

Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT)
 Quarterly Meeting
 December 19, 2023
 Meeting Minutes

Member Name	Member Seat	Present (In Person)	Present (Via Teams)	Absent
Kim Carr	Public/private provider of early intervention services		X	
Dr. Judith Levin	Member from personnel preparation program		X	
Rob Porcaro	Public/private provider of early intervention services		X	
Misty Porter	Parent of child with disability age 12 or younger		X	
Kathleen Vergara	Public/private provider of early intervention services			X
Dr. Ilene Wilkins	Public/private provider of early intervention services			X
Member Name	Member Seat	Present (In Person)	Present (Via Teams)	Absent
Vacant	Parent of child with disability age 12 or younger	--	--	--
Vacant	Parent of child with disability age 6 or younger	--	--	--
Vacant	Parent of child with disability age 12 or younger	--	--	--
Vacant	Public/private provider of early intervention services	--	--	--
Vacant	Public/private provider of early intervention services	--	--	--
Vacant	Member from the agency responsible for children's mental health	--	--	--
Vacant	Member of the state education agency responsible for preschool services to children with disabilities	--	--	--
Vacant	Member from a Head Start Program	--	--	--
Vacant	Member from the State Legislature	--	--	--
Vacant	Member from the state agency responsible for childcare	--	--	--

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Vacant	Member from the state child welfare agency responsible for foster care	--	--	--
Vacant	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	--	--	--
Vacant	Member from the agency responsible for the State Medicaid and CHIP program	--	--	--
Vacant	Office of Coordination of Education of Homeless Children & Youth	--	--	--
Vacant	Member from the agency responsible for the State regulation of private health insurance	--	--	--
Guests	Affiliation	Present (In Person)	Present (Via Teams)	
Marcy Hajdukiewicz	Florida Department of Health		X	
Andrea Gary	Florida Department of Health		X	
Dusty Stern	Florida Department of Health		X	
Robert French	Florida Department of Health		X	
Emily Keeney	Florida Department of Health		X	
Andrew Smith	Florida Department of Health		X	
Monica Paris	Florida Department of Health		X	
John Shupard	Florida Department of Health		X	
Tina Moore	Florida Department of Health		X	
Jennifer Canfield	Florida Department of Health		X	
Celica Coleman	Florida Department of Health		X	
Leila Jett	Florida Department of Health		X	
Mary Hilton	Florida Department of Health		X	
Angela Marcus	Florida Department of Health		X	
Alicia Blue	Florida Department of Health		X	
Anna Dungey	Florida Department of Health		X	
Reneeka Rogers	Florida Department of Health		X	

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Jasmine Wallace	Florida Department of Health		X
Marisol Rose	Florida Department of Health		X
Liz Gonzalez	Florida Department of Health		X
Dane Nelson	Florida Department of Health		X
Luc Toussaint	Florida Department of Health		X
Sandy Noel	Florida Department of Health		X
Stephanie Schofield	Florida Department of Health		X
Marie Mathis	Florida Department of Health		X
Renesia Jones	Florida Department of Health		X
Haylie Mistrot	Florida Department of Health		X
Nichole Wiman	Florida Department of Health		X
Laurie Colon	Orlando Health		X
Kathy Riley	Orlando Health		X
Jessica Dunn	Orlando Health		X
Lora Torres	Orlando Health		X
Paula Burns	Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital		X
Bryan Peters	Florida Office for Insurance Regulation		X

Call to Order – *Emily Keeney, FICCIT Coordinator*

Emily Keeney called the meeting to order and completed Council member roll call. The presence of a quorum was unable to be established with the members in attendance. The Council was unable to vote to approve the September 29, 2023, Meeting Minutes.

Annual Report Updates – *Andrew Smith, Policy Lead, Florida Department of Health*

Andrew Smith shared that the newly combined Annual Report and State Plan have been approved and are available to the public. He shared that it is available via the Early Steps website.

OSEP Updates – *Angela Marcus, Quality Assurance, Accountability and Monitoring Unit Supervisor, Florida Department of Health*

Angela Marcus shared that in December 2019, the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) had an on-site monitoring visit to the Early Steps State Office (ESSO). Following that visit, they issued findings to ESSO in 2021. ESSO submitted the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) in response, and after a review by OSEP, the issues have been identified as

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resolved, and the CAP has been closed out. ESSO has no further action required for the findings. Rob Porcaro inquired if this is the same as the determination status and Angela clarified that these are separate federal statuses.

Professional Development Unit Updates – Marie Mathis, MEd, Early Steps Professional Development Unit Supervisor, Florida Department of Health

Marie Mathis shared that the Professional Development team is working with a contractor to develop multiple trainings, including Orientation training, Service Coordinator Apprenticeship training, Functional Outcomes training, and Infant Toddler Development Specialist (ITDS) training. Florida Embedded Practices and Intervention with Caregivers (FL-EPIC) framework is being imbedded in each of these trainings. Dr. Judith Levin suggested incorporating ITDS training into college curriculum.

Marketing and Public Awareness Updates – Liz Gonzalez, MPH, Strategic Marketing Communications Manager, Florida Department of Health

Liz Gonzalez shared that ESSO is working on two marketing campaigns to be run between January and June of 2024. One of the campaigns will be regarding the FL-EPIC training and the other will be focused on provider recruitment. The campaigns will focus on outreach materials and consistent messaging across the state.

Public Comment –

Rob Porcaro requested an update about the Data System. Robert French shared that in early 2024, the vendor will have a demo ready for ESSO, and then shortly after that User Acceptance Testing will begin. Robert French confirmed that the vendor has successfully launched a Part C Data System in other states.

Rob Porcaro stated that at his Local Early Steps (LES), they are having challenges with provider recruitment for a number of reasons and inquired to ESSO's efforts to address this. Emily Keeney stated she did not have any updates to share at this time, but that she would follow up at the next meeting. Misty Porter recommended a case study for provider pay rates as a best practice.

Rob Porcaro inquired about council member appointment status. Dusty Stern stated that council members remain active until they are replaced or resign, so the current members are still active. Marcy Hajdukiewicz shared that there is progress, and the interviewing process for new appointees has begun. There are no exact timelines for next steps for appointments, but once ESSO has the information, it will be shared.

Misty Porter inquired about whether the future FICCIT meetings would be in person. Rob Porcaro and Dr. Levin echoed the interest to meet in person again. Emily Keeney thanked the members for their input and stated that the ESSO team is looking into pathways to hold future meetings in person.

Lora Torres inquired if there are links for the professional development trainings. Emily Keeney stated the trainings are still being developed, but once completed, links will be shared.

Meeting Adjourned