

## ESSO WEEKLY MEMO

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### **ACTION NEEDED:**

No Items

### **FOLLOW UP:**

No Items

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

#### **1. Act Early Forum Webinar: Creative Ways to Reach Hard to Reach Populations July 23, 12:00 - 1:00 PM**

*Part 1 of 2: Addressing Disparities in “Learn the Signs. Act Early.”: Reaching Families at Risk for Child Maltreatment*

#### About the Webinar

This webinar will focus on addressing disparities encountered in accessing the “Learn the Signs. Act Early.” initiative. It will highlight a recently completed Research Topic of Interest (RTOI) project that assessed the impact of “Learn the Signs. Act Early.” awareness education conducted in urban child care centers with families whose incomes fall below the federal poverty level. Families received awareness education in different settings, including at the child care center, in the home during a one-session visit, or through the SafeCare home visiting program, which is an evidence-based parent education program that seeks to directly reduce family risk factors associated with maltreatment. Outcomes measured included parent knowledge of child development, rates of identification of potential developmental delays and rates of follow-up of the potential delays. These outcomes were compared across settings. Preliminary findings will be shared by the research team, followed by discussion and Q&A. We hope you will be able to join us!

Please click [HERE](#) to register (or go to <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/721327584>)

#### **2. Webinar - Autism and the DSM V: July 11 @ 2 PM EDT**

This two-hour webinar (from 2:00 - 4:00 pm) will provide an overview of the transition from the DSM-IV to the DSM-5 changes to Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) classification and outline the changes between the ADOS and ADOS-2. Audience members will benefit from having attended an ADOS Introductory Training Workshop previously. The presentation will incorporate planned time for open dialogue and discussion on the topic among participants.

Note that this webinar is not equivalent to training on the ADOS or ADOS-2.

Please click [HERE](#) to register (or go to <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/723435538>)

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS, continued:**

### **3. ZERO TO THREE Policy Network - Rally4Babies**

*Message from Debbie Rappaport, Project Director, ZERO TO THREE Policy Network*

ZERO TO THREE, in partnership with more than a dozen national organizations, is hosting a virtual baby rally, Rally4Babies: Learning Happens from the Start on **July 8th** at a time to be determined. The Rally4Babies and a companion petition are designed to rally the early childhood field, parents, and concerned members of the public, so that collectively we spark a national conversation to advance early learning beginning at birth, and drive huge support to demand that high-quality early learning opportunities for babies remain a priority.

The Rally4Babies will feature U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, popular children's musician Laurie Berkner, as well as other prominent leaders in a live rally program. The rally will take place virtually via Google+ Hangouts on Air and transmitted via YouTube, so anyone can watch and participate in the rally via a dedicated YouTube link, no matter where they are. We have launched a rally web site at [www.rally4babies.org](http://www.rally4babies.org), which we will update continuously until the event.

The success of the Rally4Babies is dependent on us reaching out across networks, states, and communities to engage people to watch the live event. To do that, we need your help! We are asking your organization to join us by recruiting your networks to watch the rally and help us secure 25,000 petition signatures. We hope you'll join us in this effort by:

- Inviting your network of supporters to participate in the Rally4Babies, sign the online petition, organize watch parties, and promote the event via social media;
- Promoting the Rally4Babies and petition on your social media and blog; and,
- Inviting your media contacts/reporters to attend the Rally4Babies.

If you're able to help us, please contact Debbie Rappaport at [DRappaport@zerotothree.org](mailto:DRappaport@zerotothree.org) and she will send you the digital media toolkit that we've developed for your communications.

## **MEDICAID UPDATES:**

### **4. Medicaid Alerts and Questions**

The Florida Medicaid program has created an e-mail alert system to supplement the present method of receiving Provider Alerts information and to alert registered subscribers of "late-breaking" health care information. An e-mail will be delivered to your mailbox when Medicaid policy clarifications or other health care information is available that is appropriate for your selected area and provider type. Visit the [Florida Medicaid's Health Care Alerts](#) page to subscribe now, or to unsubscribe or update your subscription at any time. Please direct questions about Medicaid policies to your local Medicaid area office. The Medicaid area offices' addresses and phone numbers are available on the [Area Offices](#) web page.

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## **MEDICAID UPDATES, continued:**

### **5. Revised Florida Medicaid Provider General Handbook**

**IMPORTANT NOTE FROM ESSO...**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS UPDATED GENERAL HANDBOOK IS IMPORTANT IN ADDITION TO each service specific Coverage & Limitations Handbook (i.e Early Intervention Services, Therapy, DME, etc.) for determining Medicaid requirements and exemptions for compliance & billing. Yellow highlighting of new/revised wording makes it easy to review of updates for determination of impact, if any, on your local operations.

The Florida Medicaid Provider General Handbook was revised to include information regarding Medicaid's special services process for recipients under the age of 21 years, Crossover-Only enrollment policy, non-emergency out-of-state process, printed prescriptions, and Medicare Crossover policy. In addition, the revised handbook contains policy clarifications and updated policies throughout.

Please contact your local Medicaid area office if you have any questions. The Medicaid area offices' phone numbers and addresses are listed in Appendix A of the handbook. They are also available on the Agency's Web site at <http://ahca.myflorida.com>. Click on Medicaid, and then on Area Offices.

All of the Florida Medicaid handbooks are available on the fiscal agent Web Portal at <http://mymedicaid-florida.com>. Click on Public Information for Providers, then on Provider Support, and then on Provider Handbooks.

### **6. Medicaid Statewide Prepaid Dental Health Plan Program Update**

The June 26, 2013 Statewide Prepaid Dental Program Webinar presentation has been posted on the Statewide PDHP website.

