



WEEKLY UPDATE – OCTOBER 24, 2008

ACTION NEEDED

CONTACTS FOR LOCAL EARLY STEPS CONTRACTS

ESSO recently received concerns and questions from a LES agency administrator regarding the contract amendment that changed the Method of Payment. The administrator was not aware of the amendment until it came to their office for execution and they were concerned that there was no communication to them about the amendment or a chance to provide input. To ensure communication to appropriate individuals about contract changes, and input on the decisions, we need to add contact persons to our distribution list when relaying contract information. **By October 31 we are requesting that ALL LES please send Kelly Johnson (Kelly_Johnson2@doh.state.fl.us) the name of the person in your agency that would be most appropriate** to receive communication about contract issues, changes, or upcoming amendments.

NATIONAL SURVEY REQUEST

Please submit your information by October 31st!

The National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM) is a resource and technical assistance center funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau to promote early detection of hearing loss. NCHAM is asking for our help in understanding how hearing screening occurs within the Part C system. They are collecting this information to provide an overall picture of how hearing screening occurs in Part C Early Intervention systems, highlighting our hard work as well as the challenges we face.

The state office has responded to a state-level survey. NCHAM has also asked for information to be submitted from each of the local Early Steps. As information about hearing assessment is not a part of routine QA it is really the local Early Steps information that will provide the most accurate picture of how hearing concerns are identified in children referred to Early Steps. **We strongly encourage you to complete this 5-10 minute survey.**

Local Early Steps Directors can find the online survey at:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s/71048/partcprogramsurvey>. The resulting report by NCHAM will not include identifying information for specific programs, nor will it share any personal information.

Please **complete the program level survey by October 31st.**

You're encouraged to contact Diane Behl from NCHAM at 1-435-797-1224 or diane.behl@usu.edu if you have any questions or concerns about this request.

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

NEW CONTRACT PAYMENT METHODOLOGY INVOICE HELPFUL HINTS

Back by popular demand! The Helpful Hints document to guide you in creating your monthly invoice packets for the contract is attached.

COME CHILDREN, SING! ONLINE MUSIC CLASSES FOR INFANTS, BABIES, AND TODDLERS

The Come Children Sing Institute is offering free gift certificates for Come Children, Sing! Online Music Classes for infants, babies and toddlers with special needs. The \$35 gift certificate will provide one 10-week Online Music Class. Request a free gift certificate for your child by sending an email to ccs.online@comechildrensing.com. Mention this email and that you have a child with special needs. Your gift certificate will be sent via email and you can start the Online Music Class at any time.

Come Children, Sing! is a developmental music program that makes learning music as natural as learning language. You can now engage with your little one in music classes online, in your own home and on your own schedule, whatever your musical background, and whatever the developmental level of your child. MP3 files, music activities, and parent tips are all provided online, and you can make Come Children, Sing! portable with an iPod or CD. View Sample Lessons at www.comechildrensing.com. Listen to the Free Audio Presentation, "Parenting Music," at www.comechildrensing.com. Discover the wonder of your little child's musical talent and the kind of activities that most serve musical growth and development.

For further information about Come Children, Sing! Online Music Classes for infants, babies and toddlers, go to www.comechildrensing.com.

NECTAC NEWS

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