



ESSO WEEKLY MEMO – MARCH 24, 2011

IN THIS MEMO:

ACTION NEEDED

- 1. Presentation Proposals for the 2011 One Goal Summer Conference**
- 2. Autism Survey For Occupational Therapy Practitioners**
- 3. Request for Consent to Share Information Forms**

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- 4. Technical Assistance Paper: General Education Intervention Procedures, Child Find, and the Initial Provision of Exceptional Education Services to Eligible Students**
- 5. Medicaid HMO Training on Medical Necessity that Includes Part C**
- 6. Child Abuse Prevention Source Book for Florida School Personnel**
- 7. Parent Perspectives in Special Education**
- 8. New Medicaid Quality Improvement Organization**
- 9. NECTAC News**

UPCOMING TRAININGS, MEETINGS, CONFERENCES

- 10. Next AHCA Medicaid Therapies Forum**
- 11. SchoolsMovingUp Webinar**
- 12. Routines-Based Interview (RBI) Certification Institute**
- 13. Online Graduate Certificate Program in Positive Behavior Support**
- 14. Training Coordinator Conference Call**
- 15. 2011 Summer Conference – ONE GOAL: BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER “PUTTING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN FIRST”**
- 16. International Center on Deafness, the Arts and Education (ICODA) Webinars**

ACTION NEEDED

1. Presentation Proposals for the 2011 One Goal Summer Conference

The Department of Health is pleased to be a sponsor of the 2011 Summer Conference **ONE GOAL: BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER “PUTTING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN FIRST.”**

This year, the conference will be celebrating 25 years of bringing together early education and care providers and leaders from around the state. It is especially important that we all work together, to collaborate, and share how we can do more with less in our programs, practices, and techniques to improve the services and outcomes for all Florida’s young children.

The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency at Tampa City Center in Tampa, Florida on July 20-22, 2011. The conference will include general sessions, concurrent presentations, and exhibits of appropriate materials.

We would like to invite you and your staff to submit a proposal to present. An electronic version of the Presenter Proposal Form is located on the conference web site, <http://www.onegoalsummerconference.org>. The deadline for proposal submission is April 1, 2011. All proposals will be reviewed by the Planning Committee and the primary presenter noted on the proposal will be notified of acceptance or non-acceptance of the proposal. While multiple proposals are encouraged, we will only select one or, space allowing, a maximum of two.

As of this date, sponsors of the 2011 One Goal Summer Conference include:

- Creative Center for Childhood Research & Training (CCCRT)
- Association of Early Learning Coalitions
- Child Development & Education Alliance
- Children's Forum
- Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation/Office of Early Learning
- Florida Association of Infant Mental Health
- Florida Department of Children & Families
- Florida Department of Education
- Florida Department of Health
- Florida Family Child Care Home Association
- Florida Head Start Association
- Florida Head Start Collaboration Office
- Florida Institute of Education at University of North Florida
- Florida Parental Information & Resource Center at University of South Florida
- Nemours Brightstart!
- The Early Childhood Initiative Foundation
- Training & Technical Assistance Services at Western Kentucky University
- United Way of Florida

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. All presenters are responsible for making their own hotel reservations and any other expenses incurred.

For questions on the conference, please contact the Conference Coordinator, Frankie Allen at (850) 893-6270 or email: frankieallen_2000@yahoo.com.

2. Autism Survey For Occupational Therapy Practitioners

You are invited to complete a survey about autism screening and referral practices. This survey is a research project which is promoted through a partnership with the Center for Disease Control (CDC), AOTA, APTA and ASHA. The purpose of the survey is to learn more about autism-specific screening and referral practices by occupational therapists. An additional goal is to identify the challenges or barriers that prevent occupational therapists from completing screenings. The survey should take no longer than 10-15 minutes to complete.

