To:            All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators

From:          Nathan DeDino

Date:          September 2, 2016

Subject:       Help Me Grow Early Intervention Program Updates, #1618

## MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

I want to thank our Regional Infant Hearing Program (RIHP) providers for their years of service to families and children who are deaf or hard of hearing. They have brought much expertise and passion to their work. Most importantly, their dedication to helping families has been self-evident. I am pleased that a number of providers will continue to provide services under our new model. We look forward to working with all of our providers of EI services to ensure the very best outcomes for families.

I always invite your feedback. Do not hesitate to contact me at nathan.dedino@dodd.ohio.gov. I look forward to hearing from you.

## PROGRAM UPDATES

### E-mail Address Change

In addition to the ODH staff e-mail changes, the Payor of Last Resort (POLR) e-mail address has also changed. Effective immediately, please use polr@dodd.ohio.gov when submitting POLR applications, inquiries, etc.

### EI Bridge Fund Grant

DODD has disbursed all payments for the EI Bridge Fund grant. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tiffany Harlan at Tiffany.Harlan@dodd.ohio.gov. In many counties, the funds were routed to the incorrect county department. Tiffany can provide you with information to assist in locating the payments if needed.

### SFY 17 Service Coordination Grant Subcontracts

If you are using your grant funds to support any subcontract(s), please complete the information in the Confirmation of Contractual Agreement (CCA) tab for each subcontract. Please also attach a fully executed copy of the subcontract(s) on the Applications page in GMIS. Currently, the CCA module will not allow for attachments so please post your subcontract on the Applications page. Please contact Tiffany Harlan at Tiffany.Harlan@dodd.ohio.gov if you require assistance.

**EI Services for Children Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

As discussed in previous communications, DODD has transitioned EI services for children who are deaf or hard of hearing (D/HH) to a different structure from the Regional Infant Hearing Program (RIHP). DODD has contracted with six agencies that will provide the EI service of family training to families who have a child who are D/HH if the functional assessment and IFSP team determine that service is needed to meet an outcome on the IFSP. These providers and their regions accompany this bi-weekly communication.

The process differs somewhat from how it functioned under RIHP. Effective immediately, ODH will make a system referral to the relevant Central Coordination site when ODH learns of a child who has been diagnosed as D/HH. Central Coordination will then have the usual 14 days to make three contact attempts to the parent to determine if the family is interested in an EI program referral. If the family is interested in EI, a program referral to the county SC agency will be made.

It will then be the responsibility of the SC to assemble the appropriate personnel to complete the functional assessment and coordinate the IFSP meeting. For children who are D/HH, we would anticipate that the contractors for family training would, at a minimum, typically be involved in the functional assessment and IFSP processes. If the IFSP team determines that family training is needed to meet an IFSP outcome, the contractor may be the appropriate provider for the service. Alternatively, if the contractor is not the primary service provider, the contractor may be working as a secondary service provider and supporting the PSP through the teaming process.

If you have any questions, please contact your EI program consultant.

**SFY16 Transition Baseline**

Activities related to the SFY16 Transition baseline analysis are underway. For those included in the Transition analysis, the data cleaning period ran through August 15. Any needed data re-entry following deletions needed to be completed by August 26 and data extraction occurred August 29. County inquiries, including Steps Self Assessments, and missing data and verification requests (as applicable) are scheduled to be sent September 12.

**Frequently Asked Questions about Secondary Service Providers**

As a follow up to the discussion of the Primary Service Provider (PSP) in communication #1617, the following frequently asked questions about the Secondary Service Provider (SSP) are presented. If you have additional questions, please follow up with your EI program consultant.

*Question 1: What is the role of the secondary service provider?*

*Answer:* The purpose of involving a secondary service provider is to provide role assistance to the PSP. Role assistance may include the following activities:
- Sharing additional expertise and knowledge to support the PSP, parents, and caregivers.
- Conducting further functional assessment

- Providing support to the PSP when the PSP believes that he or she needs additional ideas, resources, or direct assistance.

*Question 2: When are joint visits necessary?*

*Answer:* Joint visits are necessary in the following circumstances:
- The PSP has an issue that cannot be addressed within a team meeting.
- The SSP has questions that cannot be answered without direct observation of the child/family or directly observing the actual routine and/or activity setting.
- Assistance is needed that is outside of the PSP's knowledge, skill, or scope of practice. Examples might include constructing hand splints, assessing and supporting the family with adaptive equipment and modifications, etc.
- The parent requests access to a team member other than the PSP.

