



ESSO WEEKLY MEMO – FEBRUARY 3, 2011

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ACTION NEEDED

1. Early Steps Public Participation Period re: Proposed Policies and Annual Part C Application for Funds

The 60-day public participation process related to proposed policies and the renewal application for funds under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C has begun. As required by the IDEA, the opportunity for public comment on the proposed policies and Part C application will be available for 30 days beginning February 21, 2011 through March 22, 2011. Public hearings will be held in Ft. Lauderdale on February 22, Orlando on February 23 and Tallahassee on February 24. Detailed information regarding the public participation process is posted on http://www.cms-kids.com/families/early_steps/public_participation.html. Anyone desiring special accommodations, including interpretation into languages other than English or sign language must send a message via e-mail to CMS_EarlyStepsPublicComment@doh.state.fl.us or contact Dawn Lynch at (850) 245-4200 to request accommodations no later than February 8, 2011.

2. Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc. (FDDC) Request for Proposals (RFP) (With 1 Attachment)

The FDDC has released RFP #2011-CD-8900 in order to develop two Disability Awareness Language Arts and Literacy Guides. The amount of this contract will be up to \$27,000 and the exact amount of this contract will be finalized during contract negotiations. For more information see attached RFP or go to www.fddc.org. The deadline for submitting written questions and letters of intent is February 16, by 4:00 p.m. EST.

3. Call for Presenter Proposals - One Goal: "Building the Future Together, Putting Families, and Children First"

From: Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

As one of the sponsors of the 2011 One Goal Summer Conference, the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services is pleased to invite you and your staff to submit a presentation proposal. The deadline for proposal submission is April 1. This year, the conference will be celebrating 25 years of bringing together early childhood educators, child care providers and leaders from around the state who provide services to young children and their families for the purpose of sharing innovative programs, practices, and techniques for improving services and outcomes for all children. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency at the Tampa Center in Tampa, Florida, on July 20-22. The conference registration fee of \$75.00 will be waived for the primary presenter only. All co-presenters will need to register and pay the registration fee. Presenters are responsible for

making their own hotel reservations and any other expenses incurred. Registration and hotel information is available on the conference website at <http://www.onegoalsummerconference.org>. An electronic version of the Presenter Proposal form is located at <https://secure.mrserver.net/OneGoal/PresenterForm.php>. While multiple proposals are encouraged, only one or, space permitting, a maximum of two will be selected from a presenter.

- Link: <http://www.onegoalsummerconference.org>
- Link: <https://secure.mrserver.net/OneGoal/PresenterForm.php>
- Contact: Frankie Allen, Conference Coordinator, at frankieallen_2000@yahoo.com or (850) 893-6270; or Carole West at Carole.West@fldoe.org or (850) 245-0478

4. Request from Family Café

Dear Friend,

THIS IS A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR THOSE FAMILIES THAT RECEIVE SERVICES THROUGH THE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES (CMS) NETWORK.

As part of our new Family to Family grant program, The Family Café has teamed up with the Florida Department of Health's Children's Medical Services (CMS) Network to conduct a survey of CMS parents. It's important to have good information to help give CMS a clear picture of the community's needs, so if you have received or currently receive services through CMS, we hope you can take a moment to complete this survey.

To complete the survey, please follow this link:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/family_cafe_cms_survey.

For each question, please tell us if you: strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree. You may also answer with No Opinion for any questions with which you neither agree nor disagree.

Your individual responses are confidential and will not be shared. The answers will help make decisions to better serve children in the Children's Medical Services (CMS) Network. Thank you for your time!!!

Yours,

The Family Café

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

5. Children's Medical Services Annual Report (With 1 Attachment)

Please find attached the new all-Children's Medical Services (CMS) annual program report. This new publication was created at the end of last calendar year to better communicate the benefits of CMS's collection of programs and to explain the relationship of the various programs within Children's Medical Services. It's a new tool in the vein of many private sector investment reports which feature different

performance measures, financial information, enrollment data, and other metrics to reinforce the value of the CMS programs and services. You are welcome to share the report with any interested parties.

