

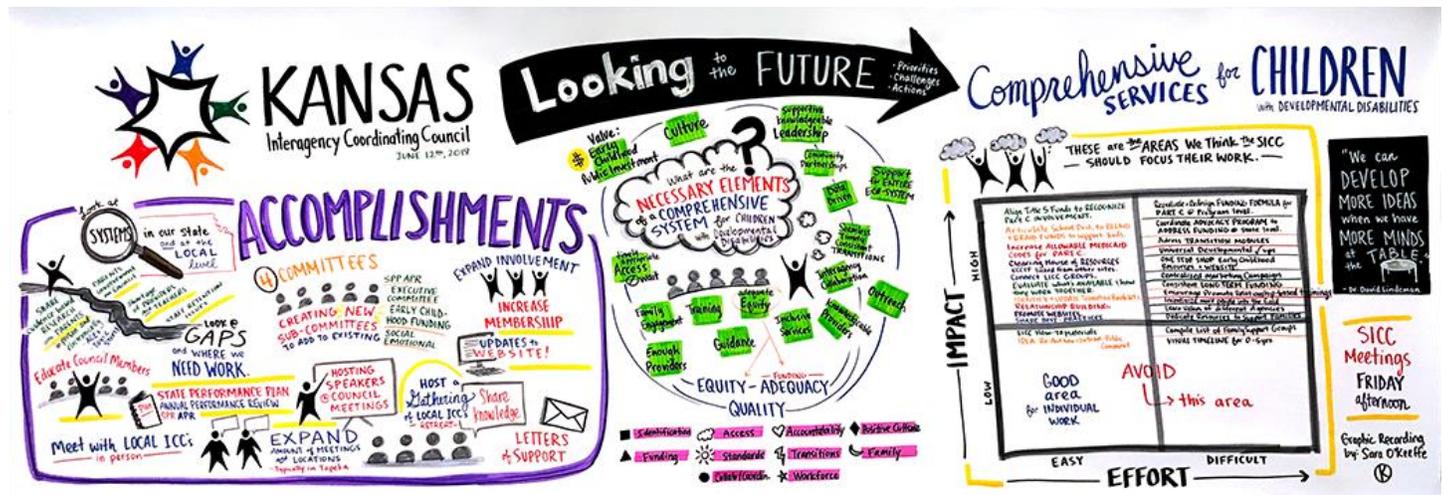


Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services *ANNUAL REPORT: July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019*

The mission of the Kansas Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services is to ensure that a comprehensive service delivery system of integrated services is available in Kansas to all children with or at risk for developmental delays from birth through age 5 and their families.

INTRODUCTION

The Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) is based in both federal law and state statute. The Council serves as an advisory body to state agencies and others with the majority of our members appointed by the Governor and the remainder by administrators of state agencies, the Kansas Board of Regents, Kansas House and Senate leaders, and the Kansas Insurance Commissioner. Our area of focus are concerns children with (or at risk of) disabilities or developmental delays aged birth through five years and their families. Council activities are guided by statute and the mission statement and are largely driven by the Annual Strategic Planning meeting and our Memorandum of Agreement (MOA-Attachment #1) with state agency partners.



➤ A graphic recording of the SICC's Annual Planning meeting in June 2019 by Sara O'Keefe.



ANNUAL PRIORITIES AND GOALS

During Fiscal Year 2019 the council focused on Article 2 of the SICC Bylaws (Attachment #3), which pertains to identifying families as an important focus in early intervention. Discussion points included:

- Empowering families to advocate on behalf of their child and family
- Improving community involvement
- Equipping families to advocate and be involved in their child’s early intervention or education plan and services
- Educating families and providers about services for children with social-emotional needs
- Supporting transitions from Part C/Infant Toddler Services to Part B/Early Childhood Special Education Services

KANSAS ICC ROSTER 2018-19

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position on Council</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>
David Lindeman (Chair)	Kansas Board of Regents Representative	lindeman@ku.edu	N/A
Lisa Collette (Vice Chair)	Commissioner of Insurance Office Representative	LCollette@ksinsurance.org	N/A
Matt Connell	Past-Chair	matt@connellenterprises.org	7/31/17
Nichelle Adams	Kansas Department for Children and Families Representative	Nichelle.Adams@ks.gov	7/31/22
Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena	Parent Member	lizb@ksu.edu	7/31/21
Kate Walter	Parent Member	walter@nckcn.com	7/31/21
Laci Reamer	Parent Member	Laci@famieliestogetherinc.org	7/31/20
Stacy Harvey	Parent Member	Stacy.a.harveymssa@gmail.com	7/31/21



