



ESSO WEEKLY MEMO –AUGUST 11, 2011

ACTION NEEDED

- 1. A Message from the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida**

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- 2. EZ AT 2: Simple Assistive Technology Ideas for Children Ages Birth to Three**
- 3. Medicaid Health Care Alert Instructions:**
- 4. Early Intervention Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook - Notice of Workshop**
- 5. Summer 2011 Provider Bulletin**

UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS, OR TRAININGS

- 6. Save the Date and Stay Tuned for More Information!!!**
- 7. Conference Calls to Review October 1, 2011 Updates to Early Steps Policy Handbook and Operations Guide (August 16 & 17, 2011)**
- 8. LES Dashboard Committee**

ACTION NEEDED

1. A Message from the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida

It is already time to start planning for the April 2012 Child Abuse Prevention Month Campaign. Pinwheels for Prevention™ is part of a national movement with a strong grassroots component advocating for child abuse prevention across the country. Your participation in displaying pinwheels, distributing materials, submitting letters to the media, hosting local events and recognizing champions in your community greatly contributed to the success of the 2011 campaign and it did not go unnoticed.

Other states are turning to Florida for ideas and strategies to expand campaign efforts in their states; and I always begin by telling them it's our partners that make it a success!

Part of the campaign involves engaging community members by planting pinwheels. With the increased growth of the campaign in Florida and nationwide, pinwheel orders are being collected earlier than normal this year. The deadline for ordering is **Tuesday, September 6, 2011**. The signature pinwheels are intended for display purposes only and are to be used as a symbol for healthy child development and efforts that focus on preventing abuse and neglect before it ever occurs in the first place. The signature pinwheels are not to be used to represent number of victims or cases of child maltreatment. The messaging last year positioned the pinwheel as a reminder that we all have a role to play when it comes to preventing child abuse and neglect. This messaging is consistent with the public service announcements that are aired statewide and can be viewed here:

<http://www.ounce.org/ChildAbuseVideo.html>

Pinwheels have generally been planted in gardens or outdoor displays to generate awareness about various prevention efforts in the community. The pinwheel displays generate media attention and are used as a tool for highlighting the solutions working in your community. Since we've adopted the pinwheel as the icon for child abuse prevention, over 126,000 pinwheels have been planted throughout Florida and over 1,000,000 throughout the nation! A toolkit is available to guide your efforts and offer ideas of implementing the campaign in your area.

We also have pinwheel lapel pins for sale and can be ordered any time of year through our office. We have included the lapel pin order on the same form. These make great volunteer gifts to those of you using volunteers to help with your efforts.

This year we will be selling the pinwheels by the box which contains 192 pinwheels. To order the pinwheels, please complete the attached order form and email it to Jean Gibson at jgibson@ounce.org by Tuesday September 6, 2011. Feel free to forward to your networks!

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me!

Kindly,
Christie Ferris
Executive Director, Prevent Child Abuse Florida
The Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida
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Tallahassee, FL 32301
Office: (850) 921-4494 ext. 164
www.ounce.org

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

2. EZ AT 2: Simple Assistive Technology Ideas for Children Ages Birth to Three

The PACER Center, in collaboration with the Tots 'n Tech Research Institute, recently published *EZ AT 2: Simple Assistive Technology Ideas for Children Ages Birth to Three* (2011). EZ AT 2 is a guide for parents and professionals interested in helping infants and toddlers with disabilities participate more fully in daily routines and activities. It includes a collection of "Ideas to Share" from the Tots 'n Tech Research Institute, as well as easy-to-follow directions, a glossary, and a list of vendors where materials, supplies and AT can be easily located. It is available online at <http://www.pacer.org/stc/pubs/EZ-AT-book-2011-final.pdf>

3. Medicaid Health Care Alert Instructions

(With 1 Attachment)

AHCA is moving toward more IT notification of changes, etc.. You may be left out or not getting the information you should. ESSO attempts to review all AHCA Weekly Alerts during the week, and to forward those with Early Steps applicability from the week through the ESSO Weekly Newsletter. However, you can ensure more timely access to any/all, if you sign up to receive Alerts directly from AHCA. You may do this by following the attached Health Care Alerts Instructions

4. Early Intervention Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook

Notice of Workshop

(With 1 Attachment)

The notice of workshop for the Florida Medicaid Early Intervention Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook was published in Volume 37, Number 31 issue of the FAW Friday, August 5, 2011. The workshop is scheduled for Monday, August 22, 2011 from 10:30am – 11:30am at the Agency for Health Care Administration,

2727 Mahan Dr., Building 3, Tallahassee, FL. **There will NOT be a phone call-in number available.**

As part of our workshop we are **inviting comment on the possible regulatory impact (any added costs to small business to implement the provisions of the rule as noticed in the FAW) ***Note that this means an estimate of financial impact, with as much detail as possible--advance notice to Gail Underwood ***** To download a draft copy of this rule, go to <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/review/index.shtml> for review.

If you wish to submit comments by mail you may address them to: Agency for Health Care Administration, 2727 Mahan Dr., M.S. # 20, Tallahassee, FL 32308 Attn: Gail Underwood.

5. Summer 2011 Provider Bulletin

(With 1 Attachment)

The Spring 2011 Provider Bulletin is now available on the [Medicaid landing page](#) and on the [Public Provider Portal](#). [See attached Summer 2011 Provider Bulletin Health Care Alert for links]. The bulletin contains policy clarification and important Florida Medicaid information. Please note, the bulletin includes critical information regarding the ICD-10 Transition Plan and new electronic fingerprinting for providers.

UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS, OR TRAININGS

6. Save the Date and Stay Tuned for More Information!!!

Early Steps Statewide Meeting
November 8-10, 2011
Orlando, FL

7. Conference Calls to Review October 1, 2011 Updates to Early Steps Policy Handbook and Operations Guide (August 16 & 17, 2011)

(With 2 Attachments)

Attached is the PowerPoint presentation and summary document for the conference calls to review the updates to the Early Steps Policy Handbook and Operations Guide. These updates will be effective October 1, 2011. The conference call dates, the call-in number and conference code are listed below. Identical information will be presented during the two calls, so you will need to participate in only one call. The updated policy documents are currently posted on the Early Steps website at http://www.cms-kids.com/home/resources/es_policy_0710/es_policy.html. In

order to locate the October 1, 2011 policies, you will need to scroll down to the bottom of the page, just beneath the July 1, 2010 policies. We are working with the IT Department to have the October 2011 policies posted on a separate, more prominent location on the website. We will provide the link when they are moved

Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2011

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Eastern Time

Reservations-Plus Dial-In Number: **1-888-808-6959**

Conference Code: **9339119**

OR

Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2011

Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Eastern Time

Reservations-Plus Dial-In Number: **1-888-808-6959**

Conference Code: **9339119**

8. LES Dashboard Committee

Big Thank Yous go out to the Local Early Steps volunteers, listed below, to assist the ESSO in establishing the protocol for the LES Dashboard. You will be hearing from us soon to schedule some conference calls.

Lori Sang, Treasure Coast

Althea Puzio, Space Coast

Katie Moore, Southwest Florida/Gulf Central

Brenda Ham, Bay Area

Janet Dagnesses, Southernmost Coast