

Early Childhood Mental Health Workgroup
April 20, 2015

10:00AM – 3 PM

Department of Mental Health
1706 E. Elm Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101
Conference Room A

Call – In Numbers:
526-6207/866-630-9356

Present: Emily Koenig, Lori Masek, Julie Allen, Cindy Reese, Susie Henderson, Sanaria Sulaiman, Beth Ann Lang, Shelley Mayse, Kristin Fuciu, Karen Mulligan, Janine Hron, Mary Chant, Ann Thomas, Justin Logan, and Eric Martin

Notes

1. Welcome and Announcements

In December 2014, the group discussed the need for more practicing mental health professionals to serve on the workgroup to help develop infant-early childhood mental health core competencies. The ECMH workgroup added several new members including infant-early childhood mental health providers and this was the first in person meeting the majority were able to attend. New members include Dr. West - Grace Hill (she was unable to join this month), Kristin Fuciu and Karen Mulligan from The Family Conservancy, Oneta Templeton- Children's Mercy Hospital (on the phone), Jo Anne Ralston - Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (unable to participate this month), Ann Thomas - Children's Place, Katrina McDonald - Crider Center, and Janine Hron-Crittenden. We welcome the expertise of our new member and look forward to their valuable input and insight as we work towards a more comprehensive infant-early childhood mental health system.

2. Update on Learning Collaborative & Advanced Training

Susie & Shelley completed the first cohort of the Early Childhood Mental Health provider training. Overall, 25 mental health providers completed the 2 trainings and 6-months of the learning collaborative. The advanced training was held on April 10, which provided participants with a taste of several interventions shown to be effective in working with the early childhood population. Participants noted they would have liked to have the training earlier on in the collaborative, but felt like it was very useful. This cohort is being evaluated through the Missouri Institute for Mental Health (MIMH) because it was funded by Project LAUNCH. Shelley and Susie will follow-up with evaluation information for the group.

3. Update on Cohort 2 of ECMH Provider Training

The DMH and DHSS, in collaboration with the Coalition of Community Behavioral Healthcare (Coalition), will host a second cohort of the Early Childhood Mental Health providers training. The initial training will be held on June 12th in Jefferson City at the Coalition's Office. The second training will be July 24th, with the collaborative phone calls beginning the second week of July.

The Coalition will have approximately 15 slots, and the remaining slots will be available to other mental health providers across the state. Cindy Reese will reach out to providers in the SE region of the state to supported through the MIECHV program, Mary Chant will distribute information to the MCCA providers, Eric Martin will look into distributing &/or posting information on MoHealthNet's webpage.

If this effort is successful, we will have added approximately another 55 mental health therapist that have the basic knowledge to work with young children in the state.

Follow-up: Emily and Cindy need to with the planning team using the MIMH evaluation tools that were used in the Eastern region training under LAUNCH. In December, we also discussed setting up a pre-post knowledge survey as an outcome measure.

4. Core Competencies

In December, the workgroup began to discuss the development of infant-early childhood mental health core competencies. The group discussed the cost of purchasing Michigan's competencies or developing our own, as well as the pros and cons. Dr. Carter took this to the CBEC on January 6th and the Board provided guidance that it would like the ECMH workgroup to develop Missouri competencies rather than purchase them.

Because there are several new members of the group, we spent a significant amount of time discussing the charge given by the CBEC to develop our own standards. We discussed the Michigan competency system and endorsement process and the pros and cons of developing our own vs. buying their rights to the system from Michigan.

In addition, we spent some time discussing the development of an Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health Association. There is a small group of individuals in the Kansas City area looking at creating an association. The creation of an association would be the first step in meeting the requirements by Michigan to purchase their competencies for use in the state.

The workgroup discussed that we still needed to do some additional work to build our case for the development of a competency system. Emily will reach out to Michigan, Zero to Three, and others to help provide context to the system level efforts around the development of core competencies and the impact on children and families. Specifically the group wanted to know if competencies systems have

led to better outcomes for children and families. Some additional questions as we start to shape our work:

- Does education driving training?
- Does the existence of competency system build capacity, or is it a hindrance?
- Why would people want to go through the competency system/endorsement process?
- What other arguments do states/organizations make, beyond professionalism that make competency sellable?
- What structures and supports need to be in place to make it more effective?
- What would need to have in place to make a competency system work?
- How do we get traction around competencies?
- What is our advocacy message?
- How would we build capacity?
- How would we use the competency system?

Overall, the workgroup felt we still had background work to do prior to looking specifically at the competencies.

5. Zero to Three TA

The group would like to have discussions with Zero to Three, but did not specify in any great depth the topic. We discussed having an overview/comparison of competency systems.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 18th 10:00 – 12:00 PM
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