Alix Kumer	Provider Member	Alix.kumer@gmail.com	7/31/20
Karen Pahls	Provider Member/ Part B Preschool	karenpahls3@gmail.com	7/31/21
Ann Elliott	Provider Member/ Child Care	ann@frcpittsburg.org	7/31/20
Heather Staab	Part C Coordinator & Kansas Department of Health and Environment Representative	heather.staab@ks.gov	N/A
Kim Kennedy	Kansas Department for Children and Families (Head Start/ad hoc member)	Kimberly.kennedy@ks.gov	N/A
Natalie McClane	Part B/619 Coordinator & Kansas State Dept. of Education Representative	NMcClane@ksde.org	N/A
Lesli Girard	Ex-Officio Member	Lesli@famielsttogetherinc.org	7/31/20
Vacant	Legislator (R)		
Vacant	Legislator (D)		
Jordan Christian	Staff to the SICC	jchristian@ksde.org	N/A

COMMITTEES AND ANNUAL GOALS

Following discussion by council members and guests, the committees/work groups were identified for FY19, and members for each committee were identified (listed below). The Chair of the SICC encouraged Council members to pick a committee they have not served on in the past. Committee Chairs were selected during the Annual Planning Session (June 2018).

Committee Membership for 2018-19:

- *Executive Committee:* Chair- David Lindeman
Other Members- Heather Staab, Liz Brunscheen-Cartagena, Lisa Collette



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- *State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) Committee:* Chair- Heather Staab
Other Members- Kate Walter, Kim Kennedy, Natalie McClane, Ann Elliott
 - *Early Childhood Workforce and Funding Committee:* Chair- Kim Kennedy
Other Members- Susan Bowles, Lisa Collette, Ann Elliot, Mary Duncan, Nichelle Adams, Heather Staab, Natalie McClane, Alix Kumer, David Lindeman
 - *Social-Emotional Committee:* Chair- Karen Pahls
Other Members- Liz Brunscheen-Cartagena, Laci Reamer, Lesli Girard, Stacy Harvey

Executive Committee Activities/Responsibilities:

- Release policy statements to the public
- Set agendas for full council meetings
- Approve/add updates to the SICC website
- Advise and assist lead agencies (MOA Pg. 4, C)

SPP/APR Committee Activities/Responsibilities:

- Review and approve Part C annual report in February and then recommend to the council approval of the report so it can be sent to the Office of Special Education Programs, US Department of Education
- Convey data and information regarding the report to the full council

Early Childhood Workforce and Funding Committee Activities/Responsibilities:

- Formed as a committee of the SICC as a result of the 2018 SICC strategic planning meeting.
- The SICC members recognized the growing concern of teacher shortages and limited funding sources for serving children with disabilities and their families.
- The group continues to gather data to inform and help to identify how to address the teacher shortage and Part C funding concerns.
- The Following Action Steps were identified:
 - Examine sources of funding across Kansas and how they support inclusive practices
 - Utilize the updated Early Childhood Funding Chart and the Part C Needs Assessment results when they become available
 - Update the 2009 Early Childhood Funding Chart & identified potential gaps in funding sources
 - Examine all the funding sources local Part C programs receive in addition to state and federal funding



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- Utilize the updated 2019 Early Childhood Funding Chart to help determine all potential funding sources
 - Identify the actual cost of running a Part C program
 - Identify the number of Part C early intervention programs ending the year in a deficit
 - Consider how a funding formula could affect a program in a rural or frontier part of the state vs. urban

Social-Emotional Committee Activities/Responsibilities:

- Review many evidenced based programs and begin discussing ways to disseminate the information to families and providers.
- Invite several speakers come to the SICC meetings and discuss social emotional development, programming and state initiatives.
- Work on Family Engagement including sharing the following resources
 - <https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/Communicating-with-Families.pdf>
 - Learn the Signs, Act Early <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/index.html>

KANSAS ICC MEETINGS AND ACTIONS

All SICC meetings follow an agenda sent to members in advance. Standing agenda items include introductions, approval of previous minutes, approval of agenda, public forum, old business, committee reports, agency reports, staff report, and report from chair. Orientation for new members is provided. Meeting agendas, minutes, reports and handouts are posted on the website at: <https://www.kansasicc.org/meeting-dateslocations.html>

Beginning in August of 2018 the SICC set in place the standard practice of hearing reports from a local service program and a state level program or project (Attachment #4). The intent of this practice was to engage both local and state partners as well as educate the SICC members regarding supports, services, and programs in the state. By providing this information the work of the SICC will be facilitated and members of the council will have additional information regarding services that can be referenced to the mission of ensuring a comprehensive system of integrated services.