6. Looking for Family Stories (With 2 Attachments)

The Early Steps State Office and the Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT) are always looking for family stories to show the benefit of Early Steps. Attached are forms developed in English and Spanish to capture stories in a uniform way, including the release to potentially use the stories in Early Steps materials. A member of the FICCIT Outreach and Collaboration Committee will be speaking at upcoming Family Resource Specialists and Service Coordinators conference calls to discuss the use of this form and identifying families to solicit for stories. Until then, you are of course encouraged to keep a look out for that extra special family that you feel can tell a compelling story about the benefit of Early Steps and ask them to complete the forms.

7. Great Applications for Families

Here is a great resource that has been going around parent circles recently. It is a listing of hundreds of applications for iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch and Android. It is especially geared for children with special needs. There is a category of Early Learning Applications -- some of which may be helpful for very young children.

http://www.oneplaceforspecialneeds.com/main/library_special_needs_apps.html

8. Strengthening Our Military Families

The President has made the care and support of military families a top national security policy priority. In May 2010, the President directed the National Security Staff to develop a coordinated Federal Government-wide approach to support military families. This effort will:

- o Enhance the well-being and psychological health of military families
- o Ensure excellence in military children's education and their development
- o Develop career and educational opportunities for military spouses.
- o Increase child care availability and quality for the Armed Forces

By harnessing resources and expertise across the Federal Government, the Obama Administration is improving the quality of military family life, helping communities more effectively support military families, and, thereby improving the long-term effectiveness of U.S. military forces. Read more at:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/01/24/presidential-initiative-supports-military-families>.

- Link: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/01/24/presidential-initiative-supports-military-families>

9. SAMHSA's Strategic Initiative on Military Families

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has made military families one of its top priorities. The work underway through this initiative provides key support to the action steps announced by President Obama. SAMHSA is working with other Federal agencies and state, local, and tribal governments as well as with community groups across the country to make sure information and resources are available to ensure behavioral health service needs are met. Learn more at: <http://www.samhsa.gov/MilitaryFamilies/>.

□ Link: <http://www.samhsa.gov/MilitaryFamilies/>

10. Education Secretary Launches United States Education Dashboard: Transparency Effort Highlights Status of American Education System

The U.S. Department of Education launched a new website that provides convenient and transparent access to key national and state education data, highlighting the progress being made across the country in every level of the education system and encouraging communities to engage in a conversation about their schools. The United States Education Dashboard, available at <http://dashboard.ed.gov>, presents important indicators of whether the country is making progress toward the President's goal – that, by 2020, the United States will once again have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world. The Dashboard allows users to quickly find information they need and view it in several different ways. It also allows users to download customized reports for further analyses.

□ Link: <http://dashboard.ed.gov>

11. Medicaid Health Care Alerts & Provider Alerts Messages January 2011

Provider Type(s): 83

Therapy Services Web Page Updates

The Medicaid Therapy Services Web page has been updated with the following additions:

- Agenda Mailbox section
- Therapy Services Forum Summary
- Useful Information Sheet
- CMS National Correct Coding Initiative link added to Useful Links section

The Medicaid Therapy Services Web page can be viewed at the following address:

<http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/childhealthservices/therapyserv>

12. APR Performance Overview (With 1 Attachment)

ESSO submitted its FFY 2009 Annual Performance Report (APR) on February 1, 2011. The APR contains detailed reporting of progress the state has made toward meeting established indicator targets contained in the Part C State Performance Plan (SPP). Attached is a performance overview of all indicators that includes the actual target data achieved for FFY 2009, as well as the indicator targets established for FFY 2009 in the SPP. When the APR and revised SPP are posted on our website, we will announce it through the Weekly Memo.

