

Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services / Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes August 15, 2025

Members Present (20 voting members)

Kathy Kersenbrock Ostmeyer, Chairperson & Service Provider
Lisa Collette, Vice-Chair & Insurance Commission Representative
Melissa Schoenberger, for Melissa Rooker, Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund
Tricia Waggoner, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
Angel Spann, for Dr. Watson, Kansas Commissioner of Education,
Nichelle Adams, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF)
Sydney Dringman, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF)
Chanda Gross, Medicaid Representative
Shanna Hailey, KS Department of Aging and Disabilities
Susan Bowles, Service Provider Member
Ann Elliott, Service Provider Member
Erin Schuweiler, Service Provider Member
Monica Ross, Service Provider Member
Marites Altuna, Service Provider Member
Courtney Hochman, Public Member
Kim Kennedy, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF) (Ex-Officio)
Lesli Girard, Families Together (Ex-Officio)

Members Not Present

Bronwyn Fees, KSU, incoming Board of Regents representative
Hilary Crist, Service Provider Member
Senator Renee Erickson, Legislator
Representative Susan Ruiz, Legislator
Jennifer King, SEAC liaison (Ex-Officio)

Nonmembers Present

Stacy Clarke, SICCC Coordinator
Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena, Past parent member
Chavis Lickvar-Armstrong, KU
Jenny Brase, KITS
Rachel Banning, Rainbows CEO
Misty Goosen, KITS
Tammy Dreiling, KS19 Part C Coordinator

Barbara Kramer, KITS
Michelle Calvert, Part C Coordinator
Tiffany Bartley, KCSL
Kelly Frantz-Langford, KS 33 Part C Coordinator
Jen Pishny, KCCTO
Linda Work

Call to order:

Chair Kathy Kersenbrock Ostmeyer called the meeting to order.

Roll call

It was noted that there was a quorum.

Meeting Minutes:

The minutes for July were reviewed and approved.

Motion made by Ann Elliott to accept minutes

Seconded by Marites Altuna

Motion carried – All members voted yes

Meeting agenda:

The agenda for August was reviewed and approved with revisions.

Susan Bowles moved to accept the agenda

Ann Elliott seconded the motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

Public Comment:

No request came in for public comment.

LICC Grants

Review of 2024-25 LICC Grants

- 10 new LICC grantees \$46,492.29 paid.
- Positively affecting 94 of the 105 Kansas counties

Approval of new grant applications:

- KS23 McKids \$3000 for infant toddler promotion, event giveaways and trauma training
- KS35 Sumner County \$3000 for infant toddler services promotion and event giveaways
 - Moved by Courtney Hochman to approve grant requests
 - Second by Susan Bowles
 - Motion passed with one abstention

Follow-up on KS26 Franklin & Osage County LICC grant was approved by email vote once more information was shared about the grant submission.

Annual Report

The Annual Report was reviewed and no changes were made.
Susan Bowles moved to accept the Annual Report of the SICC.
Ann Elliott seconded
Motion carried – All members voted yes

ECIPC project:

Early Childhood Intervention Personnel Center project will be taken on as the main focus of the SICC Systems and Services committee
There will be in person training in Kansas provided.
www.ecipc.org has more information.

This is a technical assistance project to increase Kansas's capacity to attract, prepare, and retain a qualified, competent, interdisciplinary, and effective workforce in early childhood intervention.

Discussion about how this project will blend with the other initiatives occurring in Kansas. The ECIPC project will be in contact with the other groups to ensure we are not duplicating initiatives. CAPE, career pathways, along other work will continue and the ECIPC work will be in contact with other initiatives.

Kansas Mental Health Updates:

Mental Health Supports

- Free mental health counseling for EC providers
- Mindful Collective and Mindful Minis
- PAX training for caregivers
- Kathy will be representing the SICC at the Early Childhood Mental Health Collective

[Mindful Collective | Therapy and Coaching | HOME](#)
[Mindful Minis | Derby KS | Facebook](#)

Family Engagement Stipend Policy

Family Engagement Stipend Policy update to better reflect the actual cost of child care for children with special needs.

Discussion:

- Better description of factors needing increased child care

- What documentation will be required? – answer: narrative on the request for increased child care expenses.
- Should we add language for re-establishing high need? Chronic condition or short-term needs, each submission for reimbursement will include a narrative of why the child has increased child care expenses.
- Per child or per request for reimbursement?
- Who will make the determination of who qualifies for the higher rate? – needs language. Should we have a checklist of possible conditions that would qualify?
- Wordsmithing discussion

Stacy will make suggested changes and clarifications and we will review the updated policy at the next SICC meeting.

