

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators
From: Nathan DeDino
Date: August 26, 2022
Subject: Early Intervention Program Updates, #2217

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

Families served in Ohio's EI system as of June 1 began receiving the 2022 EI family questionnaire late last week and into this week. Please encourage these families to provide their responses by the September 23 due date. Last year, we heard from the most diverse group of families in recent years, and we want to continue to improve this year. I will again be sharing county-level response rates in the coming weeks so local EI programs will know how well families are responding in their community. Thank you for your help in ensuring we hear from the greatest number of families ever!

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

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are curious about your county's response rate to past EI family questionnaires, you can access the last three years on the EI website here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/county-data>

PROGRAM UPDATES

2022 Family Questionnaire

The 2022 EI family questionnaire is now underway. Applicable families include those with an active IFSP on June 1, 2022. DODD is again collecting the majority of family questionnaire responses online via Survey Monkey. If the primary caregiver did not have an email address listed in the EI Data System (EIDS), the questionnaire and a one-page information sheet about the questionnaire were mailed to the family. This information was also sent via mail if the email address was identified as invalid by Survey Monkey or the caregiver had opted out of receiving surveys via Survey Monkey.

DODD provided an online or hardcopy Spanish questionnaire to families where the parent's primary language is identified as Spanish in EIDS. This year, DODD has also translated the family questionnaire into 12 additional languages that are the most frequently occurring languages of families served in Ohio's EI system: Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, French, Gujarati, Hindi, Nepali, Pennsylvania German, Portuguese, Russian, Somali, and Tamil. Parents identified as having one

of these languages as their primary language will receive a hardcopy of the questionnaire and one-page information sheet in their language. These families also have the option of completing the English version of the questionnaire online. All other families were emailed a link to the English questionnaire or mailed a hardcopy of the English questionnaire.

Because the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) continues to put an increased focus on the response rate and overall representativeness of respondents to states' family questionnaires, we are again asking local programs for their assistance in ensuring families are informed about the questionnaire and how to access and complete it. DODD sent EI Contract Managers and FCFC Coordinators a list of recipients, a copy of the questionnaire and information sheet, and links and QR codes that can be used to complete the questionnaire last week. DODD asks that EI Service Coordinators ensure applicable families on their caseload are familiar with the Family Questionnaire and how to respond. Questionnaire responses are due September 23.

Please contact Taylor Hammond (taylor.hammond@dodd.ohio.gov) if you have any questions.

Printed Materials

DODD has resumed filling orders for printed copies of the parent rights brochures and system of payments brochures. You can order here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/printed-materials>

Please note that we may be unable to fulfill requested quantities to ensure that all local program have an opportunity to place orders. Promotional materials continue to be available for order on the Help Me Grow website:

<https://www.helpmegrow.org/EIToolkit.aspx>

Online ASQ and Hospital-Based Child Find Referrals

DODD will be sharing important updates around the online ASQ that Bright Beginnings began administering for child find and some changes to documentation verification standards for diagnoses sent from the DODD-contracted hospital-based child find specialists. Please check out our next EI Program Updates in two weeks for this important information.

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Motivational Interviewing Training with Dr. Gallen

Do you want to feel more comfortable and confident addressing challenges families face such as addiction, mental illness, and homelessness? Do you want to learn strategies for improving communication in these difficult situations? Motivational interviewing can help you in coaching families to achieve the changes they want to see. Dr. Gallen will discuss motivational interviewing principles and provide opportunities to practice using them.

Three sessions are available. All sessions are held virtually from 9:00am-4:30pm.

September 29, 2022

January 19, 2023

May 25, 2023

To register, please access the sessions on the EI website:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/search?q=motivational&tab=trainings&time=1>

Family, Infant and Preschool Program (FIPP) Webinars

There are four webinars left in the series that FIPP is offering in celebration of 50 years of excellence in early childhood intervention and family support. Each webinar features a critical topic in early intervention delivered by a past or present FIPP staff member. Register separately for each webinar at the associated link. The webinars are DODD-approved as professional development for developmental specialists, early intervention supervisors, superintendents, early intervention service coordinators, and service coordination supervisors. You can learn more here:

<https://fipp.ncdhhs.gov/fipp-50th-anniversary-webinar-series/>

Ohio Overdose Awareness Day

On Wednesday, August 31, Ohio will recognize “Ohio Overdose Awareness Day” with a goal of remembering loved ones lost to the epidemic, raising awareness, and supporting communities in the fight against drug addiction. As a way to help the state and local communities promote Ohio Overdose Awareness Day, RecoveryOhio, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services have partnered together to create an Ohio Overdose Awareness Day toolkit with the theme “Everyone Knows Someone. Overdoses Impact Us All.”

This toolkit includes social media graphics and posts, videos, posters, and digital ads that can be used by local communities and organizations to raise awareness of Ohio Overdose Awareness Day. These assets feature real Ohioans who have shared their stories of recovery with us in order to help others know that recovery is possible. You can access the toolkit here:

<https://recoveryohio.gov/resources/all-resources/aaa-oh-odad-toolkit>



SAVE THE DATE!
EARLY INTERVENTION IN OHIO FORUM

Held virtually on
Wednesday, October 19, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
All EI Providers Invited

Sponsored by OACB in collaboration with
DODD Early Intervention

Featured speaker: Dr. Jessica Foster
The Impact of COVID on Infants and Toddlers

Other topics: (more details coming soon)

- Transition C to B
- Music and Infants and Toddlers
- The importance of connecting families to families

Registration information coming soon!

For any questions, please contact Susan Jones (sjones@oacbdds.org) or Beth Popich (bpopich@oacbdds.org).