

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators
From: Nathan DeDino
Date: December 15, 2023
Subject: Early Intervention Program Updates, #2324

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

This will be our last early intervention communication of 2023. The biweekly will be on vacation December 29. We wish all of you and the families you serve a happy holiday season. We look forward to continuing to partner with you in 2024 to make Ohio's early intervention system stronger than ever!

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

PROGRAM UPDATES

EI Rules Five-Year Review

Throughout 2023, DODD collaborated with stakeholders to review and revise EI rules 5123-10-01 through 10-04 and accompanying forms. The revised rules and forms are posted on the DODD website for a first round of public comment. Please review and provide any comment by January 9. You can access the draft rules, forms, and summary of changes here:

<https://dodd.ohio.gov/forms-and-rules/rules-under-development/proposed+rules+for+review>

SFY24 45-Day Baseline

The SFY24 45-Day Timeline baseline activities are underway. Counties included in the analysis have until December 14 to re-enter data following any applicable deletions. DODD will extract data on December 20 and send compliance inquiries around January 9.

Family Questionnaire Open-Ended Response Files

DODD sent files to each Contract Manager and FCFC Coordinator on December 14 that included the comments provided by respondents to questions 14, 15, 16, and the "Additional Comments" section of the 2023 EI Family Questionnaire. Comments were deidentified if the respondent did not provide consent to share comments as written. If the parent consented to share comments as written, the comments were not edited in any way. These files containing parent comments will not be posted on the EI website and are not intended to be shared or posted publicly. Please contact Taylor Hammond at Taylor.Hammond@dodd.ohio.gov with any questions.

EI Parent Rights Brochure Update

DODD recently became aware that the phone number on the EI parent rights brochure in the “Resolving Disputes” section is no longer accurate. Please cross out the phone number in any brochures you distribute. DODD will update the existing brochure on the website and print a limited number since the brochure itself will be updated with the new EI rules in July 2024.

EI Service Coordination Grant Reminder

As we near the halfway point of SFY24, DODD reminds all EI contract managers that EI service coordination grant subrecipients must submit an expenditure report at least once every three months as required by 1.3 of the grant agreement.

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

FIPP Resource: What are Empathy Blockers?

As part of the “Interactions Matter Series,” the Family, Infant, and Preschool Program (FIPP) of the J. Iverson Riddle Development Center developed an Empathy Blockers infographic. Empathy blockers are statements and/or body language that create emotional distance and are counterproductive. Awareness of these habits can help to restore and maintain healthy relationships and effective capacity-building practices. You can access the infographic here:

https://fipp.ncdhhs.gov/wp-content/uploads/Resized-Empathy-Blockers-2-1.pdf?fbclid=IwAR28SrFS-1gmqohWKM7S0xiaLebXMf_1152ybx97sGKANhR_8knAkki6MZw_aem_AebdMMk0MIKUtsJACn1u5vNrquT5X4pMBpfSGBT2BoDz6ETRHjgIL0vCJ1gbuhIup4

Newborn Behavioral Observation (NBO) Mentoring Series

These six monthly mentoring sessions aim to support the NBO certified practitioners (who have completed five NBOs with certificate of completion) to deepen their understanding and application of the NBO in their early intervention practice. These interactive sessions require active participation and practice of the NBO before and during the sessions. Please see the attached flyer for dates, registration, and more information.

Volunteers Wanted: Ohio Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review Committee Members

Are you interested in the statewide effort to improve health outcomes and reduce disparities for pregnant and postpartum women in Ohio? If so, you may be interested in volunteering for the Ohio Department of Health's (ODH) [Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review \(PAMR\)](#) Committee. ODH is currently accepting committee membership applications and are seeking applicants from the following communities:

Individuals who self-identify or represent the following communities:

- American Indian or Alaska Native.
- Asian or Asian American.
- Black or African American.
- Hispanic or Latino/a.
- Middle Eastern or North African.
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

Individuals living and/or working in the following counties in Ohio:

- Butler.
- Clermont.
- Delaware.
- Lorain.
- Lucas.
- Mahoning.
- Montgomery.
- Muskingum.
- Stark.
- Summit.
- Trumbull.

Individuals with experience in the following disciplines/organizations in Ohio:

- Cardiology.
- Clergy.
- Community advocacy.
- Community birth work.
- Community-based doula programs.
- Community leadership.
- Critical care medicine.
- Emergency response.
- Family medicine.
- Federally qualified health centers.
- FIMR/CFR programs.
- Healthy Start Agencies/Home Visiting.
- Home nursing.
- Homeless services.
- Jails/prisons/corrections.
- Law enforcement.
- Local WIC program.
- Maternal fetal medicine/perinatology.
- Nurse midwifery.
- Patient safety.
- Patient/family advocacy.
- Perinatal nursing.
- Pharmacy.
- Public insurer.
- Rural health associations.
- State Medicaid Agency.
- Tribal Organization.
- Violence prevention agencies.

ODH PAMR strives to maintain a diverse, multidisciplinary committee of clinical, non-clinical, and community perspectives. Multidisciplinary committee reviews allow Ohio to focus on improving the quality of care for pregnant and postpartum women both within hospitals and address social determinants of health outside hospitals. Thus, ODH will consider each applicant's qualifications, background, and interest in serving on the committee. ODH seeks to choose committee members who represent Ohio's diversity, those communities disproportionately impacted by maternal mortality, and populations currently underrepresented on the PAMR Committee. For this reason, ODH will also consider each applicant's self-identified race/ethnicity and where they live and work.

Mentoring Series for Newborn Behavioral Observation Certified Practitioners

Have you earned your certification in **Newborn Behavioral Observation**?

Do you want to deepen your knowledge of **infant behavior and development** and NBO application in your **Early Intervention** practice?

Join Yvette Blanchard, PT, ScD, from the Brazelton Institute, in this mentoring series offered to certified NBO practitioners. The series is comprised of 6 interactive sessions that will allow participants to learn from each other on topics such as strengths-based approach, say what we see, fostering moments of meetings, infant reflexes, and more!

The sessions for this series will be held on the following days:

Session 1:	January 18, 2024	10AM-11:30AM
Session 2:	February 15, 2024	10AM-11:30AM
Session 3:	March 14, 2024	10AM-11:30AM
Session 4:	April 11, 2024	10AM-11:30AM
Session 5:	May 23, 2024	10AM-11:30AM
Session 6:	June 13, 2024	10AM-11:30AM

***Participation in all sessions is mandatory to earn CPDUs.**

A total of 9 hours of CPDUs are available for DS, PT, OT, and SW.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