DMS: Differentiated Monitoring and Support from the U.S. Office of Special Education (OSEP)

- The federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) monitors all state IDEA Part C and Part B systems through its Differentiated Monitoring and Support 2.0 system (DMS).
 - This monitoring focuses on state's **general supervision** systems - each state's responsibility to ensure that the state and its subgrantees and contractors meet IDEA requirements.
- Kansas hosted representatives from OSEP in September 2024 for an on-site visit, and provided information prior to and following the visit.

[Differentiated Monitoring and Support \(DMS\) Reports | U.S. Department of Education](#)

Kansas Part B report: [osers-kansas-part-b-dms-monitoring-report-2025-110393.pdf](#)

Kansas Part C report: [osers-kansas-part-c-dms-report-july-2025-110437.pdf](#)

Items to be addresss related to early childhood:

- One of the 16 items related to KSDE's responsibility for monitoring does relate to early childhood (see page 14): OSEP is directing Kansas to strengthen our system to monitor compliance with requirements to ensure that children participating in Part C experience a smooth and effective transition to Part B.
 - The report notes the need to monitor that the local educational agency (LEA) participates in transition conferences, and notes that the state has no process in place to ensure that local Part C to Part B MOUs are in

There is a plan in place, however, it needs improvement.

Monitoring LEA representation at Transition Conferences

October 8, 2025 is when Kansas's initial response is due.

Changes must be in place by July 2026.

Part C Report:

- 5 findings of non-compliance – but not alarming
- Some of these concerns are already being addressed.
 - Fiscal monitoring needs improved
 - Single line of responsibility – LICCs will now “recommend” lead and fiscal agents to KCEDS and KCEDS will make the decision
 - Dispute Resolution process needs updated
 - Kansas Regulations will need to be changed to match IDEA regulations– so the SICC will need to review the proposed changes to the Kansas Regulations. Drafts language due October 22, 2025 to OSEP.
 - **To change Kansas Regulations, an official agency must follow the [Kansas Rules and Regulations Filing Act](#), a process involving public notice, comment, and filing with the [Secretary of State](#). The Attorney General’s office and Department of Administration takes time.**
 - <https://admin.ks.gov/media/cms/128ae96a-538f-465d-809b-612847f3099a.pdf>

The **Kansas Transitions for Part C to Part B Frequently Asked Questions** has been updated. Updated document: <https://ksdetasn.org/ec/indicator-12-early-childhood-transition>

Work to improve smooth transitions from Part C to B continues with KDHE and KSDE

Committee Reports:

Exec. committee:

General topics, Part C to B, grant pre-approval

EC LRE Committee:

Increasing the number of child care administrators and providers creating meaningful relationships with special education providers.

Trainings titled: Early Intervention and Special Education Basics

Still working on how to track progress is a work in progress

Tracking training in CAPE

Tracking implementation and inclusion

LICC Support Committee:

LICC Fall Retreat: Register at [TASN Events | KSDE TASN](#)

October 24, 2025 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

Need breakout session facilitators:

Misty Goosen and Tiffany Bartley (KCSL) is willing to help.

Meet monthly on 3rd Thursdays at 3:45 pm virtually

CEUs for SLP and Child care hours provided

SICC Systems and Services Committee

Will begin meeting when ECIPC work begins

Medicaid Workgroup

This group will be on hold until the KU-CPPR project (requirements for Medicaid and Part C), updated Infant Toddler Medicaid Fee for Service manual updates, and the new database are all completed. Then the Part C Medicaid Guidance sheet work can continue. Part C funding – 9.4% is from Medicaid

Categorical Aid Workgroup

Next project is a Transportation Guidance Page for Part C programs.

Questions about special education funding not going to early childhood (0-5).
The new method of calculating did not include an increase to infant toddler services.

*It was noted that in the Education Funding Task Force meeting the Task Force was made aware that Part C was not included in the previous increase.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGnUWv2THZAiSnnk5BpcqTJovjNEsYqVB>

Agency Reports:

