

Iowa Council for Early ACCESS

May 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Marcus Johnson-Miller called the Iowa Council for Early ACCESS to order at 10:04 a.m. on May 17, 2019 at the Grimes State Office Building, Room B100, Des Moines IA and zoom.

Council Members Present:

Paula Connelly, Eric Locke, Aaron Cronk, Angie Hance, Kori Hans, Laurie Jeans, Emma Bouza, Martha Draayer, Marcus Johnson-Miller

Absent:

Julie Allison, Brittney Magsamen, Casey Abler, Annette Hyde and Thomas Scholz, Kimberly Villotti

Staff Present:

Kate Small (Department of Education), Cindy Weigel (Department of Education), Melissa Schnurr (Department of Education), Meghan Miller (Department of Public Health), Teri Mash (Department of Human Services), Rae Miller (Child Health Specialty Clinics)

II. Approval of Minutes

Paula Connelly motioned to approve the March meeting minutes as written. Eric Locke seconded and motion approved unanimously.

III. Data on Family Guided Routines Based Interventions (SSIP)

Cindy Weigel gave an update on Iowa's progress on our State Systemic Improvement Plan on Evidence-Based Practice in Early ACCESS 2019. From federal perspective in 2013, compliance data has improved but the results for children and families has been stagnant. Therefore the Office of Special Education Programs began using a Results Driven Accountability approach to working with states. Iowa began the improvement movement in 2012 using a Theory of Action including evidence based practices (Family Guided Routines Based Intervention and caregiver coaching), evidenced based professional development (implementation science and internal coaches for service providers), and using a systems framework for infrastructure improvements that was created by the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center. [PowerPoint is available.](#)

IV. Conversations about family stories

Reviewed the email that the parent sent to the Council after presenting at the March Council meeting. Council had a discussion of establishing ground rules so that future families have a good experience. Ground rules: Do not summarize what is heard during the story telling. Ask clarifying questions.. Don't comment during the story with our thoughts or feelings. Talk respectfully about system issues that may need addressed after the parent has presented, not during the family story when family is present.

V. Department of Human Services (DHS) data sharing

Teri Mash shared information on the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). DHS refers children birth to age 3 years who have substantiated cases of child abuse/neglect,

identified as being affected by substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure. They also refer non-CAPTA children who have been identified as potentially having a developmental delay. [PowerPoint slides with data are available.](#)

VI. Preschool Development Grant (PDG)

Heather Rouse from Iowa State University provided information on Iowa's Early Childhood Integrated Data System and the Preschool Development Grant. Heather shared information about what an integrated data system is and what it is not. She shared how it can be used for decision making, planning and collaboration. The integrated data system is one part of the PDG. Other work currently taking place includes doing a comprehensive needs assessment to identify how the birth-to-five state early childhood system works for families, service providers, and community agencies. Focus groups and surveys are being done over the next 3 months to gather stakeholder input on the needs assessment. Information from the needs assessment will be used to build a birth-to-five early childhood system strategic plan which lives with Early Childhood Iowa. The plan will be used to apply for future PDG funds.

VII. Family Story

Tosha, the mother of a child who received Early ACCESS services for 1 year, shared her story via zoom. Kim Blankespoor, who was Tosha's service coordinator and teacher was also present. Kim shared that they used the primary service provider model of teaming and so Kim was the primary provider for Tosha with the support a team who could support them when needed. Tosha shared that she was referred to Early ACCESS by her pediatrician. Tosha went to her pediatrician and was concerned that her daughter, Cambry, wasn't talking as much as she thought she should be. Her daughter also had a history of some ear problems. Northwest Area Education Agency received the referral and evaluated Cambry. She qualified due to 25% delay in the area of communication. Tosha shared that Kim taught her strategies to use such as modeling and using actions with words to encourage speech. After doing those strategies they realized progress wasn't being made and so Kim went to her team and asked for recommendations to support speech development. They utilized a strategy learned from Autism Navigator to find out what Cambry enjoyed and was excited about and used those routines as opportunities to model speech and this worked. After a year of being in Early ACCESS the team had no further concerns or goals and Cambry exited.

VIII. Committee Reports

By-Laws: Did not meet.

Membership: Did not meet.

Parent Engagement: They are reviewing materials for Council orientation and have one more set of documents to review. Once content is created, they will decide on how to present or share the information.

Public Policy: Briefly talked about transition process out of Early ACCESS and how it ties to information from Heather Rouse. Martha Draayer wondered how states could offer an extended Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP) for children who turn 3 but continue to need support.

Signatory Agency updates: Marcus Johnson-Miller requested Council members complete the Title V survey that Kate Small forwarded. Meghan Miller shared that Women, Infants and Children's (WIC) clinics will be given the Center for Disease Control's *Learn the Sign Act Early* developmental checklists that inform families to talk to their physician as well as call the Iowa Family Support Network.

IX. 2019-2020 Executive Council

Emma Bouza was nominated to be the chair of the Council. Marcus Johnson-Miller made a motion to elect Emma as the chair. Motion seconded by Paula. Motion passed unanimously.

X. Child Health Specialty Clinics (CHSC) overview

Rae Miller presented on the services and supports that Child Health Specialty Clinics provides to the Early ACCESS system and to children and youth with special health care needs from ages 0-21 and their families. [PowerPoint slides available](#).

XI. Adjournment and Final Thoughts

Future ICEA meetings to be held on the 3rd Friday of September, November, January and May and the 2nd Friday of March. Kate Small will send meeting invitations to members.

June 4, 2019 meeting will be via zoom or, if you are in Des Moines, B100 at the Grimes Building.

Angie Hance motioned to adjourn the meeting. Eric Locke seconded. The meeting ended at 2:35 p.m.