagement opportunities.
- E. Public Awareness Committee: No report was presented.

Public Comment:

- A. Provider discussed collaboration efforts between Strong Start and Learn the Signs, Act Early with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). She suggested that programs reach out to each other for resources.
- B. Parent shared some information about applying for Medicaid in the District as a parent. She created a binder with information needed to apply for Medicaid and would like to share with other parents.
- C. Colleen Sonosky reported that there is an ongoing discussion with the Morris Foundation between early childhood and pediatric care.
- D. Parent discussed her appreciation of the extended option program for parents who cannot decide about transition. The facilitator thanked the representatives from Early Stages for joining the meeting.
- E. New DC ICC members were given a chance to discuss their areas of interest in the work of the DC ICC.

Announcement: Next quarterly meeting is scheduled for Dec. 8, 2018 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

DC ICC member motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member seconded the motion and facilitator adjourned the meeting at 12:19 p.m.

Chair Signature

Date