KSDE Report

- KSDE Early Childhood staff will be joining the Greenbush Early Childhood Forums this year to connect with early childhood providers and educators. These are free, virtual opportunities to collaborate in group discussions, share experiences and resources, ask questions and discuss trending early childhood topics. Contact Andrea Scott (andrea.scott@greenbush.org) with questions. Forums are from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Nov. 11, Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, March 10, April 7 and May 12. Register at events.greenbush.org.
- [The Kansas Multi-Tiered System of Supports \(MTSS\) and Alignment PreSymposium](#) will be Sept. 9 in Wichita: "Our Journey Through the Developing Nervous System as We Rewire our Perceptions of Discipline." [The Symposium](#) will be Sept. 10-11 and will include an Early Childhood strand.
- ESSDACK, Greenbush and Southwest Regional Plains Service Centers will once again host the Kinders Can! conferences. These professional learning opportunities for early educators, including preschool and kindergarten teachers and administrators, will focus on hands-on strategies to deliver quality playful learning opportunities. Save the dates for Dec. 2 in Girard, Dec. 4 in Lawrence, Dec. 11 and 12 in Hutchinson (two sessions of a one-day conference), and April 10 in Sublette.
- (Reminder) The state of Kansas has launched the Cape portal, an online training directory for early childhood professional learning. While Cape is currently focused primarily on professional learning for childcare providers, it includes many opportunities that may be of interest to school-based early childhood

staff. Visit www.yourcape.org to create an account and view upcoming courses.

- Kansas Early Childhood Transition from IDEA Part C to B FAQs updated July 2025
- **Updating contact lists and applications access:** The start of the school year means that many of you may also be welcoming new staff. Please do take a moment to review our listed Early Childhood Special Education Part B Contacts for Indicators 6, 7 & 12. This contact list is available on the KSDE Preschool Programming webpage so that early childhood special education staff can contact one another when supporting families who are moving between districts. For example, early childhood special education staff can use this list to request an organization exit in the Outcomes Part B Web System from the child's previous school. Please contact KSDE Administrative Specialist Beccy Strohm (Beccy.Strohm@ksde.gov) to share updates to this contact list. Beccy can also support you in adding or removing users from the Outcomes Web System (OWS) authenticated application and the Part C to Part B Electronic Referral System (CBER).
- **Indicator 6 (Preschool Environments):** At the Summer Leadership Conference we shared the presentation Six Actionable Steps to Improve Preschool Environments. Once you have entered data for the school year, we recommend running the Projected Indicator 6 report in SPEDPro to review whether your districts are projected to meet state targets for this school year. We are glad to provide assistance in this area – please reach out to Angel to request support
- **Indicator 7 (Early Childhood Outcomes):** The recently-updated Outcomes Web System User Guide and Summer Leadership Conference presentation Answering Seven Frequently Asked Questions for Early Childhood Outcomes are both useful resources. July 1 – September 15 is the data verification window to finalize 2024-2025 school year data. Changes cannot be made to 2024-2025 school year data after September 15.
- **Indicator 12 (Transition from Part C to Part B):** Smooth and effective transitions from Part C to Part B ensure young children with disabilities receive services without disruption or delay. Part B Indicator 12 is a compliance indicator that measures the percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays, per 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(3)(B) and 34 C.F.R. §300.101(b). KSDE and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment have recently updated the Part C to Part B Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). KSDE anticipates that the Indicator 12 Data Collection Window will be open August 26, 2025 to September 26, 2025 via the KSDE Kansas Integrated Accountability System (KIAS) authenticated application.
- The Part C to Part B Electronic Referral System (CBER) allows for the confirmation of the accuracy of referral dates reported by both Part C and Part B programs. Accepting a referral in CBRE provides us at the state level confirmation that the local Part B agency has received the referral. Every agency should be regularly logging into CBRE (ksits.kdhe.ks.gov) to review and accept referrals. As we begin the school year, ensure you've designated a person responsible and have this on the calendar. If you need support, contact Beccy Strohm (Beccy.Strohm@ksde.gov) to add or remove users. Email kdhe.ksits@ks.gov and CC Beccy for requests for support. Visit the TASN KSDE Early Childhood Special Education Indicator 12 webpage for more resources on C to B transitions, including the link to the CBRE Part B User's Guide.
- **Indicator 6 (Preschool Environments):** At the Summer Leadership Conference we shared the presentation Six Actionable Steps to Improve Preschool Environments. Once you have entered data for the school year, we recommend running the Projected Indicator 6 report in SPEDPro to review whether your districts are projected to meet state targets for this school year. We are glad to provide assistance in this area – please reach out to Angel to request support
- KSDE Early Childhood staff will be joining the Greenbush Early Childhood Forums this year to connect with early childhood providers and educators. These are free, virtual opportunities to collaborate in group discussions, share experiences and resources, ask questions and discuss trending early childhood topics. Contact Andrea Scott (andrea.scott@greenbush.org) with questions. Forums are from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Oct. 7, Nov. 11, Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, March 10, April 7 and May 12. Register at events.greenbush.org.

