



## Early Childhood Advisory Council Meeting

April 20, 2023, immediately following the SCFS Board of Trustees Meeting  
SC First Steps  
Minutes

### **Trustees Present (14):**

Rep. Terry Alexander	Roger Pryor
Dr. Shelley Canright, Vice Chair	Edward Simmer
Jacque Curtin	Wes Wooten
Matthew Ferguson	Sue Williams
John Hayes	Dr. Amy Williams
Sen. Greg Hembree	
Tim Holt	
Michael Leach	
Dave Morley, Chairman	

### **Trustees Absent (8)**

Mary Lynne Diggs  
Rep. Shannon Erickson  
Constance Holloway  
Robert Kerr  
Jesica Mackey  
Sen. Gerald Malloy  
Janie Neeley  
Alexia Newman

### **Attendees (51)**

Georgia Mjartan	Joy Mazur	Myrelo King
Avian Jones	Kathy Fitzgerald	
Cindy Riley	Kenna Hoover	
Tangela Green	Kristine Jenkins	
Derek Cromwell	LaMyra Sanders	
Sarah Crawford	Lexi Jones	
Sheila Cornwell	Olandor Lewis	
Chelsea Richard	Pauline Whiting	
Leeza Steward	Sharon Bruton	
Santasha Highley	Shayla Pettigrew	
Loretta Parker	Sherri Evans	
Kaitlyn Richards	Tamatha Kohler	
Jackson Wilkens	Vanessa Harrell	
Laura Baker	Deborah Mitchell	
Rachal Hatton	Birley Wright	
Lis Guimaraes	Nur Tanyel	
Berry Kelly	Glennis McElveen	
Brandie Maness	Mark Barnes	
Carletta Isreal	Martha Strickland	
Cindy Dixon	Betty Gardiner	
Cindy Galloway	Beth Moore	
Dorian Young	Karen Oliver	
Hannah Hayes	Rachal Hatton	
James Calhoun	Lis Guimaraes	
Jennifer Williams	Laura Baker	



The meeting began at 3:12 p.m.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Dr. Canright provided the motion. Dr. Simmer provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the February 16, 2023 minutes. Dr. Williams provided the motion. Mr. Leach provided the second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the following consent agenda. Sen. Hembree provided the motion, seconded by Dr. Williams, and unanimously approved.

**Consent Item: Motion Recommended by Executive Committee (Dave Morley)**

- a. **Motion:** To update the SC Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) onboarding process: ECAC staff in collaboration with workgroup partners will develop and implement steps to engage new partners. The process will ensure data are integrated, used in compliance with partners' rules and regulations, and assure privacy and confidentiality (Executive Committee recommends)

Ms. Mjartan shared a proposed amendment to For Our Future: South Carolina's Birth through Five Plan. After some discussion Dr. Williams provided a motion to integrate the PDG plan in *For Our Future*, amend language in Objective 2.4, and to insert Strategy 2.4.5 to address transportation such that these changes state:

Objective 2.4: South Carolina's communities provide children with healthy environments, enriching opportunities, sufficient transportation, and community resources like libraries, schools, outdoor learning environments, community centers and museums.

Strategy 2.4.5, "Expand transportation services for families so they can access services and enriching experiences." (requires motion and second)

Dr. Simmer provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Gillum provided a progress report on the SC Birth through Five Strategic Plan and discussed the 2023 priorities relating to the progress report. Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the 2023 priorities relating to *2023 Progress Report on South Carolina's Birth Through Five Plan*. Dr. Canright provided the motion, Ms. Williams seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Sarah Crawford, Project Manager, and Sheila Cornwell, Business Analyst from SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, provided an update on the progress of the Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) via the Palmetto Drive to Five Data Dashboard. They shared how data will be collected from participating agencies and displayed in the portal.

Mr. Leach shared that DSS is awaiting guidance regarding the executive order around expanding access to affordable high-quality care. Ms. Williams thanked the local partnerships that participated in raising awareness for Child Abuse Prevention month. Dr. Simmer shared information on the latest annual infant mortality report that was released by DHEC.



Ms. Mjartan provided information on the Palmetto Pre-K portal. She shared that SC First Steps is working with other states to assist them with building out portals similar to First5SC and Palmetto Pre-K. She provided event information for the launch of the First5 Common Application on March 1, 2023.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sen. Hembree provided the motion, seconded by Mr. Pryor, and unanimously approved. The meeting ended at 4:03 p.m.