



WEEKLY UPDATE – JULY 25, 2008

Action Needed

2008 CMS Statewide Business Meeting Go Green Initiative

July 2007 at his two-day climate change event in Miami, Governor Crist signed three Executive Orders in “*Serve to Preserve: A Florida Summit on Global Climate Change.*” Please note that in an effort to continue the “Go Green Initiative”, printed materials will be limited in packets provided during the 2008 CMS Statewide Business Meeting. The following information will be provided in your packets:

- Billing Practices,
- Developmental Screening and Assessment
- Early Steps Contract Issues
- LES Training Coordinators

In addition, all materials presented will be provided via the Early Steps Website following the meeting. We look forward to seeing you in St. Petersburg, July 28-30th and safe travels.

Early Steps 2008 Service Coordinator Statewide Meeting

Travel reimbursement requests have been received. Thanks to all of you for providing this information. All Local Early Steps should have heard from their Program Manager by now regarding how much the Early Steps State Office can support for travel for their service coordinators and service coordinator supervisors to the meeting. The amount approved was less than what was requested for all LES, as the funds are limited. However, it is hoped that as many people will participate in the meeting as possible, as it will be a great training opportunity. In addition, participants at the meeting will receive a bag of instructional materials. The deadline to register for the meeting is July 31, 2008 and the **deadline to make hotel reservations is August 8, 2008.** (To make hotel reservations, call 1-800-HILTONS and indicate that you will be attending “FDOH Coordinators Statewide Meeting”.) Please register at http://www.cms-kids.com/EarlySteps/SCstatewideMtg08_reg.htm.

Please note that previously it was stated that hotel reservations can be cancelled up to 72 hours before check-in. This is incorrect. **The deadline for canceling hotel reservations is 6 days before check-in.** Also, registrants are reporting that some confirmations from the hotel indicate a fee for parking. We have checked and have been reassured that there will be no parking fees for meeting participants. However, we are unable to do anything about the deposit that some registrants report being charged by the hotel.



Draft Agenda
7-15-08.doc

2008 Service Coordinator Statewide Meeting Networking Opportunity!!

There will be a breakfast for Service Coordination Workgroup participants on Wednesday, September 10, at the 2008 Service Coordinator Statewide Meeting. It will be at the Covington Mill restaurant at the hotel from 7:15am to 8:15am. Participants will have the choice of ordering off of the menu or the buffet and you will be expected to pay for your own meal. Anyone interested can attend. Please RSVP at Pam_Tempson@doh.state.fl.us by August 29, 2008.

For questions or additional information, please contact your Program Manager or Pam Tempson at Pam_Tempson@doh.state.fl.us. The draft agenda for the meeting is attached for your convenience.



Covington Mill
Menu.pdf (61 KB...)

Information / Resources:

NECTAC NEWS

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

Upcoming Training Opportunities & Conferences

2008 Symposium on Early Childhood Hearing Loss

Funding is again available for SHINE service coordinators and Hearing Specialists to attend the annual Symposium on Early Childhood Hearing Loss that will be held on September 25th - 27th, 2008. We would like to repeat the success we experienced in previous years in having them attend the Symposium and the annual SHINE meeting on the evening of Thursday September 25th. As in previous years, a pre-session will be held on Sept 25th followed by keynote speakers and concurrent sessions on Friday through lunchtime Saturday.

Grant funds will again be used to support:

- Paid registration to the Symposium on Early Childhood Hearing Loss
- Paid hotel at the Comfort Suites September 25th and 26th (Thursday and Friday nights) - 20 rooms have been reserved so that each Local Early Steps area will be guaranteed to have one hotel room set aside for SHINE

Individuals who receive this support are expected to:

- Attend the Symposium September 25th (12:30 - 4:30 pre-session), all day September 26th, and through lunchtime on September 27th; to be held at the World Golf Village, St. Augustine.
- Attend the SHINE meeting Thursday* September 25th (6:00 - 8:30) to be held at the Comfort Suites (it is required to attend the SHINE meeting if funding support for registration / hotel is provided)

Parent scholarships to attend the Symposium will be available once again. I will share the parent scholarship flyer and a detailed agenda as soon as they become available.

We will pay the registration for any SHINE service coordinator and/or Hearing Specialist who provides initial SHINE information to attend the Symposium.

Individuals who intend to go to the Symposium on September 25-27th using this support need to do the following:

1. complete the Symposium Notification Form and send it to Karen by fax or email **no later than September 8th.**
2. complete the special Symposium Registration form for SHINE and fax it to the Symposium planner, Chachie Joseph, at 904-829-9406 **no later than September 8th.**

Along with paid registration, grant funds will cover 2 nights of hotel. Travel or per diem costs will not be covered. There are only 20 rooms reserved ensuring that each LES will be able to again benefit from this support. It is expected that many of the rooms will be shared by service coordinators or service coordinator and hearing specialist teams.

Anyone who wants to book a room outside of our block of SHINE rooms please call the Comfort Suites directly at 904-940-9500. After the list is submitted to the hotel one of the guests staying in the room **will** need to call the hotel and finalize the room reservation (give them your credit card number to cover any incidental expenses only). In order to prevent huge confusion on the part of the hotel, please do not make those calls **until Sept 12th or after.** When you call in they will have a list of names and will be able to confirm your reservation appropriately. I will send a list out to all of those who I've registered for the Symposium and at the hotel 10 days before the conference.

The SHINE meeting time is very valuable! Please direct any questions to Karen Anderson at karen_anderson@doh.state.fl.us or 850-245-4444 x 2269.



Symp notification
form for SHINE folks :



registrationformSHIN
E08.doc