August 24, 2018 (Topeka, KS) - The Council's Annual Report and agenda were approved. Kelly Langford with TARC in Topeka provided an overview of their early intervention program and data. Myron Melton with KSDE also presented on the agency's work surrounding Social-Emotional Development, especially in preschool and Kindergarten. Members of the SICC decided which committees they would work with for the duration of the current fiscal year. Committee and agency reports were provided.



November 2, 2018 (Topeka, KS) - Previous meeting minutes and current agenda were approved. Misty Goosen presented on the KDHE Part C State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), and how the SICC can stay involved/assist with this work. Chris Tilden with the University of Kansas' Center for Public Partnerships and Research provided an update regarding the Part C Infant-Toddler Needs Assessment and work across Kansas, as well as future steps surrounding this work. Committee and agency reports were provided.

December 14, 2018 (Topeka, KS) – Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer with the Northwest Kansas Education Service Center provided the local program update regarding early intervention services in the Northwest region of Kansas. This included, data, geographical limitations and challenges, funding, and future plans for the program. Marites Altuna presented to the SICC on the Kansas Deaf-Blind Project, giving an overview of the program and how the SICC can stay connected to their work. Committee and agency reports were provided.

January 16, 2019 (Topeka, KS) – This was the joint annual meeting between the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) and the SICC. Updates were given by Amanda Petersen, Director of Early Childhood at KSDE, regarding the Federal Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five and Kindergarten Readiness. The topic of Preschool Inclusion was covered by Dean Zajic and Natalie McClane with KSDE. Heather Staab with KDHE presented on the State Performance Plan (SPP) and Indicator data from the Part C and B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Jordan Christian gave updates regarding the Local ICCs across Kansas. Myron Melton with KSDE informed the group of the agencies work with School Mental Health and Trauma Informed Care.

February 15, 2019 (Topeka, KS) – Cancelled due to bad weather.

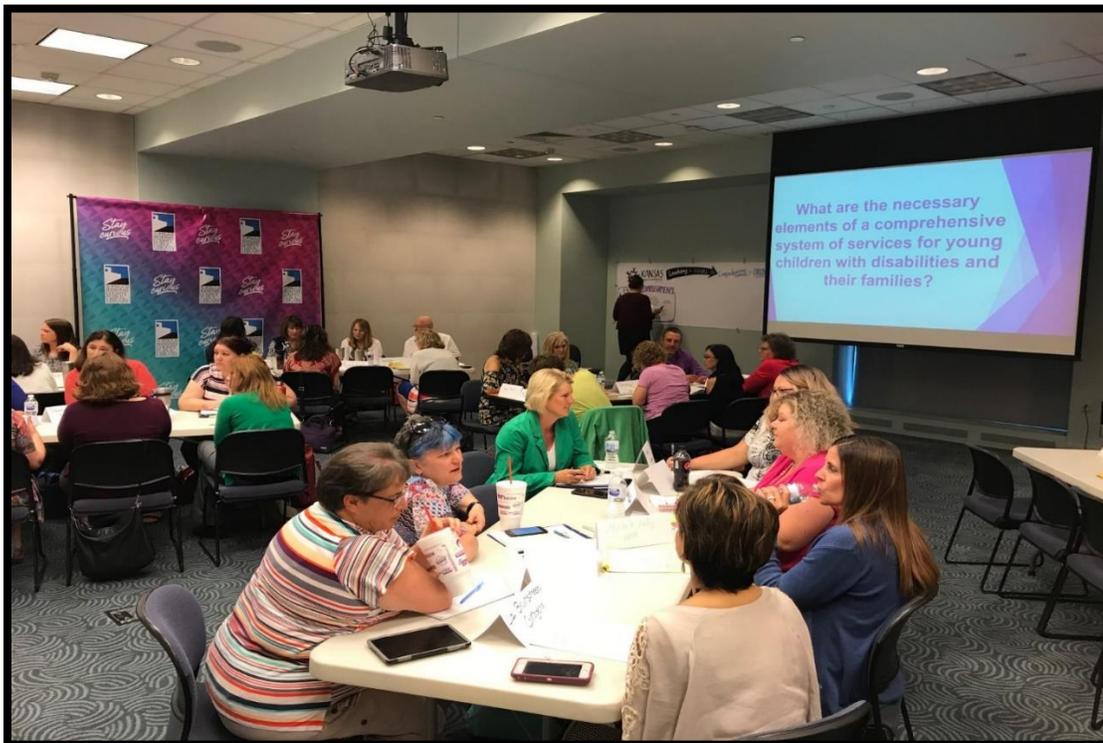
March 29, 2019 (Topeka, KS) - Previous meeting minutes and agenda were approved. Peggy Kemp Executive Director of the Division for Early Childhood (DEC) of the Council for Exceptional Children, gave an overview of DEC, her work, the DEC website (<https://www.dec-sped.org/>) and Learn the Signs Act Early. The second presentation for the day was an Update and Overview of DEC's Recommended Practices, which was provided by Phoebe Rinkel. Committee and agency reports were also provided.

