

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators
From: Nathan DeDino
Date: October 14, 2016
Subject: Help Me Grow Early Intervention Program Updates, #1621

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

Thank you to everyone who attended the evidence-based Early Intervention (EBEI) training in Fayette county earlier this week. It is the implementation of evidence-based practices that will best allow us to move Early Intervention forward in Ohio. Nearly every county in the state has now attended the EBEI training and participated in the six months of coaching logs. Your commitment to EBEI is commendable. I am also pleased to let you know that all state staff, including data and monitoring staff, have now also attended the EBEI training. We all look forward to supporting you in your EBEI journey.

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

Vision and Hearing Service Providers as PSP/SSP

Please remember that the new providers funded by DODD to provide EI vision services or family training for families with a child who is deaf or hard of hearing, are able to serve as either the primary service provider (PSP) or secondary service provider (SSP) as determined by the IFSP team. For more details, please see communications #1614 and 1618.

November 1 Quarterly LEA Reports

Please be reminded that the November 1 LEA quarterly report requirement is approaching. The report may be run no earlier than October 22 and must be sent to the LEAs no later than November 1. Please do not submit copies to DODD, but you are encouraged to maintain copies on file.

SFY16 Transition Baseline

Activities related to the SFY16 Transition baseline analysis are underway. County inquiries, including Steps Self-Assessments, and missing data and verification requests (as applicable) were due back to DODD by September 27. Results are expected to be finalized and memos to be sent in early November. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Courts at melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov.

2016 Family Questionnaire

The 2016 Family Questionnaire has been mailed to all families who had an active IFSP on July 1. A list of families in the county who received the survey was sent to each FCFC Coordinator and Contract Manager. We ask that you encourage families to respond, as their feedback is very helpful in ensuring EI is the best it can be in Ohio. The survey has a due date of October 28.

Early Track Data Entry: Previous Low-birth Weight Question

With the most recent release of Early Track on September 30, the following question was added to the Demographics page in the “Additional demographic data collection for Home Visiting participants” section: “Did the mother have previous low-birth weight child(ren)?” Although this question is displayed in red text, which typically indicates an item that is always required, it is required *only* for children who are eligible for Home Visiting.

Documenting Service Frequency in Early Track

In regard to documenting frequency with which services are delivered, the IFSP guidance document states the following:

“**How Often.** The number of sessions that will be provided within a specific time to meet this outcome as determined by the IFSP team. All timelines should be six calendar months unless a shorter timeline is more appropriate.”

However, in Early Track, options for documenting how often a service is planned to be delivered are limited to the number of times (with 1 through 32 as drop down options) within a certain time period (with “Week,” “Month,” “60 Days,” “90 Days,” “120 Days,” and “180 Days” as dropdown options). See below screenshot. Although we intend to ensure the data system options more closely reflect the paper IFSP with future Early Track development, we ask that you choose the option that most closely matches the service frequency documented on the physical IFSP in the meantime.

Please update the selected service's information.

*EI Service Type:	Speech-language pathology services
*Location/Setting:	Home
**Service is needed to meet the following outcome:	We want her to use words at meal times and playtimes with others
**Justification is provided on the IFSP:	Yes
Method:	Joint/In-Person
*How Often:	3 Times/
*Session Length:	0 Hours
*Provider Agency:	Geauga County B
*Funding Source:	CBDD

180 Days
Week
Month
60 Days
90 Days
120 Days
180 Days

Save Service Cancel

* Indicates required field.
** Indicates conditionally required field.

New Early Intervention Services Report

We are happy to announce that, with the September 30 release of Early Track, a new EI Services Report is now available. This report, called “EI Services,” includes all services for all IFSPs that occurred within the user-specified time range, encompassing a broad array of information about the EI services listed on these IFSPs. You can read more about the report in communication #1620.

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Resources for Professionals in the Deafblind Education

The Ohio Center for Deafblind Education (OCDBE), a federal project with the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) have two booklets available to personnel in early childhood and school-age programs. The two booklets are the “Annual Ohio Deafblind Census: How to Register a Child, Update a Child’s Record, or Report No Children with Deafblindness” and “A School Psychologist’s Guide to Deafblindness: Identifying and Supporting Students with Combined Vision-Hearing Loss.”

You can order these booklets for free by contacting Dr. Lynne Hamelberg, Family Specialist, at lhamelberg1@udayton.edu or 614-785-1163. Be sure to let Dr. Hamelberg know how many copies of each resource you need.

Developmental Milestones

CDC’s “Learn the Signs. Act Early” program offers free, research-based, parent-friendly tools to make it easy and fun to track developmental milestones from age two months through five years. You can access the program here:

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/developmental-milestones-matter/index.html>

Down Syndrome Awareness Month

The Office of Special Education Programs is partnering with the Association of University Centers on Disabilities to celebrate Down Syndrome Awareness Month. You can check out many resources here:

http://www.aucd.org/template/news.cfm?news_id=12183&parent=16&parent_title=Home&url=%2Ftemplate%2Findex.cfm&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

New Training: “The IFSP: It’s All about the Process”

This new self-paced webinar, as discussed in communication #1620, incorporates information from two previous facilitated webinars: “Functional Assessment: Beyond the Bayley and Battelle” and “The Key to Writing Functional IFSP Outcomes.” The webinar is available on OhioTRAIN

(#1066899). This new webinar satisfies the Service Coordinator II requirement for “eligibility and determination of needs process training” in OAC 3701-8-03(D)(3)(b).

Data and Monitoring Road Show

The EI Data and Monitoring Road Show has begun. This series of trainings is targeted for EI Contract Managers and Data staff and will include information about the Early Track Data System, compliance monitoring practices and protocols, and how to better use and share data. Be sure to register soon to ensure that you can attend your preferred location. The Data and Monitoring team is excited to get on the road. See you there!

Dates	Location	Registration Link
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

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)
- Family-Centered Practices self-paced webinar (1064739)
- IFSP Form self-paced webinar (1028661)
- The IFSP: It’s All about the Process self-paced webinar (1066899)
- Introduction to Early Intervention self-paced webinar (1061260)
- Natural Learning Environments self-paced webinar (1063888)
- Principles of Service Coordination in-person training (1047684)
- Using a Primary Service Provider Approach to Teaming self-paced webinar (1064737)

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. NB: Credentialing hours are not available for these trainings since there is no way currently to verify attendance.

- 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.