



## ***STATE SYSTEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING MEETING MINUTES***

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Meeting Date: 04/26/24

Meeting Location: Zoom

Approval: Department of  
Developmental Services

(DDS) Staff

Recorded By: WestEd Staff

## 1. ATTENDANCE

Name	Stakeholder Group Categories	Present/Absent
Ginger Elliott-Teague, PhD Senior Researcher and Technical Assistance Specialist, SRI International	Facilitator Technical assistance provider	Present
Anna Mark, M.Ed Senior Education Researcher and Technical Assistance Specialist, SRI International	Technical assistance provider	Present
Giuseppe Ancona Program Manager, Inland Regional Center	Regional Center	Present
Kathy Angkustsiri, MD, MAS Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician MIND Center, UC Davis Health	Developmental-Behavior Pediatrics	Present
Susanna Curry, LCSW Pediatric Behavioral Consultant, Shasta Community Health Center	Developmental-Behavior Pediatrics	Present
Catarina Fishman, M.S., Psy.D Clinical Psychologist, Alta California Regional Center	Developmental-Behavior Pediatrics Regional Center	Present
Denise Godfrey-Pinn, M.S., PhD Psychology Consultant, Harbor Regional Center	Regional Center	Present
Season Goodpasture, MFT Founder and Executive Director, Acorns to Oak Trees	Regional Center Vendor Advocacy Community	Present
Rafael Hernandez-Perez Case Management Supervisor, North Bay Regional Center	Regional Center	Present
Laurie Jordan Rainbow Connection Family Resource Center	Family Resource Center	Present
Christina Nigrelli Senior Director of Programs, Zero to Three		Present
Maria Rivas, MSW Client Services Manager, Harbor Regional Center	Regional Center	Present
Patty Salcedo Training Director, Desired Results Access Project		Present

Tricia Simmons Program Manager, Valley Mountain Regional Center	Regional Center	Present
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DDS: Maricris Acon, Reyna Ambriz, Hope Beale, Erin Paulsen Brady, Anne DeMedeiros, Ryan Digman, Nate Dozier, Lisa Gonzales, Ashley Lambert, Mayra Ochoa, Esteban Ortiz, Cathy Schultze, Jasmine Suo, Nate Taleon, DJ Tomko

WestEd: Rebecca Halpern, Angela McGuire

## 2. MEETING LOCATION

Online, Zoom

## 3. AGENDA

### • Welcome and Introductions

- Nate Taleon introduced the purpose of the advisory groups: to gather feedback on the SSIP.
- Jasmine Suo provided direction for participating online.
- Nate Taleon conducted a roll call via chat.

### • Background of SSIP

- Ginger Elliott-Teague reviewed the evolution of SSIP activities. SSIP is required by OSEP as part of the Annual Performance Report.
- Reviewed current SSIP and past activities, and why a redesign is necessary.
  - Cohort implementation and choice at local level made it difficult to attribute SiMR improvement to specific practices.
  - Evaluation activities could not make direct links between activities and improvements.

### • SSIP Revision Process

- Ginger described the 7-step revision process, which will be completed within a year.
- DDS SSIP Leadership team is guiding the work.
- Today's advisory group meeting is part of the first step of gathering constituent input. There are 4 advisory group meetings planned, as well as focus groups with targeted constituents.
- The primary question for today's group is: Where should California focus its improvement efforts?
- Reviewed the 6 outcomes tracked in the APR: 3 child outcomes and 3 family outcomes.

### • Discussion of SSIP Data – Child Outcomes

- Ginger presented child outcomes data submitted by DDS to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), comparing California with national trends. Asked group to consider where California differs

and which outcomes might be a good focus. Advisory members responded in the virtual room chat.

- Social emotional development outcomes: outcome 1 is now in line with national average; outcome 2 is substantially higher. Neither outcome is hitting targets and both are gradually declining.
- Knowledge and skills outcomes: outcome 1 is above national average; outcome 2 is above national average. Neither outcome is hitting targets, and both are gradually declining.
- Meeting needs outcomes: outcome 1 is far below national average; outcome 2 is slightly above national outcome. Neither outcome is hitting targets, and both are gradually declining.
- Denise Godfrey-Pinn reminded group that there is not a common method of measurement across early interventionists and regional centers.
  - Ginger agreed that is an infrastructure issue to consider.
- Catarina Fishman asked if measurement scores and data collection is done by parent report or provider report?
  - Ginger answered that it varies by provider.
- Susanna Curry asked what the differences are between caseloads across regional centers?
  - Nate Taleon answered that the caseload requirements now are 1:40 but is not sure which regional centers have hit that mark.
- Lisa Gonzales asked if there has been a study on the capacity of providers in Early Start and how that impacts services?
  - Nate Taleon acknowledged the question is good.
  - Ginger answered that nationwide, this varies from place to place.
- Denise Godfrey-Pinn asked if the SSIP strategy that focused on workforce development has been considered in interpreting SSIP data?
  - Ginger answered that may be something to consider for infrastructure improvement.
- Rafael Hernandez mentioned there is a limited number of providers in some catchment areas that is really going to impact outcomes. There is much difficulty in recruiting and retaining providers.
- **Discussion of SSIP Data – Family Outcomes**
  - Ginger presented family outcomes data from DDS comparing California with national trends.
    - California uses a sampling plan to collect family outcomes data. California's plan is approved by OSEP and the response rate is 10-13%.
    - Parents Know Rights outcome has met or exceeded the target, but is well below national average.
    - Parents Communicating Needs of Children outcome is close to national average.
    - Early Intervention Helping Family Help Children outcome is below national average.

- Season Goodpasture commented that she has heard from clients that there isn't as much support for the family as there is for the child.
  - Susanna Curry commented that many families seem to be confused about where to go, and asked how to support families to partner with a workforce that is also strained?
  - Laurie Jordan agreed that COVID affected parents, providers, and caregivers.
  - Patty Salcedo asked if the service delivery system supports family coaching or single disciplines working with the child independent of the family?
    - Ginger observed that the model is family-centered but may vary from provider to provider.
  - Catarina Fishman commented that information and access can be overwhelming if various providers and agencies aren't communicating and coordinating.
  - Season Goodpasture validated that comment and added that for some parents, work is their "break" and that they may be getting conflicting recommendations from different service providers, particularly when services aren't allowed to be delivered at the same time.
  - Maria Rivas commented that pediatricians need more training and awareness on the child development outcomes.
- **Group Poll**
    - DDS leadership issued a poll within the meeting platform to gather feedback on which outcomes should be the focus Early Start improvement efforts.

#### **4. NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, May 23, 2024. Time TBD.