April 26, 2019 (Topeka, KS) - Previous meeting minutes and agenda were approved. The Executive Director of the Kansas Children's Cabinet, Melissa Rooker, introduced herself and gave an overview of the Cabinet's recent work. The local program presentation was provided by the Russell Child Development Center located in Garden City by Scott Kedrowski and Deanna Berry. Committee and agency reports were also provided.



May 22, 2019 (Topeka, KS) - Previous meeting minutes and agenda were approved. The council met and discussed final plans for the Annual Strategic Planning meeting in June. This included attendees, meeting location, materials, an outside facilitator, and other logistics. Committee and agency reports were also provided.

June 22, 2018 (Topeka, KS) - The council held its annual strategic planning session at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library. The agenda for the day was reviewed and approved. The SICC took a new approach to the strategic planning session by including more people involved with early childhood across Kansas, with roughly 40 in attendance for the day. This included school districts, early intervention programs, representatives from major state agencies, local early childhood service programs, parents, LICC members, and more. Misty Goosen provided facilitation for the meeting, and a graphic recorder was provided by the University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research (graphic recording on Pg.1 of this document). The group was challenged with identifying potential areas of focus that the SICC could concentrate on during the upcoming year. These were associated into different groups based on their level of impact and the effort it would take to achieve those goals (Pg. 8). The SICC will decide on which tasks to work on during the 2019-20 fiscal year at their first meeting in August, 2019.