DCF Report

- DCF is having Together Kansas Events, with a variety of community partners, resources and, at most events, employers.
For more information: [Together Kansas Events - Home \(ks.gov\)](http://Together Kansas Events - Home (ks.gov))

- For households that did not receive a letter from DCF in January 2025 regarding Sun Bucks eligibility, they can apply through August 29, 2025 at 5 pm.
- Most families were sent a one-time \$120 SUN Bucks benefit in May, if they received the notice in January.

For more information: [SUN Bucks 2025 - Economic & Employment Services](#)

- DCF's Community Engagement Coordinator and the HSCO will be sharing resources for families at an Early Childhood Resource Fair on August 28th. The Early Childhood Resource Fair (Ages 0-5) is an information sharing event to help families in the community Herington understand the resources available to them. The event will be held from 5-7pm at Herington Elementary School. As vendors, we will be sharing information about all DCF programs as well as family resource information from KPIRC, Families Together, and KCSL. If your organization has information that you would like to have shared at the event, please contact Kim Kennedy with the Head Start Collaboration Office at DCF.

KDHE Report

○ **KECDS**

- We have our report from OSEP on the DMS visit. Part C has 5 findings of noncompliance; General Supervision, Timely Identification of Noncompliance, Single Line of Responsibility, Dispute Resolution Procedures, and Complaint Resolution
 - Three of the findings (Single Line of Responsibility, Dispute Resolution Procedures, and Complaint Resolution) will require changes to the Kansas Administrative Regulations and the agency is working on those.
 - The issue of timely identification of noncompliance has already been addressed.
 - There is a committee working on new policies and we will have draft policies addressing the findings to OSEP by the end of October.
- The Part C Coordinator attended the OSEP Leadership Conference in DC.
- The first two onsite visits to Infant Toddler programs happened earlier this month. Two more are scheduled for September.
- New Coordinator Training started this week, and we have a big group this time. New Part C state staff, Part B state staff and 3 new local program coordinators are participating.
- A team of stakeholders continue to work on rewriting our Procedure Manual.
- The MOU between KSDE and KDHE has been signed by all parties. It had to be updated after being reviewed by OSEP.
- KECDS is meeting with KSDE and with KSDE and Families Together, Inc. once a month to work on improving C to B transition in the state.
- We continue to work towards the goal of getting a new database. We meet with the vender several times a week for 1-4 hours at a time. KECDS is working on data mapping for this process.
- Universal contracts have been sent to all 29 local programs, with some fully signed and executed.

○ **Other Children and Families Programs**

- Applications closed for MIECHV, and they are under review
- Home Visiting is wrapping up their UHV site visits
- The 2025 Kansas Breastfeeding Conference will be held Oct 16-17 in Wichita
- At a July 25, 2025, ceremony, Governor Laura Kelly officially declared August as "Kansas Breastfeeding Month"
- The Office of Early Childhood Implementation Team was announced and includes both bureau directors from the Bureau of Family Health

Kim Kennedy -- Family Engagement Coordinator – resource fair targeting Zero to 5 in Herrington, Kansas.

Stacy shared the Herrington PAT information with Kim Kennedy.

KDADS Report

Linda Buchheister – PAX training is available – FREE parent and provider training.

KCCTF Report

- 7 CBCAP grants awarded – Federal Funding to prevent child abuse
- Preschool Development Grant (PDG) – Health Insurance through Thrive Allen County. To participate you do not have to live in Allen County.
- LENT – PDG grant partner – Year 2 scope of work may include home visiting.
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library Day – August 14th. 77,000 plus children are currently receiving books monthly.

Families Together

○

Service update for June 1 to yesterday – 33 families - birth to 2 y/o

- 171 consultations for families with 2 – 5 year olds.
- Parent to Parent book clubs are a huge success
- Parent Leadership Conference – Sept 19 in Wichita

Leadership Opportunity with KITS – Stacy will send this to Lesli & Shanna

Stacy's Report:

- Some LICCs need to identify a new LICC Chair because their current chair is employed by their lead agent. This is doesn't follow under KDHE guidance and is not best practice if concerns arise related to the lead agent.
- Supporting Angel Span and Teresa Cotton as they learn about KSDE and more about Part C
- New Coordinator training
- Attending LICCs – one in person
- Continue to work on supports for engaging parents in LICC meetings
- Supporting 2 LICCs in increasing diverse membership on their LICC
- Connecting county health departments and Part C programs for online ASQ access
- Completed the SICC Annual Report
- Supporting planning for the Fall LICC Retreat

Adjournment:

Motion made by Lisa Collette to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Courtney Hochman.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm by Kathy Kersenbrock Ostmeyer

All in favor

The next State ICC meeting will be on September 19, 2025.