Occupational Therapy Practitioners are invited to complete the survey because of your service and work with young children and their families. Our long term goal is to develop trainings that increase the likelihood that occupational therapists will conduct screenings. To access the survey, please go to the following link:
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/aota>

DEADLINE TO COMPLETE: JUNE 1, 2011

Sandra Schefkind, MS, OTR/L
Pediatric Coordinator
American Occupational Therapy Association
4720 Montgomery Lane
P.O. Box 31220
Bethesda, Maryland 20824-3425
Phone: 301-652-6611 ext.2000
Fax: 301-652-7711
sschefkind@aota.org

Occupational Therapy: Living Life To Its Fullest™
Join conversations and make connections on Website <<http://www.aota.org/>> |
OTConnections <<http://otconnections.aota.org/>> | Facebook
<<http://www.facebook.com/pages/American-Occupational-Therapy-Association/24139318016>> | Twitter <<http://twitter.com/aotainc>> |

Upcoming Events:
Student Conclave <<http://www.aota.org/ConfandEvents/Conclave2010.aspx>> |
Specialty Conference-Autism <<http://www.aota.org/ConfandEvents/Autism.aspx>> |
Annual Conference <<http://www.aota.org/ConfandEvents/2011-Conference.aspx>>
& Expo

3. Request for Consent to Share Information Forms

The Children's Medical Services General Counsel is working on consent to share information issues related to the Third Party Administrator (TPA) system and is requesting to see each Local Early Steps form used to get parental consent to share personally identifiable information with other entities. The General Counsel will be using these to create a template form for use when the TPA becomes active. Please send your form(s) to David Johnson by **COB March 31**, at David_Johnson3@doh.state.fl.us.

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

4. Technical Assistance Paper: General Education Intervention Procedures, Child Find, and the Initial Provision of Exceptional Education Services to Eligible Students (With 1 Attachment)

The Department of Education has issued a technical assistance paper (TAP) to provide guidance to school districts fulfilling the child find obligations related to identification, evaluation and reevaluation of students suspected of having disabilities or giftedness, and the initial provision of exceptional education services to eligible students. The TAP describes the problem-solving/response to intervention (PS/RtI) framework to address the varying academic and behavioral needs of students. It is based on the requirements of Rule 6A-6.0331, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), *General Education Intervention Procedures, Child Find, and the Initial Provision of Exceptional Education Services to Eligible Students*.

The TAP may be viewed at: <http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6017/dps-2011-04.pdf>.

Sections A, D, E5, E7 E9, E13 and F might be of particular interest to Early Steps stakeholders.

5. Medicaid HMO Training on Medical Necessity that Includes Part C

The Agency for Health Care Administration recently posted the following PowerPoint presentations that were directed to Medicaid HMOs regarding Therapies (including good explanations for children in Part C) and Medical Necessity. These are good references for your IFSP teams.

Therapies

http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/deputy_secretary/recent_presentations/Managed_Care_Therapy_Training_02-22-11.pdf

EPSDT

http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/deputy_secretary/recent_presentations/EPSDT_Medical_necessity_outline.pdf

6. Child Abuse Prevention Source Book for Florida School Personnel: A Tool for Reporting Abuse and Supporting the Child

The Department of Education has issued the following memorandum regarding the Child Abuse Prevention Source Book for Florida School Personnel: A Tool for Reporting Abuse and Supporting the Child. The memorandum may be viewed at: <http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6022/dps-2011-33.pdf>.

7. Parent Perspectives in Special Education

The Outreach Services of the Blind/Visually Impaired and Deaf/Hard of Hearing (OSBD) now has a blog from a parent's perspective. The blog is designed to talk about issues in raising and educating a child with special needs. You can access the blog online at: <http://www.eseparents.blogspot.com/>. You can also visit the OSBD website at [Outreach Services for Blind/Visually Impaired and Deaf/Hard of Hearing](#), which offers assistance to Florida's school districts and to parents of students who are deaf/hard of hearing and blind/visually impaired.

- Link: <http://www.eseparents.blogspot.com/>
- Link: http://www.fsdb.k12.fl.us/outreach/small-and-rural-district-support/http://www.eseparents.blogspot.com/http://www.interpreterproject.org/documents/flyer2010_11.pdf

8. New Medicaid Quality Improvement Organization

The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) has entered into a contract with eQHealth Solutions, Inc. for utilization management, including prior authorization of the following Medicaid services:

- Inpatient Medical and Surgical Services
- Home Health Services
- Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care (PPEC) Services
- Therapy Services

The primary purpose of the utilization management program is to safeguard against the provision of unnecessary medical services or inappropriate use of Medicaid services and to ensure appropriate care. Please visit <http://fl.eqhs.org> for more information about eQHealth Solutions.