13. Early Steps Legislative Budget Request Related to Autism Spectrum Disorder Workload (With 1 Attachment)

Per request on the Feb. 2 Early Steps Directors/Coordinators call, we have attached the Legislative Budget Request (LBR) Related to Autism Spectrum Disorder Workload. This issue was forwarded by the Department of Health (DOH) to the governor's office in the DOH LBR package.

14. Data System Enhancement Rollout

"Changes to the Existing Data System"

On Monday, February 7th, the ES Data System will load out the first set of data system changes. These changes will require about an hour of system downtime, scheduled for 12 noon to 1pm EDT.

Changes to FSPSA Record:

- Addition of a Timely Service date field
- Addition of a Timely Service Barrier code.

BARRIERS:

- C Child Issues Child issues (such as illness, child's appointment conflict, etc.).
- D *Office Closure Office closure due to hurricane or other official State of Emergency.
- F *Family/Caregiver Issues Family/caregiver issues (such as illness, sibling child care, convenience, family appointments, transportation, vacation, work schedule, family emergencies, etc.).
- N *Family Did Not Show Family did not show for scheduled service delivery appointment.
- U *Unsuccessful Attempts To Contact Unsuccessful attempts to contact the family to schedule service delivery (such as unreturned phone calls to family, disconnected phone, or unable to locate family).
- E LES Capacity Issues LES capacity issue (such as no available appointment, appointment canceled due to staffing issues, inability to contact family due to staffing issues, etc.).
- P External Provider Issues External provider issues (such as service provider not available).
- I Pending Insurance Approval Pending Insurance Approval

The intent is to allow LESs to enter date to show that the services in the FSPSA record actually begin (timeliness of service initiation). The barrier code is to be used whenever the interval between when the service began and when the service was supposed to begin exceeds 30 days.

To see more details about the specific changes to the data system, go to the Enhancement section of the ES Data System web-site (<http://mch.peds.ufl.edu/es/enhancements/index.html>).

15. NECTAC NEWS

For the current issue of NECTAC eNotes go to <http://www.nectac.org/enotes/enotes.asp>

UPCOMING TRAININGS, MEETINGS, CONFERENCES AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

16. Attachment Difficulties, Childhood Trauma, and Reactive Attachment Disorder: Clinical Guidelines for Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment (With 2 Attachments)

Please see the attached flyer for a FREE training on February 8 and 9 in Tallahassee entitled:

"Attachment Difficulties, Childhood Trauma, and Reactive Attachment Disorder: Clinical Guidelines for Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment."

The two-day training to be provided by the Center for Child and Family Health (CCFH) will focus on:

- child-caregiver attachment process
- the effects of traumatic stress
- the reciprocal influences of attachment and childhood trauma
- age appropriate and research-based assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of attachment difficulties and Reactive Attachment Disorder

Who should attend?

- Community based care providers and subcontractors
- Community and residential mental health and substance abuse providers
- Judges/court personnel, Florida Legal Services, Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Guardians ad Litem, Attorneys ad Litem
- Agencies, programs and providers working with children birth to five
- Providers and key personnel working with adoptive families
- Individuals who completed the Adoption Competency Training
- Parents/caregivers and organizations (Federation of Families, NAMI, Family Peer Network, etc.)
- Other key child serving agencies and programs (DJJ, DOH, DOE, AHCA, APD)
- Children's Legal Services and other DCF staff

Registrants may park in any lot designated as "Student Parking" on the attached map. A listing of nearby restaurants will be provided at registration for the training.

CEUs will be offered for LMHC, LMFT, LCSW, psychologists (including school psychologists), nurses, and ARNPs.

Don't forget to register and please share this free opportunity with your networks and with those listed above. We look forward to seeing you there.

(See attached file: Flyer for Feb 8-9 training.pdf)(See attached file: TCC Campus Map with AMTC-8.11.10.pdf)

17. "Niagara in Miami" Conference on Interventions for Childhood and Adolescent Mental Health Programs

Register now for the Niagara in Miami conference hosted by the FIU Center for Children and Families and The Children's Trust to receive the 50-percent discount through Jan. 31 (for staff of Trust-funded agencies). Learn the newest developments regarding effective implementation of evidence-based treatments and interventions for mental health disorders and educational problems in children and teens. Conference takes place Feb. 16-18 at the Hilton Miami Downtown. For more information and to register, visit niagarainmiami.fiu.edu.

