



WEEKLY UPDATE – MARCH 11, 2010

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ACTION NEEDED

MEDICAID SURVEY/TIMELINE EXTENSION

This is to remind everyone to complete the Medicaid Survey distributed with last week's ESSO Weekly Memo, with as much detail and documentation as possible. The time line for completing the survey has been extended to Friday, March 19. Please send the completed surveys and related documentation to Pamela_Porter@doh.state.fl.us or via fax at 850-921-8138 no later than March 19. Thank you.

INFANT MENTAL HEALTH/EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT SURVEY

(With Attachment)

Toward our shared goal of early identification and prevention of mental health problems, DCF has provided us the opportunity to identify and survey locations within Florida that are providing Infant Mental Health/Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation to childcare and to host a Summit for key funders, clinicians and childcare programs to share best practice models.

As identified by the survey, a select number of promising programs will be invited to participate in a one-day summit Friday May 14, 2010. The summit will address the results of the survey, identify elements of best practice, and establish a framework for future collaboration and pilot projects. Limited travel support is available.

The definition of early childhood mental health consultation is a professional consultant with mental health expertise working collaboratively with early care and education staff/programs and families to improve their ability to prevent, identify, treat and reduce the impact of mental health problems among children from birth to age 6. The consultant works primarily to improve children's social emotional well-being by building the capacity of early care and education staff, parents and other caregivers to promote health, child development and manage challenging behaviors (Cohen & Kaufmann, 2005; Green, Everhart, Gordon & Gettman, 2006; Johnston & Brinamen, 2006).

Please help us identify the best contact persons in your area that could describe the essential components and details about consultation to childcare. We have identified 3 key groups to survey:

1. FUNDERS who can detail the costs and funding
2. CHILDCARE DIRECTORS who can specify tools used to identify the need, model used for intervention, job descriptions, supervision, length & duration, and outcomes.
3. CLINICIANS OR CONSULTANTS who can detail the competencies and credentials needed and the tools and strategies used for effective outcomes.

The online survey period will be March 15-April 5, 2010.

Please email me the names and email addresses of the best contacts for your area (mgraham@fsu.edu).

The Summit will be Friday May 14, 2010 in Tallahassee.

Based on the survey, promising programs will be invited to participate in a one-day summit to include:

- *results of the statewide survey,
- *elements of best practice, and
- *a framework for future collaboration and pilot projects.

Limited travel support is available.

Please share the attachment with your colleagues.

Thank you for helping us continue to move Infant Mental Health forward in Florida!

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Dr. Mimi Graham, Director
Florida State University
Center for Prevention & Early Intervention Policy

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

FIRST YEARS

FIRST YEARS, an in-service-certificate program committed to enhancing the knowledge and skills of professionals practicing in deaf education, speech-language pathology, audiology, and early intervention is now accepting applications until May 14, 2010. A new class will begin the first course in the fall semester of 2010. Please visit the website at www.firstyears.org for detailed information about the program. If you have questions regarding the program, please contact Kathryn Wilson, *FIRST YEARS* Director: kathryn_wilson@med.unc.edu

CHILDREN'S WEEK COMMUNITY INNOVATION AWARDS

We are excited to announce the new *Children's Week Community Innovation Awards* presented by United Way of Florida and The Lawton Chiles Foundation.

The Children's Week Community Innovation Awards are presented annually to communities that embrace collaboration by working across multiple sectors and providers to address problems facing children 0-18 and their families. The awards recognize communities that are pursuing systemic change by collaboratively endeavoring to mesh programs and funding to address critical issues facing children and families.

2010 Children's Week wishes to celebrate outstanding community innovation initiatives that are making a positive, measurable difference in the lives of Florida's children and their families and seeks nominations for the annual *Children's Week Community Innovation Awards*.

To download the nomination form, please visit

<http://www.childrensweek.org/index.php?page=events&menu=awardsluncheon> The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, March 12 by 5 p.m.

For information regarding the 2010 Children's Week Community Innovation Awards, please contact Ted Granger at tgranger@uwof.org or (850) 488-8287.

THE FAMILY CAFÉ REQUEST FOR HELP WITH RESEARCH

We have been asked to help our friends at the University of Central Florida with research they are performing on the families of children with disabilities and special health care needs.

Dr. Andrew Daire, Associate Professor in the University of Central Florida (UCF) Counselor Education program, and his research assistant, Ms. Vanessa Dominguez, are developing an adjustment measure for families that have children with special needs. They are requesting the participation of individuals that are at least 18 years of age, married and the parent of a child with a special need. All participants must be in a committed, monogamous relationship.

Your participation will involve completing the following surveys online: the Informational Questionnaire, the Family Adjustment Measure, the Relationship Assessment Scale, and the Perceived Stress Scale. The surveys will take approximately 30 to 35 minutes to complete. All information that you provide is anonymous; there will be no way to identify you.

You will not directly benefit from this study. However, the information you provide may assist in further defining the concept of coping and adaptability in families that have children with special needs.

If you are willing to participate, please follow this link to connect to the Family Adjustment Measure Project surveys: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/famproject> . If you are not connected automatically, then you can cut and paste the link into the address box on your web browser and press enter. If you have questions, concerns, or complaints Dr. Andrew Daire (407-823-0385) or at adaire@mail.ucf.edu .

REQUEST FROM CED NUTRITION SERVICES IN WEST VIRGINIA

The CED Nutrition Services in West Virginia is requesting information from other states regarding the screening and evaluation tools used to assess nutrition risks. Currently, they are in the beginning stages of developing a tool to evaluate the nutritional risks of children in the Birth to Three, Early Intervention program in West Virginia.

If you would like to share any screening tools that are used for nutritional assessment in early intervention please send information to Tiffany N. Buckingham at tbucking@mix.wvu.edu or you may call her at (304)293-4692, ext. 1169.

MORGAN'S WONDERLAND

Morgan's Wonderland is an amusement park that provides full accessibility and inclusion for children and adults with special needs and/or disabilities in San Antonio, Texas. The park is free of charge to all guests with special needs.

For more information please visit the website at: <http://www.morganswonderland.com/index.html>

EARLY HEARING DETECTION & INTERVENTION (EHDI) PROGRAM MATERIALS

Several Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Program materials are available through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi/edmaterials.htm>. These materials are in PDF format and are designed to be printed out. Please note that there is a 15 copy maximum for each item. To order any of the items, [click here](#).

LOCAL EARLY STEPS PROGRAM MANAGER ASSIGNMENTS

Recent staff changes at ESSO have resulted in the following Program Manager Assignments.

Bay Area- D'Lo Trejo
Big Bend- Haylie Smith
Central Florida- Kathy Reese
Gold Coast-D'Lo Trejo
Gulf Central- Claudia Kassack
North Beaches- Kathy Reese
North Central- Claudia Kassack
North Dade- Anne Glass
Northeastern- Dawn Lynch
Southernmost Coast- Anne Glass
Southwest Florida- Haylie Smith
Space Coast- Haylie Smith
Treasure Coast- D'Lo Trejo
West Central- Carol Burch
Western Panhandle- Kathy Reese

NECTAC NEWS

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