

**Early Childhood Mental Health Workgroup  
CBEC  
August 11, 2011  
10 am to 3 pm  
Dept. of Mental Health, DD Conference Room  
Local 573-526-5402 and toll free 866-630-9346.**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Cindy Wilkinson, Suzie Henderson, Mernell King, Judy Saurage, Patsy Carter, Shelley Mayse, Dr. Laine Young-Walker (phone)

**Absent:** Angie Wendt, Julie Germann, Sanaria Sulaiman, Mayme Young, Daryl Rothman

**Review of Last Meeting**

The workgroup reviewed the discussion from the last meeting. Patsy handed out a graphic which included the public health pyramid outline for early childhood mental health focusing on universal, targeted and selected intervention which was explored in the previous meeting. It was agreed to use this as a general framework for discussion and planning. The group reviewed the meeting dates and some changes were made. The following were the agreed upon dates for the next meetings:

**September 8 – Phone call 10-11 am**

**October 24- Face to Face meeting at DMH, 10 am to 3 pm**

**November 10- Phone call 10-11 am**

**December 16 - Face to face meeting at DMH, 10 am to 3 pm**

We will set the meeting dates for 2012 in our next meeting

**Early Learning Challenge Grant review and input**

Patsy and Cindy presented on the Early Learning Challenge Grant stakeholders' meeting that was held on August 5. Several workgroup members also attended. It was noted that this grant focused on early "LEARNING", and noted how this focus may impact the parameters of the grant application. Those present shared results from their group work in the stakeholder's meeting. Patsy reviewed with the group the output from the Health/Mental Health and Family Engagement group. DESE has requested DMH provide an outline of the infrastructure and policy focus for the grant related to early childhood mental health. Patsy asked that this workgroup help to shape those priorities. The group agreed.

**Identify First Priority**

The first priority was to develop the mental health component for the Early Learning Challenge Grant. The group used the public health pyramid to frame the levels of work to be done. The following areas and ideas were discussed.

Mental Health Promotion – Need to provide training and supports for pediatricians, County Health Depts on social and emotional development. Creation of tools and other mechanisms including but not limited to waiting room resources (pamphlets, videos, referral sources)

Screening- Ensure appropriate screening tools for infant/toddler, early childhood populations to be able to have all young children screened for S/E development at least once prior to kindergarten. Access to

follow up consultation/services to identify factors related to any delays/problems and determine what would be best options for follow up (environmental, medical, mental health interventions etc.) Need to assist staff in family engagement around screening results and health literacy

Training of Mental Health professionals on early childhood, specifically noting Infant/Toddler population- Including but not limited to psychiatrists, social workers, psychologist, counselors

Public Awareness Campaign – Increase awareness of the need for intentional focus on healthy social/emotional development

Funding (program and services) – a) Need for consultative expertise on tracking the different funding streams in the state (focus on federal, state funding streams and perhaps local tax dollars) that are or can be dedicated to early childhood population well-being and mental health services; b) need to ensure access to appropriate billings for individualized services for the early childhood population. Discussion ensued related to billing Medicaid/insurance using DC0-3R

Mental Health Consultation and Ongoing Mentoring/Supervision/Coaching – Discussed different types of consultation (program v. child focus). Shelley provided information on the League of States, which are 14 states that have an early childhood endorsement/certification process. This will be explored in more detail later.

### **Develop Action Plan for First Priority**

Patsy will write up what the group saw as priorities for inclusion in the Early Learning Challenge Grant related to infrastructure, delivery systems and policies related to Early Childhood population and submit for review prior to submitting to DESE for Challenge Grant

### **Next Steps and Assignments**

See above – Patsy to develop recommendations for Challenge Grant

Group is to review information provided by Shelley M regarding endorsement process, obtain others' feedback for discussion in next meeting.