



State Early Childhood Advisory Council

of Mississippi

SECAC MEETING MINUTES – February 9, 2012

Council Attendees: Ricky Berry, Nadine Coleman, Margarette Davenport, Louise Davis, Jill Dent, Johnny Franklin, Brooks Ann Gaston, Annjo Lemons, Gay Logan, Lora Mederos, Jackie Mockbee, Steve Renfroe, Lisa Romine, Festus Simkins, Holly Spivey, Rhea Williams-Bishop

Public Attendees: Eileen Beazley (Midtown Partners), Carl Brown (MLICCI), DeQuondra Hollins, Lisa Hudgins (MBB), Petra Kay (Northtown), LaNeil Kellum (MSCJC), Jeff Leffler (USM/MECA), Kate McMillin (MSCEI), Carolyn Mims, Larry & Margie Nobles, Sandra Parks (DMH), Cora Rogers, Laurie Smith (MBB), Tuwana Williams

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action to be Taken
<i>Call the Meeting to Order</i>	Coleman called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.	
<i>Approval of the Minutes from 12/14/2011</i>	Copies of the minutes from the December 14, 2011, meeting were distributed to the Council. Minor corrections were noted. Renfroe made a motion and Simkins seconded to accept the minutes with changes. The motion carried unanimously.	Change "Bishop" to "the Council and DHS" on second page. Change the date of the approval of the minutes.
<i>Introductions of Council & Guests</i>	Coleman asked the attendees to introduce themselves and name the entities they represented.	
<i>Updates from the Chair</i>	Coleman is currently serving as the interim chair of the Council.	
<i>Updates from the Executive Director</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lemons stated the new administration is very supportive of the Council and the Council's work. Currently, they are reviewing all councils and committees in statute to streamline for efficiency. Governor Bryant will make appointments to the Council. More direction will be forthcoming. Coleman asked a question regarding council membership in regards to the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007. Lemons stated that the Act will be reauthorized in 2012, but the Council has a contract from ACF and will conduct business for the next two years. The PCG report on the Consolidated Services Model will be tentatively rescheduled for March 1, 2012. Overview of Early Childhood bills introduced in the Legislature: Lengthy discussion of HB101 as well as HB68. Renfroe asked if 	Lemons scheduled a meeting with the Governor next week to discuss his vision for early childhood and the Council.

	<p>the Governor's Office is actively supporting any of the bills. Lemons stated the Office is supporting the bill to move child care licensure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lemons stated a bill will be dropped that will recommend child care licensure be moved from the Health Dept. to DHS-DECCD. Simkins discussed the background of the move. Renfroe asked if there was a defined group of people that could be easily transitioned, and Simkins stated yes- all staff that work in child care licensure will be moved to DHS. Dent and Simkins stated that there are many pieces that must be worked out for a smooth transition. Lemons reiterated that the Health Dept. is doing a great job. 	
Committee Reports : Coordinated Services Model – Steve Renfroe	<p>PCG will give the Council three models of Coordinated Services from which to choose. These models should define the roles and responsibilities of all the players in the <u>work processes</u> and show how the work is currently completed and how can it be improved as well as a focus on <u>service delivery</u> efficiency. First draft of the report did not meet expectations of the committee.</p>	Lemons stated that PCG has a March 1 deadline to report to the Council.
Committee Reports : Health Access – Rhea Williams- Bishop	<p>PCG was awarded the Healthcare Access contract. They have conducted focus groups, and they have spoken to numerous committee members.</p>	PCG will update the Council on their progress on March 1.
Committee Reports: Data – Rhea Williams-Bishop	<p>Bishop convened a group of early childhood professionals to meet with NSPARC to discuss the early childhood data to be collected throughout the state.</p>	
Committee Reports : Workforce Dev. – Louise Davis	<p>Davis updated the Council on the career ladder. Please see attached document.</p>	
Committee Reports : Home Provider – Jill Dent	<p>Dent updated the Council on the Nurturing Homes Initiative. Please see attached document.</p>	
EDI Update	<p>Coleman and Lemons updated the Council on the Transforming Early Childhood Community Systems (TECCS) National Conference.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiative that pulls communities together to look at the vulnerabilities and assets as related to early childhood – maps these out for a community. The Early Development Instrument (EDI) gives the community a population measure of the readiness of kindergarten children. The Petal community administers the EDI (this will be the 2nd yr) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives a measure of the whole child • Joint project of UCLA and United Way Worldwide <p>Lemons and Coleman had a conversation with Kellogg regarding moving the EDI across the entire state.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will give communities a way to gauge their progress • If the Council were to oversee this, then a pilot site must be determined – SPARK, Excel by 5, and Home Visiting counties would be a good start. • The criteria for applying for this must be developed, and the school district must be involved. • Need to look at agencies that would act as the lead agency in providing the services- training for teachers. • Lemons asked for volunteers to form a committee to determine statewide EDI implementation. • Bishop made a motion and Renfroe seconded to create an ad-hoc committee to look at the EDI. The motion carried unanimously. 	<p>Renfroe, Gaston, and Spivey volunteered to be on the committee as well as Coleman, Bishop, Dent, and Tiffany Dillard.</p>
<p>Other Business</p>	<p>*Discussion regarding the SECAC schedule of meetings. Lemons indicated Tuesdays might be a better day for everyone.</p> <p>*Bishop updated the Council on the successful Early Childhood Day at the Capitol and the Legislative Meet and Greet.</p> <p>*Mockbee stated the revised Early Learning Guidelines for 3 y.o. and 4 y.o. can be found on the MDE website.</p>	
<p>Public Comment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larry Nobles expressed concerns regarding a <u>Board</u> for providers if the Child Care Licensure moves to DHS. Carolyn Mims also voiced concerns about this issue – consider the providers when making the regulations. Don't take the voice away from private childcare. Petra Kay voiced concerns regarding "no recourse". She is concerned about a concentration of power in one place and wants to make sure that there continues to be procedures for recourse if there is a discrepancy. • Concerns about not knowing about the SECAC meetings, and Coleman reminded the group that the meetings are posted on the Governor's website. Lemons suggested the public go to the MS State Legislature website and read the status of bills pertaining to early childhood. • Jeff Leffler stated the MS Early Childhood Association conference will be October 4-6, 2012, at Christ United Methodist Church. Also, the Early Childhood Institute will sponsor four conferences 	

	designed around the CLASS tool(Classroom Assessment Scoring System). The first will be in Tupelo on March 31, 2012 – CEU's will be available.	
Adjourn	Davis made a motion and Gaston seconded to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 12.40 p.m.	