



Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers
 Quarterly Meeting
 April 28-29, 2016
 Tallahassee, Florida



Meeting Notes

Member Name	Member Seat	Present (In Person)	Present (Via Phone)
Laurie Blades	Member from the agency responsible for children's mental health	X	
Jeanne Boggs	Parent of child with disability age 12 or younger		
Kim Carr	Public/private provider of early intervention services		
Liz Cayson	At large member	X	
Lilli Copp	Member from a Head Start Program	X	
Sara Evans	Parent of child with disability age 12 or younger		
Anitere Flores	Member from the State Legislature		
Skip Forsyth	Office of Coordination of Education of Homeless Children & Youth	X	
Arwyn Holmes	Parent of child with disability age 6 or younger		
Erin Hough	Member from the state child welfare agency responsible for foster care	X	
Judith Levin	Member from personnel preparation program	X	
Betty Jo Pate	Member from the agency responsible for the State regulation of private health insurance		X
Misty Porter	Parent of child with disability age 12 or younger	X	
Lourdes Quintana	Public/private provider of early intervention services		X
LaKera Reddick	Member from the agency responsible for the State Medicaid and CHIP program	X	
Laura Rumph	Member from the state agency involved in the provision of, or payment for, early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families	X	
Kathleen Vergara	Public/private provider of early intervention services	X	
Monica Verra-Tirado	Member of the state education agency responsible for preschool services to children with disabilities		X
Samantha Wass de Czege	Member from the state agency responsible for child care	X	
Ilene Wilkins	Public/private provider of early intervention services	X	
Guests	Affiliation	Present (In Person)	Present (Via Phone)
Laura Bailey	Florida Department of Health	X	
Marissa Barrera	Treasure Coast Early Steps		X



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Annalise Campisi	Bay Area Early Steps	X	
Jennifer Elmore	Florida Department of Health	X	
Harry Fogle	West Central Early Steps	X	
Debbie Goldberg	Western Panhandle Early Steps	X	
Marcy Hajdukiewicz	Florida Department of Health	X	
Sharon Hennessy	North Central Early Steps	X	
Lisette Levy	Office of Early Learning	X	
Jennifer Lloyd	Senate Committee on Health Policy		X
Michael Kelley	Florida Tech/Scott Center for Autism Treatment	X	
Rodney MacKinnon	Office of Early Learning	X	
Tamelia Malcolm	North Central Early Steps		
Angela Marcus	Florida Department of Health	X	
Jennifer Martin	Florida Department of Health	X	
Ken McCain	Florida Department of Health	X	
Cassandra Pasley	Florida Department of Health	X	
Rob Porcaro	Treasure Coast Early Steps		X
Althea Puzio	Space Coast Early Steps	X	
Kelly Rogers	Florida Department of Health	X	
Mary Sandler	Florida Department of Health	X	
April Smith	Northeastern Early Steps	X	
Dina Snider	Big Bend Early Steps	X	
Ruby Spouse	Unknown		X
Lois Taylor	Florida Department of Health	X	
Carole West	Florida Department of Education	X	
Charlene Willoughby	Florida Department of Health		

Call to Order – *Dr. Ilene Wilkins, Chair*

- Member roll call: The presence of a quorum was established with fifteen of the twenty members in attendance in person or via phone.
- Welcome, introductions, and agenda review.
- Presentation of the January 21-22, 2016 Meeting Notes.

Motion: Approval of the January 21-22, 2016 Meeting Notes
 Motion Made By: Kathleen Vergara
 Seconded Motion: Laurie Blades
 Discussion: None
 Motion Passed

The Council voted unanimously to approve the January 21-22, 2016 Meeting Notes as presented with no abstentions, or negative votes.



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- Appointments: Six members were appointed on April 14, 2016. Three members were reappointed on April 14, 2016. A new member orientation will be conducted via webinar prior to the July 2016 FICCIT meeting. All members are welcome to participate.
- Travel reimbursement: Reimbursement forms and self-addressed envelopes were provided to members requesting travel reimbursement.

Lead Agency Update – *Cassandra G. Pasley, Director, Division of Children's Medical Services, Florida Department of Health*

Director Pasley provided updates from the Early Steps State Office including:

- ESSO Staff Update;
- Early Steps Workgroups;
- Public Awareness and Logo;
- Early Wishes Event;
- Contract Monitoring;
- Meeting with the Bay Area Early Steps leadership team and providers resulting from the public comments received during the January 2016 Quarterly FICCIT Meeting regarding billing and payment concerns; and
- Tablets.

Dr. Ilene Wilkins and Lourdes Quintana volunteered to represent FICCIT at the Early Steps/Early Wishes event at the Family Café Conference on June 10, 2016.

Early Steps Dashboard – Dispute Resolution, Data, & Budget – *Lois Taylor, Chief, Bureau of Early Steps & Newborn Screening, Florida Department of Health*

An Early Steps dashboard with data from 2009-2010 through 2015-2016 was presented that included the following:

- # of children enrolled;
- # of children with Individualized Family Support Plans (IFSP);
- # of referrals with children determined ineligible;
- # and types of dispute resolutions (complaints, mediations, due process hearings);
- Federal grant revenue; and
- General Revenue.