Due to a provision in Florida law, Medicaid recipients will no longer be allowed to "opt out" of the Statewide Prepaid Dental Health Plan (PDHP) program and instead receive dental services through Medicaid Fee-for-Service (also called straight Medicaid). Effective July 1, 2013, all Medicaid children eligible for the PDHP program will be enrolled in one of the two PDHPs: DentaQuest or MCNA Dental.

Recipients who have opted out of the PDHP program up to this point will be notified of this change by mail and offered a choice between the two PDHPs. Recipients who do not choose a PDHP will be assigned to one by the state effective July 1, 2013, but may change plans at any time thereafter.

Even after July 1, 2013, Medicaid fee-for-service dental providers should not cancel appointments in July for patients newly assigned to a PDHP. Each PDHP is required to cover previously scheduled or ongoing treatments for a minimum of the first 30 days of a member's enrollment. For members in active orthodontia care prior authorized by Florida Medicaid, each PDHP is required to cover the completion of the treatment whether or not the orthodontist participates in the PDHP's provider network.

As always, providers should carefully check eligibility before rendering services to Medicaid recipients to ensure the appropriate payer is contacted or billed.

Many Medicaid Fee-for-Service dental providers also participate in one or both PDHP provider networks, and will be able to continue treating PDHP enrollees after July 1, 2013. Providers who are interested in contracting with the state's PDHP vendors should contact DentaQuest at [www.dentaquestflorida.com](http://www.dentaquestflorida.com) or MCNA Dental at [www.mcna.net](http://www.mcna.net).

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## **INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:**

### **7. Early Steps Promotional Materials Order**

Early Steps brochures have been ordered for each LES with an estimated shipment date of July 15th. The total order included 30,000 English brochures, 16,000 Spanish brochures, and 3,400 Creole brochures. The number of brochures that each LES will receive varies and depends on several factors, including survey and budget limitations.

In addition, ESSO has also purchased butterfly-shaped magnets (see image). They will be shipped on July 11th. Each LES will receive a total of 1,000 magnets.



Please notify Katie Williams at [Kathryn\\_Williams@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Kathryn_Williams@doh.state.fl.us) if you do not receive your brochures and/or magnets by the week of July 15th.

### **8. Reminder About Early Steps Handbook and Operations Guide**

As a reminder, you can find the current Early Steps Policy Handbook and Operations Guide at: [http://www.cms-kids.com/home/resources/es\\_policy\\_0113/es\\_policy.html](http://www.cms-kids.com/home/resources/es_policy_0113/es_policy.html) The effective date will show as January 1, 2013. Please bookmark this site on your computer so that you can easily find it when necessary. If you are using someone else's computer, the easiest way to find the Handbook and Operations Guide is by going to [www.cms-kids.com](http://www.cms-kids.com), choosing "Resources" on the left side bar, then "Policies", and finally the Handbook and Operations Guide under Early Steps. We do not recommend doing an internet search for an Early Steps policy topic since what comes up may not be current.

### **9. 2013 Family Survey Instructions**

Attached to the ESSO Weekly Memo are the Instructions for the 2013 Family Survey process. A conference call has been scheduled with the Local Family Survey Leads on July 17, 2013 from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm (EST) to review the Instructions including the process, timelines, survey criteria, roles of Local Family Survey Leads, and strategies for dissemination in greater detail. If you have any questions, please contact [Kelly\\_Rogers@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Kelly_Rogers@doh.state.fl.us).

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## **STAFF AND LES SPOTLIGHT:**

### **10. New Guidelines**

This section of the ESSO Weekly Memo will now be used for recognition of major accomplishments, awards, and milestones reached by either LES/ESSO staff OR local programs. All entries must be emailed to Katie Williams and Patricia Herring by 5:00 EST on Tuesdays. The subject line should read 'ESSO Weekly Memo Entry.' **Please include a picture when possible.**

### **11. Staff Spotlight**

*Submitted by Paula Keyser, Family Resource Specialist in West Central*

Paula's son Jeremy (an Early Steps graduate) is recognized as Bay News 9 Everyday Hero. Jeremy had a brain bleed prior to birth, he has Hydrocephalus, Cerebral Palsy and Epilepsy. He had 3 brain surgeries prior to the age of 6 months old. He did not walk until he was 27 months old, did not talk or eat solid foods until he was 4-1/2. He was in Early Steps from 4 months of age.

Click here for the story:

<http://alturl.com/rfk6d>

When you click on the link, you need to scroll down below the image and click the link under 'video stories' to watch the video. Some mobile devices are unable to play it, so if you have trouble, try it on the computer.

# Happy Independence Day!



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## PROGRAM MANAGER INFORMATION

### 12. List of Program Managers and their Contact Information

The assigned program manager at ESSO is the primary contact person for the LES to submit questions, issues or concerns to. The program manager will be responsible for responding to the LES and prior to responding, will inform and involve others in the ESSO, when necessary, to assist in clarifying or resolving the issue.

Early Steps State Office Telephone Number - (850) 245-4444

LES	Program Manager	PI Lead
<b>Bay Area</b>	Haylie Mistrot (ext. 2267) <a href="mailto:Haylie_Mistrot@doh.state.fl.us">Haylie_Mistrot@doh.state.fl.us</a>	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) <a href="mailto:Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us">Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us</a>
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<b>Central Florida</b>	Arnetta Givens (ext. 3904) <a href="mailto:Arnetta_Givens@doh.state.fl.us">Arnetta_Givens@doh.state.fl.us</a>	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) <a href="mailto:Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us">Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us</a>
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