

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators  
From: Nathan DeDino  
Date: July 21, 2017  
Subject: Early Intervention Program Updates, #1719

## ***MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR***

We appreciate the feedback and questions we received from many of you about the transition in Central Coordination to the Cleveland Sight Center at the beginning of next month. Your questions and concerns help us know where we need to clarify issues and drives the support we provide. Please continue to reach out to DODD. We know that August will be an exceptionally busy month with many transitions (the beginning of Cleveland Sight Center's work, the implementation of the new system of payments rule, and DODD hosting an EI version of Early Track). DODD is committed to supporting you to help ensure that these transitions are as successful as they can be.

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

## ***PROGRAM UPDATES***

### **SFY18 Service Coordination Grant Due Date**

DODD must approve SFY18 service coordination grant budgets and narratives by the end of July in order to create reimbursement reports for all sub-recipients. If your budget/narrative was denied, please ensure that you have resubmitted it by, *today*, July 21 at the latest for DODD to approve. If you have any questions, please follow up with your EI program consultant.

### **EI Referral Notification**

We apologize for a miscommunication in #1718. Cleveland Sight Center will *not* be sending an e-mail to local EI staff when a new EI referral is entered in Early Track. Accompanying this biweekly are instructions for how local EI staff can access new EI program referrals in Early Track. If you have any questions about the instructions, please do not hesitate to reach out to EI researcher, Cydney Hoffman ([cydney.hoffman@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:cydney.hoffman@dodd.ohio.gov)).

### **Central Intake Changes**

A memo explaining changes to the HMG Central Intake system becoming effective August 1, contact information for the Cleveland Sight Center, and FAQs were sent out earlier this week. You can find the memo and FAQs here:

<http://ohioearlyintervention.org/guidance-documents-and-memos/memos>

## **New EI Program Consultant**

We are pleased to announce that Karen Kincaid began her work as our newest EI Program Consultant this past Monday. She serves the central/northeast region of the state. Karen comes to us with over 25 years of early childhood experience. For the past sixteen years, Karen has served as a developmental specialist and has experience providing special instruction in both urban and rural counties. Karen is also a licensed social worker and a certified PLAY Project consultant. In Karen's free time she enjoys working in her yard, her dog and traveling. Please join us in welcoming Karen to our team. An update EI program consultant map that is effective August 1 accompanies this bi-weekly communication.

## **Early Track Transition**

As discussed in #1718, the EI portions of the Early Track Data System are still set to transition from the ODH Gateway to the DODD Portal on August 10. Detailed instructions about how to access the Early Intervention Data System on the DODD Portal will be sent to all users prior to the switch. If we learn of changes to this date, we will send an update. In the meantime, please reach out to the EI data and monitoring staff with any questions.

## **August 1 Quarterly LEA Reports**

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

If you are not sure which LEA should be selected for a specific child (e.g., foster care situation), we encourage you to contact the ESC for clarification. Contact information for all of the ESCs and Public School Districts, along with a map of districts, is available here:

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Data/Ohio-Educational-Directory-System-OEDS>

We know that there is an issue with some records where the service coordinator's name is not appearing on the quarterly LEA report. The service coordinator's name is not a federal requirement, so please be sure to send the LEA report to your local school districts, as is. We will work to get a fix to the report for future reporting.

If you have any questions about the LEA reports, please contact Melissa Courts at [melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov).

## **SFY 2017 Transition Baseline**

Activities related to the SFY17 Transition Steps and Services and Transition Planning Conference (TPC) baseline analyses were completed ahead of schedule. Results memos were sent out July 14. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Courts at [melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov).

## **SFY 2017 Timely Receipt of Services Baseline**

Information about the upcoming SFY 2017 Timely Receipt of Services (TRS) baseline process will be sent out to applicable counties next week.

## ***RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES***

### **Training Handbook**

The SFY18 Training Handbook has been posted to the Ohio Early Intervention website. You can access the Handbook on the Professional Development and Training page here:

<http://ohioearlyintervention.org/professional-development-and-training>

### **Motivational Interviewing Training**

Beginning this summer, Robert Gallen, PhD will provide training on Motivational Interviewing in Early Intervention. Entitled, “*Tough Conversations: Making the Most of Difficult Situations*,” Dr. Gallen’s training is designed to build the confidence and competence of service providers and service coordinators in supporting families. The training will address difficult situations families may face, such as mental illness, addiction, homelessness, and coping with a child’s diagnosis. Dr. Gallen will offer strategies for communicating with families in these challenging situations. The training will be offered as an *in-person training* on September 7, 2017 and September 8, 2017 in Columbus (it is only necessary to attend one session).

Dr. Gallen is a Licensed Psychologist and Associate Professor of Psychology. He has served as an EI provider since 1998 and teaches graduate level courses in Assessment and Family Therapy. He is a Regional Trainer for the Battelle Developmental Inventory-2 and has completed research projects on the early identification of child psychopathology. He teaches Reflective Supervision and Childhood Trauma for Ohio’s Early Intervention and Home Visiting staff.

Registration for the face to face trainings (September 7 or September 8) is on OhioTRAIN (Course ID # 1071449.) Please note that there is a morning and afternoon session available on both days.

For questions, please contact Lori Myers at [lori.e.myers@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:lori.e.myers@dodd.ohio.gov)

### **Practitioner Volunteers Needed for New Child Outcomes Summary Resource**

Would you like to help meet a great need in the early intervention and early childhood special education community by furthering the development of a national Child Outcomes Summary (COS) process training resource? The DaSy and ECTA Centers are recruiting practitioners who participate in the COS process to field test the new COS Competency Check (COS-CC). The COS-CC is an online tool intended to assess practitioners’ understanding of the essential knowledge and skills needed to reach accurate ratings of child outcomes using the COS process.

Why is the COS Competency Check important?

Practitioners must have the necessary knowledge to accurately assign COS ratings, such as knowledge of the 7-point COS scale and age-expected development. Until the COS-CC, there has not been a tool available to states/local programs to reliably differentiate between practitioners with sufficient knowledge and those with too little. Ensuring that practitioners are capable of assigning accurate ratings is a critical factor in improving the quality of child outcomes data obtained through the COS process. Having high-quality child outcomes data allows programs to better use those data to make informed decisions about services and supports for families and children.

What is the purpose of the field test?

The field test will give DaSy and ECTA an opportunity to test the assessment system in actual conditions with intended users, and to gather initial data on the validity and reliability of the assessment items. Following the field test, the tool will roll-out for national use in September 2017.

When will the field test take place?

The COS-CC field test will take place from approximately July 24-August 18, 2017. Volunteers can work on the assessment at their own pace during that 4-week timeframe, and therefore, do not have to be available during the entire window. More information will be provided in a follow-up email to those practitioners who express interest in participating in the field test.

Field test volunteers who complete the COS-CC to the best of their ability will be eligible to win a \$100 Amazon gift card! A drawing will take place by September 1 to select six winners.

For more information, complete this online form:

[https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_4UG7YkwY6xRLjJH](https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4UG7YkwY6xRLjJH)

## **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 eight 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. You can access the modules here: <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.