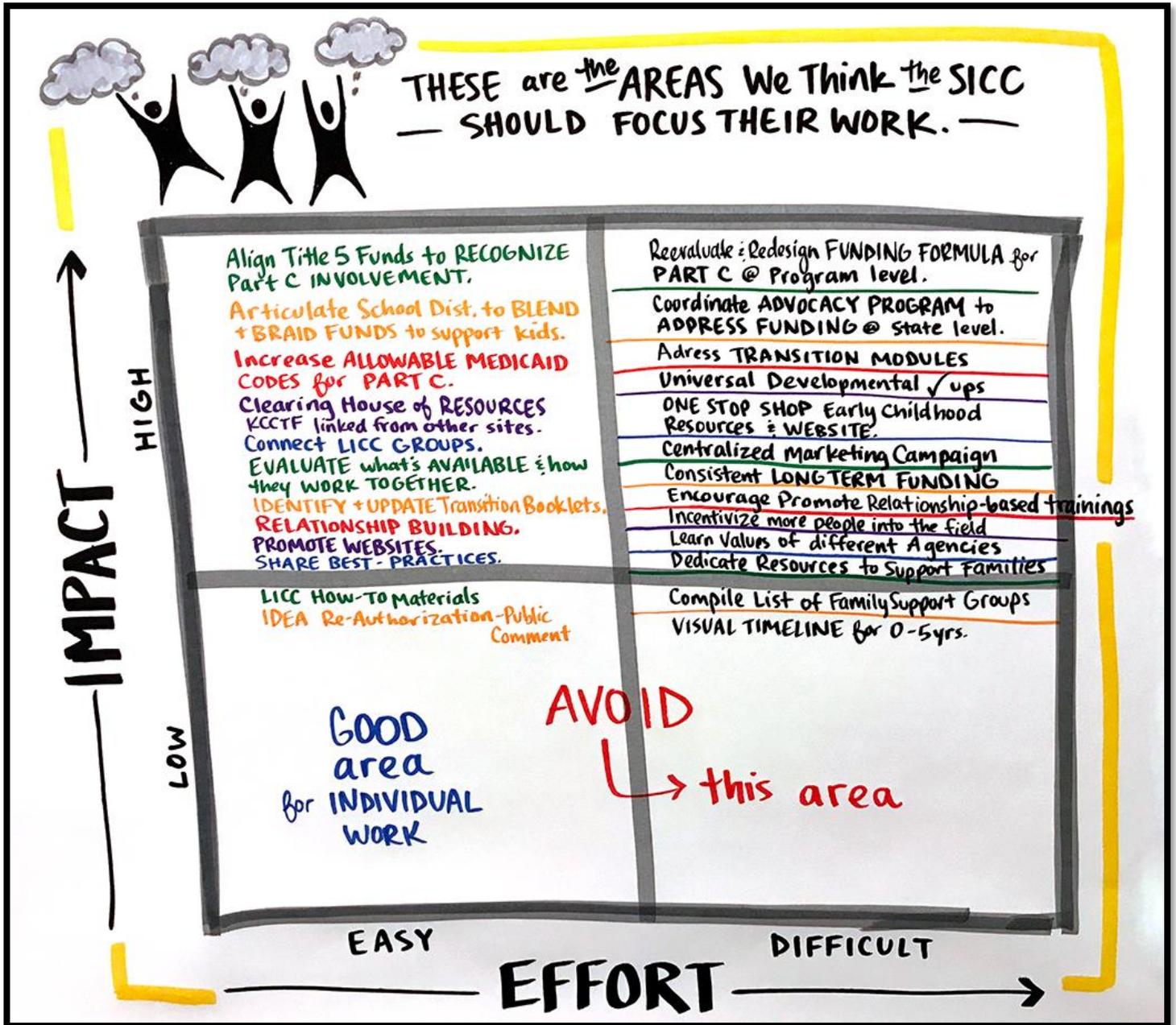


Group discussions taking place on how the SICC can best serve young children with disabilities and their families.



KANSAS

Interagency Coordinating Council



➤ Areas the SICC will be focusing on during the 2019-20 fiscal year.



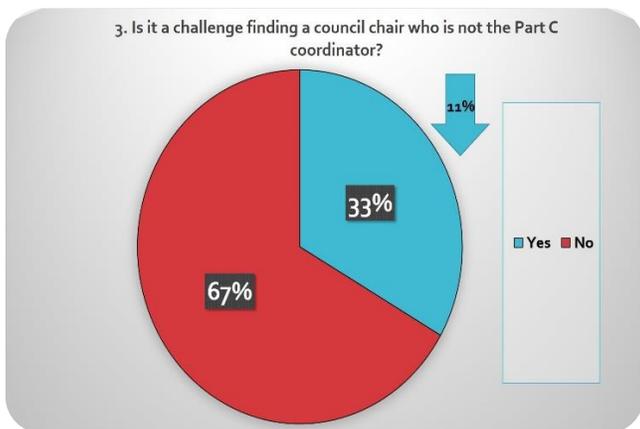
STAFF REPORT

Staff person to the SICC provided training and completed support visits to 18 different Local ICCs (Attachment #5) across the state, with some of them being visited multiple times (MOA Pg. 4, E, Attachment 1). The staff also presented updates, provided technical support, and gave updates on the state agencies' work to LICCs. Presentations were given on a variety of topics that focused on the needs of each LICC and their community outreach initiatives.

An orientation PowerPoint (Attachment #6) was also created for new SICC/LICC members. Meeting minutes, agendas, logistics, and locations were also arranged by the staff (MOA Pg. 4, D, Attachment 1). The annual report was also prepared by the staff person, and reviewed by the full council before being submitted prior to August 30, 2018 (MOA Pg. 4, F, Attachment #1).

