



January 28, 2025 - Meeting Minutes

TYPE OF MEETING	Statewide Interagency Coordinating Council
MEMBERS PRESENT	Rebecca Aslinger, Gwen Laaser, Melissa Binkley, Gary Smith, Catherine Knowles, Mary Fleck, Andrea Goins, Chase Davenport, Lisa Manis, Andrea Hughie, Tara Milen, Jill Rogers, Caitlin Wise, Kathleen Simcoe (VAC), Michelle Fox (EAC), Jane Wilson-Moses (EAC)
MEMBERS ABSENT	Jessica Beaver, Sen. Ferrel Haile, Scott McAnally, Angela Miller, Jeremy Wright, Amy Slack, Kristin Garner (VAC)
DDA STAFF PRESENT	Kelly Hyde, Amanda Sheaffer, Carly Carlton, Shannon Pargin, Beth Hailey, Kendra Wurm, Charmaine Woods, Jaime Hampton, Natalie Graves, District Administrators
GUESTS	

INTRODUCTIONS/APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Aslinger welcomed everyone in attendance. Introductions were made around the room. The minutes from the July meeting were reviewed and approved. The agenda for the January meeting was reviewed and approved.

TEIS Leadership Updates

Leadership

TEIS leadership gave the following updates:

- First cohort of the TEIS Institute complete
- First round of mandatory exits for TEIS Extended Option
- New Director of Staff & Provider Engagement – Charmaine Woods
- POE Visits
- Regional Time for Teaming Events
- Catherine Goodwin's retirement announcement

Summary Updates:

- **FY25 Q2 Cumulative Child Count:** 17,220
 - FY24: 20,475, Q2: 14,726
 - Referrals continue to increase year over year
- **Daily Child Count:** Approximately 13,000
 - Jan 2024: Appr. 11,000
- **TEIS Staffing:** 90% of Service Coordinator positions filled
 - Many EIRAs continue to face staffing challenges
- **Service Coordinator Caseload:** low 60s
 - July 2023 Caseload Average: 75
- **TEIS Extended Option:** Appr. 3200 children (5,300 since beginning)
 - Expect EO enrollment to grow until August (5 yr olds add until then)
 - Will look for EO enrollment to stabilize in FY26
 - Part B Eligibility Rate 79%
 - TEIS EO Acceptance Rate 55%

Part C Implementation:



- **Position changes**

- Shelby Ritter, new West TN Regional Administrator
- Charmaine's transition to Staff & Provider Engagement – new Middle TN Regional Administrator forthcoming
- Angie Powell is now the permanent District Administrator for the Memphis Delta POE
- Jo-Ann Hinkle's role is transitioning to consultant for staff and providers. Position evolving – more to come!

Contracts:

Since July 1, 2024:

- Added six (6) new vendors. Four (4) of these were added in December 2024.
- Amended four (4) contracts to add services and/or settings.
- December 1, 2024, updated Assistive Technology Service Rates.
- Vendor trainings continue to be scheduled.
- Administrative Fee has increased timely notes being entered for collaboration and communication.

Federal Updates

Shannon Pargin

Shannon gave the following Federal updates:

- DMS: Early recommendations came out of on-site visit from October
 - Full report to come
- APR 23-24:
 - Full APR presentation is available upon request.

Budget Updates

Brad Turner & Hannah Solita

Commissioner Turner and Chief of Staff, Hannah Solita, gave SICC a presentation on the FY 25 Budget Request.

Highlights include:

- Dept. will here by February 10th during State of the State on what's in our budget.
- Central Office has worked hard with TennCare to get them to understand why reimbursement rates are so important.

Questions/Comments:

Q: Are there additional funds earmarked for EI resource agencies:

A: No, but it's requested in a bigger picture that will be able to be distributed with more flexibility.

Q: Is there a push for interagency collaboration?

A: We are trying to work with other departments to help all individuals within our purview.

Q: Is there any worry that the new contracts will change?

A: No, we don't anticipate any changes to the contracts.

Middle Region Updates



Serena White, LaKika King, Jeanna McCloud

The three middle region DA's gave a presentation on updates in their areas. A copy of the presentation is available upon request.

Data Team Presentation

Lauren Lodi

Lauren Lodi, STS Project Manager, gave a presentation on "How to Use Data Visualization Tools to Foster a Positive and Proactive Data-Driven Culture. A copy of the presentation is available upon request.

ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATES

EAC & VAC

The EIRA and Vendor Advisory Council Chairs provided updates from their last council meetings to SICC.

EAC: Gathered results from survey sent out (twice); divided into regions to look at the data to build teaming guides.

VAC: Met in January and covered 2 big areas of conversation:

- Work with TEIS about billing challenges
- Working with EAC on their survey to offer feedback.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this SICC meeting.

ACTION ITEMS/NEXT MEETING DATE

Next meeting: April 15, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at MTRO, Debra K. Payne Conference Room.

Natalie Graves
Executive Assistant to Kelly Hyde
275 Stewarts Ferry Pike
One Cannon Way
Nashville, TN 37214
Natalie.Graves@tn.gov