



SSIP Phase 3 Quarterly Summary

September 2018

Big News

Sara Han recently joined the Bureau

staff as a data manager. Sara previously worked as a Method & Operations Analyst II with the Bureau of Program Support & Evaluation. She is rapidly learning about the early intervention system and is eager to immerse herself in the SSIP work.

Recent Events

A small team from Illinois attended the *Improving Data, Improving Outcomes* conference in Arlington, VA. Shameka Brown, Ann Freiburg, Chelsea Guillen, and Maria Kastanis presented a session on the work we have been doing around teaming and the Child Outcomes Summary Process. Sara Han was also able to join the team, so we gathered many great resources. To view some of the information presented, visit:

<http://ectacenter.org/~meetings/ecidea18/mtgagenda.asp>.

Ann and Chelsea also recently attended the National Center for Systemic Improvement's Cross State Learning Collaborative Meeting in Phoenix, AZ. Work centered on sharing with, and learning from, other states/territories (SD, PA, MS, and Guam) that have Knowledge and Skills as their State-identified Measurable Result (SiMR). Some of the messaging materials developed through our SSIP work were highlighted during one of the discussions.

FAMILY

Family Engagement

As we prepared to enter the new fiscal year, we invited the Leadership Teams to attend a joint meeting and continue their learning about family engagement. Participants were asked to review the Foundational Pillars online curriculum prior to our time together. The meeting included some cross-team sharing as well as time to cover the major concepts we will be addressing with this improvement strategy.

As we have shared before, the family engagement work will center around five of the Division for Early Childhood (DEC) Recommended Practices. Similar to our first strategy, the initial work involves building local Leadership Team capacity so that they feel more confident supporting others. To that end, those not able to attend will be continuing their learning during their ongoing leadership team meetings. The Early Intervention Training Program will then be providing a Family-Centered Institute in each of the three pilot areas. Resource packages will once again be developed to help the local Leadership Teams extend the learning around these practices during their focused conversations with providers and service coordinators.

Stakeholders

In July, the large group of SSIP stakeholders were convened to provide input on the work completed to date and plans for the future. Thank you to all of you who participated! It was a productive day of discussion to take stock of how far we have come and what we need to do next. For those of you who missed it, small groups were able to review data and help us think about the measurement and evaluation issues we will be facing with the family engagement practices. The group also reviewed the Communication Plan developed by the Leadership Team Workgroup. Attendees were asked to provide any additional considerations for this Plan via email to Chelsea Guillen (cguillen@illinois.edu). As always, we continue to benefit from this input. Without your active input and sharing of perspectives, the plan wouldn't be the same!



Teaming in Early Intervention

Teams are critical to the success of early intervention. As you may recall, our early work with the Leadership Teams identified a lack of teaming as a significant barrier to good Child Outcomes Summary (COS) completion and strong Family Engagement. We are happy to report that we are seeing very positive movement on this front. Leadership Teams are now working as a unit and supporting each other as they work to improve services in their areas. Also, the initial review of COS fidelity videos shows strong teaming practices that feature discussions incorporating the families' and providers' input. The practices being utilized support conversations that include multiple sources of information and valuable feedback from those who know the child. Those involved in the process also anecdotally report that the conversations are richer, that meetings run more smoothly, and that initial IFSP outcomes feel more meaningful. Way to go!!

Workgroup Progress

The **Leadership Teams** Workgroup has wrapped up their work on the communication plan, has had a call about creating infographics, and has added to the Leadership Team documents to help Teams think about how they prepare people as they move on to the Team.

The **Professional Development/ Technical Assistance** Workgroup finalized the rubric and guidance document for reviewing existing and new curricula to guarantee consistency, quality and cohesiveness. They have also been developing a resource package for the Family Engagement practices.

The **Performance Support** Workgroup has been working on a process for understanding COS fidelity. This has included outlining a process and related materials for videotaping practices.

The **Messaging** Workgroup finished the brochure for primary referral sources.



Evaluation Data

As mentioned earlier, local leadership teams were convened to begin building capacity around the family engagement practices. Similar to all SSIP events, we collected evaluation data related to the outcomes for the day. Below are some of these results. While promising, we realize that this is just the first step in our work for this improvement strategy.