The Children's Trust is sponsoring this conference and there will be sessions on evidence-based programs & practices that might be of interest to you and your staff. Registration is going on right now! There are discounted spaces still available for Trust-funded agencies. Target audience of the conference is: clinical & school psychologists, psychiatrists, educators, social workers, counselors, mental health administrators. The goals of the conference are to learn:

- Awareness of new developments and the expanded body of knowledge in state-of-the-art treatment for mental health problems in children and adolescents
- Effective implementation of evidence-based treatments and preventative interventions for mental health disorders and educational problems in children and adolescents
- Guidelines for evidence-based practices in psychosocial therapy, educational interventions, prevention, and combined treatments in clinic, home, and school settings

18. Parent-Implemented Early Communication Intervention for Children with Significant Communication Delays

A Webinar from AUCD's Early Intervention/ Early Childhood Special Interest Group

About the Webinar

Although parents are children's first language teachers, parents of children with significant communication impairment benefit from systematic training to support their children's language

development. This presentation will: (a) provide a brief overview of the evidence base for parent-implemented communication intervention; (b) describe the naturalistic language support strategies that parents have been taught to support their children's communication development; and (c) discuss approaches to teaching parents. The KidTalk model of early communication support which includes parents as partners in intervention will be presented.

Speaker

Ann P. Kaiser, PhD

Dr. Kaiser is the Susan W. Gray Professor of Education and Human Development at Peabody College of Vanderbilt University. Dr. Kaiser's primary area of research is early language interventions for children with developmental disabilities and children at risk due to poverty. Her research has investigated the effects of social communication interventions implemented by early childhood educators, parents, siblings, and peers. She has developed and researched a parent and therapist implemented communication program (KidTalk) to improve the language outcomes for young children with mental retardation and developmental disabilities, children with autism, and children at risk due to behavior problems.

This Webinar will take place on Tuesday, February 22nd from 4:00PM to 5:00PM Eastern Standard Time. The visual portion of the webinar will be conducted via GoToMeeting and the audio portion via telephone or VoIP (requires microphone and speakers). After registration you will be given a unique web address for viewing the webinar and audio information.

Register for the Webinar

For more information please see the [EVENT WEBSITE](#) or contact [Jennifer Bogin](#), Project Manager at AUCD

The Early Intervention/ Early Childhood Special Interest Group (EIEC SIG) at AUCD provides information to Network members on critical issues related to early childhood. The EIEC SIG Website can be accessed at www.aucd.org/eiec

Please Note- There is NO cost for this webinar!

This webinar will be archived and can be viewing following the event at www.aucd.org/eiec

Save the Dates!

Future webinars coming to you from The Early Intervention/Early Childhood SIG:

April 26, 2011

May 23, 2011

June 28, 2011

Please Note- All webinars are from 4:00PM-5:00PM Eastern Standard Time

This Webinar is in part made possible with support from The Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the CDC

19. VIISA 0-3 Training (With 1 Attachment)

Vision In-Service in America

March 25-26-27 and May 20-21-22 2011
St. Augustine, FL

This course is available to early interventionists with a college degree in varying exceptionalities, vision, special education, OT, PT, SLP, or in a related field of study. You must have a bachelor's degree or higher. You do not need a background in visual impairments to take this course. VIISA is designed to provide information about 0-3 year olds with visual impairments and their families to professionals in early intervention settings.

20. Special Education Law and Advocacy Training Program

Saturday, June 4, 2011

9:00-4:30

Campus Activity Center at USF/ St. Petersburg

(With 1 Attachment)

Save the date! Registration will begin in March 2011. This is a free training and the first 150 registrants will receive free Wrightslaw materials!!