

FSSAC QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

Family Support Services Advisory Council

Date | time Friday, January 19, 2024, 9:00 – 11:30 AM | *Meeting called to order by* Laura McKee/Abigail Harris

Type of Meeting: FSSAC and Part C News

Note Taker: Liz Wood

In Attendance

Members: Abigail Harris, Laura McKee, Nicole Goeddel, Laura Christiaens, Lucy Beltz, Kalli Decker, Karen Underwood, Karen Thornton, Serena Wright, Meghan Peel, Susan Wensel, Breanne Otterpilot, Madison Diederich, Deanna Mydland (representing Kathy Rich)

Guest Presenters: Dr. Allison Wilson, and Dr. Christine Lux, UM, Montana Rural Institute.

Guest Attendees: Rebecca Richards, Cara Dunn, Jackie Mohler, Carrie Etherington, Greg Malone, Nicole Hofmeister, Stephanie Perry, Cara Dunn, Sherry Taylor

State Staff: Sandy Cade, Joshua Kendrick, Shari Northcott, Liz Wood,

Approval of August 11, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved. Change Laura McKee to Member (not guest). Karen Underwood, Laura Christiaens (second)

Introductions, Ground Rules, and Agenda Review

Review of Ground Rules by Laura McKee

ICC: How to recruit parents. Suggestions:

- El Agencies – MEC will put in newsletter.

- See Link in presentation for further information for parents.

- Handouts to give to parents on website.

- Let parents know of the FSSAC, Invite them.

Family Story: Region 3: Rustin with ECI.

Work group Discussion

Reports from work groups and next steps with timelines:

- 1) Workforce - Increase multidisciplinary engagement and collaboration.
Finished Brochure update (Kalli Decker), Introduction of Josh Kendrick for PD.
Kalli Decker is teaching a Home Visiting Course, possible opportunity.
- 2) Coordination - Improve transitions for children and families exiting Part C services and supports.

Transition workgroup (Shari Northcott). Work with Family Outcome Survey (turning 3 and leaving to increase representation). Development of procedure for transition from Part C to Part B. Late referral work. Part C guidance is within 90 days, work is 91 to 120 day is being developed.

Part C Updates

Part C Needs Assessment Update:

Develop a landscape of our state, to improve access to Part C services. (see slide presentation)

Survey went out to EI professionals, Healthcare providers, Childcare. Review of survey (400 responses collected, April 3 -May 30). See breakdown of participants from slides.

Focus group held in Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, Helena, Miles City, Missoula. 50 participants, including 13 participants virtual.

Extant Data reviewed from: March of Dimes Montana Report Card, Early Childhood Homelessness State Profile (2021), Montana Maternal, Infant, and early Childhood Home visiting (MIECHV) Statewide Needs Assessments Update (2020), The Office of Head Start Program Information Report.

Summary of Key findings from Needs Assessment **(See slides from UM)**

Childcare Resource & Referral regions do not align with Part C regions.

Healthcare voice was not strongly represented in focus groups.

Need for consistent, clarifying language around early intervention terms, definitions, procedures, resources.

63% of childcare respondents reported not using a screening tool.

Primary areas need PD in Child Development (29%) and Family/community partnerships. (21%)

Need for training on selection, interpretation, and use of screening tools.

Enhance Collaboration Through Awareness Campaigns. **(See slide from UM)**

Explore New Systems for Referral, Training, and Identification. **(See slide from UM)**

Opportunities to Collaborate within and across Montana agencies through partnership and community organizations and stakeholders.

Review of STARRS or QRS (Quality Rating Systems) Madison Diederich.

FFY 2022 Part C Annual Report Review (APR)

Review of 11 Indicators for approval. Information pulled from Data System and review with regions for data validation. **(see PowerPoint for details)**

Review of the Statewide System Improvement Plan (SSIP) **(Joshua Kendrick)**

Comprehensive Systems of Professional Development, Kallie Decker interested in collaboration for additional PD opportunities.

Social Emotional Screening and Assessment (Pyramid Model)

FSSAC Comments: (Input on Part C Activities)

Present information on the updates to Med Compass system and Reports to ensure Valid and Reliable Data through reports and testing through regional programs, data systems vendor (AssureCare), and State Part C team (Suggested by Karen Underwood and presented by Shari Northcott).

The Part C team and Regional Programs are using these reports for internal monitoring and APR reporting. The data management system working on implementing a versioning up of the system that will help regional programs with data entry and help to ensure there is valid and reliable data. Many forms, assessments, and reports will be updated in the versioning up. This will also allow for a copy forward function to be implemented which will help create subsequent IFSP's.

Approval Letter to Chair for signature and submission of the FFY 2022 APR. Karen Underwood (Moved), Laura Christiaens (Second).

Clarification time for FFY 2022 Annual Performance Report April 9-23, 2024

Nomination of council

Nomination of council co-chair for April 2024-April 2024

Nicole Goeddel (Possibly for Parent Co-Chair)

New Term Limits for 2024 – 2026, current council terms expire March 31, 2023.

All members need to reapply and submit a new application through the link provided.

FSSAC Agenda Development for next meeting

Next meeting date: April 26, 2024, Virtual.

Agenda items:

Update the Counsel on Differentiated Monitoring and next steps.

Information on Comprehensive Monitoring of Regional Contractors.

Discussion on RFP details.

Point in Time Family Outcome Survey data review with TA presentation

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Parking Lot