*Question 3: Do these visits have to be joint visits?*

*Answer:* Yes. When a team is implementing a PSP approach to teaming, the SSP delivers services jointly, at the same time and place with the PSP. This practice is helpful and supportive to both the family and PSP. The SSP should visit a family alone only if a PSP is unable to make a scheduled joint visit due to an unforeseen circumstance and the two professionals could not reschedule in time to meet timely receipt of services, and/or the family/child is in urgent need of the SSP's expertise. In these rare circumstances, the SSP and the PSP would need to meet to debrief as soon as possible following the SSP's visit with the family.

*Additional Information:*

*Your State Team encourages teams to use this joint planning tool:*
http://fipp.org/static/media/uploads/casetools/casetool_vol6_no2.pdf

*Role of the PSP and SSP:*
The Early Intervention Teaming Handbook by Shelden and Rush, beginning at p177.

*How to Document Secondary Service Provider on the IFSP:*
DODD IFSP Guidance Document pp23-24

## RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

**Routines-Based Interview – UPDATE 9/2/16**

Due to a conflict with another training, we have rescheduled the **October 12** Routines-Based Interview (RBI) training. This session has been changed to **October 14**. No changes were made to the session on October 13.

Both sessions will take place at the Columbus Developmental Center.

If you were registered for October 12 and would like to attend on October 13 or 14, *you will need to re-register on OhioTRAIN (Course #1056308).*

Thank you for your understanding. We apologize for the inconvenience.

**Data and Monitoring Road Show – UPDATE 9/2/16**

As described in EI Program Updates #1617, the EI Data and Monitoring Team will be hitting the road this fall to present a Data and Monitoring Road Show. *Due to a scheduling conflict with the EI Reboot, the training in Wood County has been moved to* **November 17**. The table below includes the full training schedule, as well as links to register.

The target audience for these trainings is EI Contract managers and data staff. We ask that only two people per county register to attend a training, with the potential for additional to staff to attend if space allows. Feel free to contact Lori Myers, EI Training Coordinator, at Lori.E.Myers@dodd.ohio.gov with any questions. We look forward to seeing you!

| Dates | Location | Registration Link |
|---|---|---|
| 9/28/16 | Summit County Board of DD | http://www.planetreg.com/E815134911133901 |
| 10/5/16 | Guernsey County Board of DD | http://www.planetreg.com/E822124134133992 |
| 10/18/16 | Allen County Board of DD | http://www.planetreg.com/E822125255133758 |
| 10/26/16 | Highland County Board of DD | http://www.planetreg.com/E822132635133513 |
| 11/2/16 | State Library, Franklin County | http://www.planetreg.com/E82213313513372 |
| 11/17/16 | Wood County Board of DD | http://www.planetreg.com/E822133917133938 |

**Additional Self-Paced EI Modules Available**

Two additional self-paced training modules are now available:

Module 5: "Using a Primary Service Provider Approach to Teaming" (Course #1064737)
Module 6: "Family-Centered Practices" (Course #1064739)

This completes a series of six EI Orientation modules developed by the Family, Infant, and Preschool Program Center for the Advanced Study of Excellence (FIPP CASE) for Ohio's Early Intervention program.

Modules 1, 2, and 6 are prerequisites to the Principles of Service Coordination (#1047684) training.

**Introduction to Early Intervention Video**

The Introduction to EI video is a useful and concise resource you may wish to use when orienting new staff or introducing EI to new families.  You can access the video here:

http://dodd.ohio.gov/IndividualFamilies/MYday/Pages/Education-and-Development.aspx

**State-Sponsored Training Opportunities**

Ongoing trainings available through OhioTRAIN:
- Coaching in Early Intervention self-paced webinar (1063890)
- Early Intervention Mission and Key Principles self-paced webinar (1061264)
- Functional Assessment: Beyond the Bayley and Battelle facilitated webinar (1062057)
- IFSP Form user-directed webinar (1028661)
- IFSP Outcome Training facilitated webinar (1054433)
- Introduction to Early Intervention self-paced webinar (1061260)
- Natural Learning Environments self-paced webinar (1063888)
- Principles of Service Coordination (1047684)

Other Trainings:
- Child Outcomes Summary: Your state team encourages county teams to use the online COS modules developed by the DaSy Center.  Each participant must register for the online modules.  You will then receive an email with a direct link to access the online modules. There are six modules.  Here is the link: http://dasycenter.org/child-outcomes-summary-cos-process-module-collecting-using-data-to-improve-programs/  If your team needs additional support after completing the COS modules, please contact your program consultant.
- Overview of Evidence Based EI: This training is accessed through your program consultant, and is designed to support teams with learning about the key components of EB EI practices including a review of the Mission and Key Principles, Coaching, Teaming, and Natural Learning Environment practices.
- Documentation: This training is available through your program consultant and supports teams with learning what type of activities need to be documented.