

ESSO WEEKLY MEMO

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ACTION ITEMS - no items

FOLLOW UP:

1. QA Self Assessment Process 2013-2014

Thanks to all of you who participated in the QA Self Assessment Process conference calls held last week. Attached to the Memo email is a copy of the Q & A document that was developed as a result of the questions raised on the call. The populated worksheets for this year's self assessments will be sent to you tomorrow via encrypted email. Please contact Susan Barrows (Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us) or Angela Marcus (Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us) if you have questions or concerns as you begin the self-assessment process. We look forward to seeing the progress you have made during this past year to improve outcomes for our children and their families!

UPCOMING EVENTS - no items

MEDICAID UPDATES:

2. 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.

3. Medicaid Training Opportunities Available in Pasco and Pinellas Counties

The Area 5 Medicaid Office is offering Medicaid provider training opportunities in Largo and New Port Richey during the month of August 2013, for providers located in Pinellas and Pasco Counties.

- The General Medicaid Provider Overview and CMS 1500 training will be held on Tuesday, August 13, 2013, in Largo from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. The training will be held at the Mary Grizzle State Office Building at 11351 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL.
- The General Medicaid Provider Overview and CMS 1500 training will be held on Thursday, August 15, 2013, in New Port Richey from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. The training will be held at the Pasco County Health Department at 10841 Little Road, New Port Richey, FL.

Due to limited seating, registration is required. You may register online at <http://apps.ahca.myflorida.com/medres/index.aspx>. Click on the city where you would like to attend a training and choose your desired training session. To download a copy of the Area 5 training calendar, please visit the [Florida Medicaid Web Portal](#) and click on "Area Office 5", then go to the link for Area 5 Training Calendar and Registration Form, Pasco and Pinellas County.

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INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

4. New Series of Video Modules on Early Childhood Hearing Screening & Follow-Up

Source: National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management - July 3, 2013

The National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM) has published a new series of easy-to-watch video tutorials (2-6 minutes each) and accompanying materials covering a wide range of topics related to hearing screening and follow-up for young children. The modules are designed for educators and health care providers, including: administrators, audiologists, and screeners. To view the videos and all related resources, click on the link below

[Implementing a Successful Otoacoustic Emissions \(OAE\) Hearing Screening Program](http://www.infanthearing.org/earlychildhood/learning-to-implement.php)

(<http://www.infanthearing.org/earlychildhood/learning-to-implement.php>)

5. Systematic Review of Studies Promoting the Use of Assistive Technology Devices by Young Children with Disabilities

Source: Tots 'n Tech Research Institute - Retrieved July 19, 2013

The Tots 'n Tech Research Institute has published a new research brief, [Systematic Review of Studies Promoting the Use of Assistive Technology Devices by Young Children with Disabilities](#)

(Research Brief V.8, No.1, 2013), by Dunst, C.J., Trivette, C.M., Hamby, D.W., & Simkus, A.

The brief summarizes findings from a meta-analysis of 109 studies investigating the use of five different assistive technology devices with young children with disabilities, including 1342 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. Results indicate that the use of all but one of the devices was related to improvements in child outcomes, regardless of type of disability or severity of intellectual delay.

The importance of the use of evidence-based training methods to promote practitioners' and parents' use of assistive technology is also described.

(<http://tnt.asu.edu/files/ResearchBriefVolume8-1.pdf>)

6. 24 CELLnotes Available on the Center for Early Literacy Learning Web site

The Orelena Hawks Puckett Institute has released [24 CELLnotes](#) the Center for Center for Early Literacy Learning (CELL) Web site. CELLnotes are nontechnical summaries of findings from research syntheses of early literacy and language studies. They include examples of evidence-based practice guides based on those findings. CELL is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs Research to Practice Division.

(<http://earlyliteracylearning.org/productsellnotes.php>)

STAFF AND LES SPOTLIGHT:

7. 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.

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BUREAU UPDATE

8. Policy Unit Update

The policy unit is working to finalize a few policy clarifications that we anticipate will be implemented October 1, 2013. There are clarifications related to:

- Completion and documentation of service coordination/targeted case management assessment and plan
- Provision of compensatory services after a child turns three (as a result of a dispute or finding)
- Fundraising activities
- Documentation of “other services”
- Use of informed clinical opinion
- Payment for consultation
- Handling a due process hearing request
- Family Involvement Plans and Family Resource Specialist roles
- Obtaining consent in electronic format
- Paper and electronic recordkeeping for children who are adopted

We are checking calendars and will schedule a webinar in August 2013 to introduce the changes and answer questions. Look for a “Save the Date” announcement soon.



Have a Great Day!



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PROGRAM MANAGER INFORMATION:

9. List of Program Managers and their Contact Information

Each LES is assigned a program manager who acts as their primary point of contact at ESSO. The LES should submit all questions, issues, and concerns to their assigned program manager listed in the chart below. The program manager is responsible for responding promptly to the LES and obtaining any information from other ESSO staff in order to assist in clarifying or resolving questions, issues, or concerns.

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

LES	Program Manager	PI Lead
Bay Area	Haylie Mistrot (ext. 2267) Haylie_Mistrot@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
Big Bend	Dawn Lynch (ext. 2270) Dawn_Lynch@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
Central Florida	Arnetta Givens (ext. 3904) Arnetta_Givens@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
Gold Coast	Arnetta Givens (ext. 3904) Arnetta_Givens@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
Gulf Central	Mary Sandler (ext. 2240) Mary_Sandler@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
North Beaches	Carol Burch (ext. 2224) Carol_Burch@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
North Central	Dawn Lynch (ext. 2270) Dawn_Lynch@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
North Dade	Janice Miller (ext. 3910) Janice_Miller2@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
Northeastern	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
Southernmost Coast	Janice Miller (ext. 3910) Janice_Miller2@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
Southwest	Mary Sandler (ext. 2240) Mary_Sandler@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
Space Coast	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
Treasure Coast	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
West Central	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
Western Panhandle	Carol Burch (ext. 2224) Carol_Burch@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us

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