



ESSO WEEKLY MEMO

December 11, 2014

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General Updates:

1. Department of Health Logo

This is a reminder to check the forms you are currently using or have on file to make sure they contain the current Department of Health logo as shown below. If they do not, please change your publication so that it uses this logo by going to the attached document entitled "DOH logo". This includes all materials provided by the Early Steps State Office as well as local materials. Any forms provided by ESSO are also available with an updated logo on the Policy website at: [http://](http://www.floridahealth.gov/AlternateSites/CMS-Kids/home/resources/es_policy/es_Policy.html)

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2. Presentation Proposals for The 17th Annual Family Cafe Conference

The Family Cafe is now accepting presenter proposals for The 17th Annual Family Cafe, which will be held June 5-7, 2015, in Orlando. The Annual Family Cafe typically includes more than 160 individual breakout sessions, addressing a wide range of disability-related topics, from information on specific disabilities, to financial management, youth issues, special education and assistive technology. Proposals must be submitted by **December 19, 2014**. All proposals will be reviewed by The Family Cafe Planning Committee, which will notify presenters of their status after the New Year. You can submit your proposal by fax to 850-224-4674, by email to mcorbin@familycafe.net or by mail to The Family Cafe, 519 North Gadsden Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301. The Presentation Proposal Form is attached. For more information, visit: http://www.familycafe.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=199:17-afc-presenter-proposal-form&catid=31:the-annual-family-cafe&Itemid=63#sthash.X3ye7YiB.dpuf.

Medicaid Updates:

3. Medicaid Alerts and Questions

The Florida Medicaid program has 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. You will receive an email 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 at <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/alerts/alerts.shtml> to subscribe, unsubscribe, or update your subscription.

Information & Resources:

4. New Report on How Smart Investments Build Strong Systems for Young Children

http://www.zerotothree.org/policy/homevisiting/docs/ztt-homevisiting_final.pdf

In 2010 Congress established the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV) to support states and tribal entities in providing voluntary, evidence-based, home visiting services to at-risk families. A new report from the ZERO TO THREE Policy Center, [The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program: Smart Investments Build Strong Systems for Young Children](#) (2014), looks at how the MIECHV program is contributing to state efforts to build high-quality, comprehensive statewide early childhood systems.

5. QRIS and Inclusion: Do State QRIS Standards Support the Learning Needs of All Children?

http://ceelo.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/ceelo_fast_fact_qris_inclusion.pdf

The Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes (CEELO) has published a new fast fact, QRIS and Inclusion: Do State QRIS Standards Support the Learning Needs of All Children? (November 2014), which looks at how states accommodate children with special needs in their quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) and highlights states with exceptional inclusionary practices.

Information & Resources continued:

6. The Family Café Question and Answer Book

Every year at The Annual Family Café Conference, questions and comments are collected from attendees, shared with state agencies, and results in a publication.

This year's Question and Answer Book can be found at http://www.familycafe.net/images/stories/pdffiles/2014_qa_book_web.pdf and includes questions and answers from Early Steps.

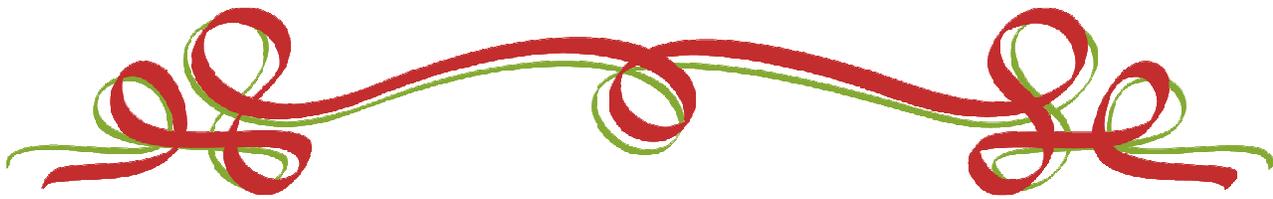
7. Recordings of Webinars re: Orientation to Early Steps January 1, 2015 Policy Updates

Attached are recordings of the webinars held in November 2014 which provided explanation of and orientation to Early Steps policy-related documents that will be updated effective January 1, 2015. Please direct any questions or requests for clarification to your program manager in the Early Steps State Office.

LES Spotlight:

The Newborn Screening Program recently recognized Southwest Florida, Central Florida, Western Panhandle and North Beaches Early Steps programs for enrolling children who are deaf or hard of hearing into early intervention services in a timely manner. These winners received a certificate of excellence and BabySigns™ board books. The data considered for selecting winners is the percentage of children enrolled who were referred and the average number of days it takes to develop the IFSP. Congratulations!





Program Manager Information

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