The Agency will provide periodic updates through the Florida Medicaid Web portal, provider bulletins, provider notification letters, and Medicaid Health Care Alerts.

9. NECTAC News

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

UPCOMING TRAININGS, MEETINGS, CONFERENCES

10. Next AHCA Medicaid Therapies Forum Friday, 3/25/11 - 9 a.m. in Tallahassee

Information about this Forum, agenda, and other therapy related updates, can be found at the following website:

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

11. SchoolsMovingUp Webinar

Don't miss this upcoming SchoolsMovingUp webinar!

[Enhancing Infant and Toddler Care through Reflective Practice, Part IV](#)

Wednesday, April 6

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time (1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

In this final webinar of the "Enhancing Infant and Toddler Care through Reflective Practice" series, Ellen Hall, Executive Director at Boulder Journey School, and Mary Jane McGuire-Fong, Professor at American River College, will discuss the value of a reflective curriculum process in planning learning opportunities for infants and toddlers.

To sign up for this webinar, please visit

<http://www.schoolsmovingup.net/webinars/itc4>

12. Routines-Based Interview (RBI) Certification Institute

The **Routines-Based Interview (RBI) Certification Institute** is being held to prepare and certify professionals to conduct this interview, demonstrate it, and train others in the use of it. The RBI is designed as a family-centered method of arriving at functional outcomes/goals for the IFSP or IEP. This year, the Institute is addressing both Part C and 619. In the latter, the role of the classroom teacher, for a child already in a classroom, is enhanced in the assessment of the child's functioning. Please encourage professionals from your area to apply for one of the **21 slots** in this year's Institute, which will be **held in Chattanooga, TN, July 18-22, 2011**. Deadline for applications is **April 1, 2011**. See <http://www.siskin.org/rbi>.

If you have questions, address them to [Amy Casey](#).

13. Online Graduate Certificate Program in Positive Behavior Support (With 1 Attachment)

The Department of Child and Family Studies at the University of South Florida (USF) enthusiastically announces, beginning in Spring of 2011, a new online graduate certificate program in Positive Behavior Support.

This certificate program offers an evidence based approach to resolving challenging and supporting pro-social behavior in children and youth within schools and early education settings. Courses include Intensive Individualized Positive Behavior Support, Consultation and Collaboration, Addressing Challenging Behaviors in Young Children, and School-Wide Positive Behavior Support taught by nationally known researchers in Positive Behavior Support (Drs. Bobbie Vaughn, Lise Fox, Don Kincaid, Heather George, and Kwang-Sun Blair). For more information on the program, please visit <http://pbs.cbcs.usf.edu/>.

- Link: <http://pbs.cbcs.usf.edu/>
- Filename: Positive Behavior Support Certificate Online Program.pdf

14. Training Coordinator Conference Call (With 1 Attachment)

There is an attachment that includes the minutes from the Training Coordinator conference call that was held on March 15, 2011. The next call is scheduled for April 19th from 1:00 - 2:30. The conference call number is 1-888-808-6959 and the code is 6254120367.

15. 2011 Summer Conference - ONE GOAL: BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER "PUTTING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN FIRST"

Hyatt Regency at Tampa City Center
Tampa, Florida
July 20-22, 2011
Save the Date!!!

**16. International Center on Deafness, the Arts and Education
(ICODA) Webinars
(With 1 Attachment)**

Individuals involved in the field of deafness are keenly aware of the change in the population of children who are deaf and hard of hearing due to the increase in the number of children with hearing loss and additional disorders such as: autism, cognitive delay, processing disorders, executive function disorders, learning disabilities and emotional and behavioral problems. However, many professionals serving children who are deaf and hard of hearing are puzzled by the complexity of these problems and this series has been initiated for them.

This is an introductory series of four webinars which will lay the ground work for the continuing series which will deal with such disorders in depth. Attached is a flyer that provides further details and information on how to register at, ICODAARTS.org.

To be included on the permanent email list in order to receive future notices of the webinars, special events and news go to, ICODAARTS.org/signup.