House Bill 7053 - *Lois Taylor, Chief, Bureau of Early Steps & Newborn Screening and Charlene Willoughby, Florida Department of Health*



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An overview of House Bill 7053 was provided to the Council that included roles and requirements of the following:

- Clearinghouse;
- Annual Report;
- Duties of the Interagency Coordinating Council;
- Eligibility; and
- State Plan.

Annual Performance Report – *Mary Sandler, Program Consultant, Early Steps, Florida Department of Health*

The parameters used to determine the scores for the Annual Performance Report Indicators were provided to the Council. This included the measurement, data source, standards, and statewide target.

Performance data for Indicators 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 were shared with the Council. The Council reviewed data from 2012-2013 through 2012-2014 for California, Texas, New York, Alabama, and Georgia in comparison to Florida.

Misty Porter requested additional data to determine if Florida's child outcomes scores from entry to exit have decreased as a result of Florida's change in eligibility criteria.

Lilli Copp recommended analyzing data between specific locations of service and child outcomes to identify potential trends.

Early Steps State Systemic Improvement Plan – *Laura Rumph, Contract Manager and Laura Bailey, Early Steps, Florida Department of Health*

Phase II of the SSIP was submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs on April 1, 2016. The following objectives were included:

- Develop policies and procedures that will improve the capacity of Early Steps to appropriately identify the capacity of Early Steps;
- Establish a training and professional development system to support evidence-based practices related to social/emotional development;
- Align state and local initiatives improving practices of the early intervention workforce to support social/emotional development of children served;
- Ensure providers have the information on the social/emotional development of a child through screening, evaluation, and assessment to determine supports and interventions needed;



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- Develop Individualized Family Support Plans that include functional outcomes that address social/emotional development when identified through screening, evaluation, and assessment;
- Support selected demonstration sites in developing and implementing a coaching infrastructure to sustain LESs' efforts;
- Ensure that families have the capacity to access resources to promote the social/emotional development of their children; and
- Conduct a review of program costs, projected revenues and expenditures, and estimated needs to identify resources.

The SSIP Implementation Plan is in development and will include strategies, timelines, collaboration opportunities, utilization of the DEC Recommended Practices and the Pyramid Model, communities of practice and coaching infrastructure, and policies and procedures for implementation.

Bright Expectations – *Anna Simmons, Bureau of Family Health Services, Florida Department of Health*

Bright Expectations is a Florida Department of Health website that provides resources and information on developmental disabilities for pregnant women, health care providers, parents and families. This website is a portal to provide information on evaluation and intervention services, support programs for families, resources for health care providers, and serve as a clearinghouse of information on developmental disabilities as directed in section 383.141, Florida Statutes. Ms. Simmons provided a tour of the website that included the Information Clearinghouse on Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council, sections for prenatal and postnatal diagnosis, and public awareness materials.

The Council was informed the Children's Medical Services, Early Steps Program is revising the current website. Misty Porter offered to assist with this initiative.

Office of Early Learning Update on Special Project – *Lilli Copp, Head Start State Collaboration Office*

Florida's Office of Early Learning is reorganizing their Inclusion System and Infant/Toddler System. The current Inclusion System includes a staff member from each of the 30 early learning coalitions, whose responsibility is to provide technical support to child care providers offering inclusive settings. They also provide training, individualized support and connect children and families to services based on observations and screenings.

The redesigned Inclusion System will include linkages to mental health services and other health care systems; data collection and policies to prevent suspensions and expulsions from child care; connections with the Child Care Resource and Referral system to engage families via social media, newsletters, and parent pages, to educate families on child development and



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follow-up on child outcomes; and will include various state and local partners such as Early Steps, BEESS (IDEA Part B), Early Head Start, and Help Me Grow. The interdisciplinary “Expanding Opportunities for the Inclusion of Young Children” workgroup will serve as the advisory group to the Inclusion System.

The Inclusion System will interface with the Infant/Toddler System as there are many common points of intersection as both systems work to strengthen early childhood education services so children will be ready for school and work.

The Office of Early Learning is also creating a tool called the Best Practices in Inclusive Early Childhood Education (BPIECE). The purpose of this self-assessment tool is to provide a framework that builds a bridge between research on inclusion, and practices in early childhood education settings. Assessing practices of practitioners who work directly with children is a necessary, effective, and systematic way to evaluate current strategies and services for children with special needs. This tool can be used to identify strengths and specific areas for growth over time. The results will assist practitioners in developing a plan to improve the quality of services, instruction, and supports to all young children and their families. The tool is still in draft, but will be shared with early childhood practitioners for use soon.

The Council requested a list of the assessments used in Early Head Start. Those will be provided at the July 2016 Quarterly Meeting.

Public Comment

No public comment was received.

Next Steps, Announcements - *Dr. Ilene Wilkins, Chair*

The Council determined they would like future meetings to be one-day meetings from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The remainder of the 2016 Quarterly Meetings are:

- July 27, 2016 - West Palm
- October 13, 2016 – Tallahassee

<p>Motion: Meeting Adjournment Motion Made By: Lilli Copp Seconded Motion: Liz Cayson Discussion: None Motion Passed</p>
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Meeting Adjourned - *Dr. Ilene Wilkins, Chair*