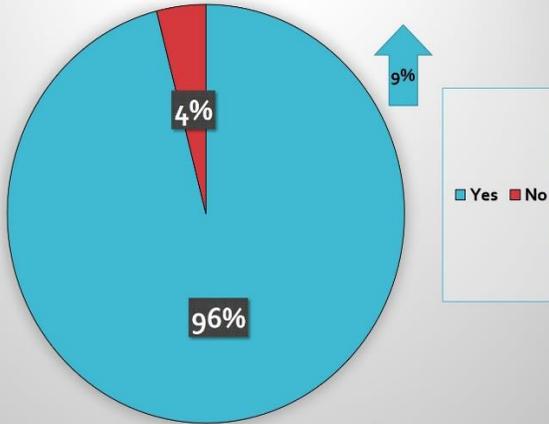
The staff and the chair of the SICC developed and made a presentation regarding the SICC and its activities at the 37th Annual Conference of the Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference in Wichita on Feb 28, 2019. Specific information was provided regarding LICCs. Staff presented at the Kansas PAT Conference in September 2018, and presented on community collaboration and PAT involvement with LICCs (Attachment #2). An annual overview of the SICC was also provided at the Annual tiny-k Coordinators Meeting in Newton in March 2019.

Surveys were sent out to Kansas LICCs in 2017 and 2018 to track changes in certain categories. The survey (15 questions) was often completed by the chair of the LICC. Some of the major highlights can be found below.



LICCs reported an 11% drop in difficulty finding a chair who is not the local Part C Coordinator. The Part C Coordinator is not allowed to chair their local council.

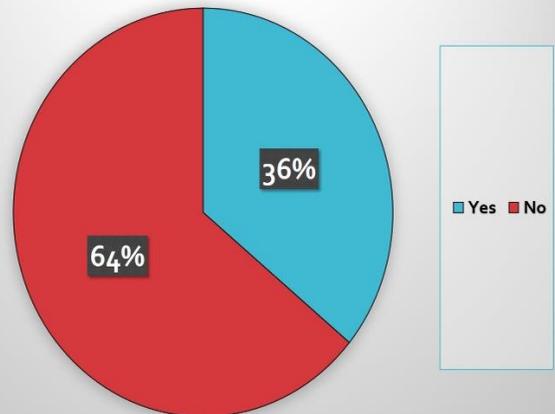
4. Does the council have parent members?



LICCs reported a 9% increase in at least one parent member on their council in 2018. LICCs are required to have two parents of children receiving services according to Kansas regulations.

Multiple LICCs in Kansas cover several counties, with a few even covering more than 10 counties. This can make it difficult for parents to travel and attend meetings. Currently, only 36% of LICCs reimburse parent members for travel.

11. Does your LICC provide travel reimbursement for parent members?





HIGHLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES

Council activities are primarily directed by the Annual Strategic Plan and our Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the state agencies. A portion of our activity takes place at the committee level.

A list of Council accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2018-19 includes:

- Creation of two new committees, which began in FY19. Each contain at least four members from the council, including one parent member on each committee.
- Joint SICC-SEAC (Special Education Advisory Council) meeting in January 2019. This provided insight to both council's current projects, and helped align some of their objectives and goals. This allows both the SICC and SEAC to better coordinate and assist the children and families of Kansas. (MOA Pg.4, B Attachment 1)
- Monthly meetings scheduled for the upcoming fiscal year – FY20.
- Met with the Governor's Appointments Office focusing on meeting the requirements of IDEA regarding SICC membership. Additions/changes to the council membership were discussed with two appointments being made in July 2019. This will assist the council in its future work.
- KDHE Part C State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) Approval and Review.
- Efforts to educate and broaden the knowledge base of Council Members was initiated this year through a new meeting format that included a presentation by a local program focusing on their work and a presentation by a program, specialized project, or services serving the state (Attachment #4).
- Continued updates and revisions to the council website. This is an ongoing process that will be completed fall 2019.
- Wrote a support letter for the Kansas Deaf-Blind Project grant application (Attachment #8).
- Wrote a support letter for the Learn the Signs Act Early Ambassador grant application (Attachment #9)
- Expanded transparency and involvement from the field by having a virtual option to join every meeting via Zoom.



APPENDIX

- Attachment 1- SICC MOA/Contract between KDHE, KSDE, and DCF.
- Attachment 2- Presentation on Community Engagement with LICCs for KPAT on 9/6/18
- Attachment 3- SICC By-Laws
- Attachment 4- Presentations by Local and State Programs at SICC meetings
- Attachment 5- List of LICCs visited
- Attachment 6- LICC PowerPoint
- Attachment 7- KDEC Presentation PowerPoint
- Attachment 8- Kansas Deaf-Blind Project support letter
- Attachment 9- Learn the Signs Act Early Ambassador support letter