

Agency Spotlight

Children's Friend

Director Natalie Redfearn and her supervisors praised their staff for.....

"supporting families in learning how to zoom, and other means of technology, providing families with tablets, toys, emergency diaper and food supplies, etc. in order to help them stay engaged despite the many barriers families were facing."

Working "together to do joint transition visits (when possible) so families were comfortable"

Pulling "together as a team to ensure that all needs of families are individualized and have been met"

"learning how to work remotely, using electronic forms (instead of paper copies) and coaching families virtually."

Do you have a program, staff member or co-worker you would like to highlight? Let us know at jsanchez@ric.edu

Coaching Tips

How to Engage Parents in Telehealth

Today's Early Intervention visits look a lot different than what they did pre-COVID. Attempting to engage parents in visits can often require some out of the box thinking.

Remember...*"You are not trying to engage an infant or toddler on video for 45-60 minutes during your virtual visit....When we step back and let our anxiety about tele-intervention settle, it's easier to realize that there is very little chance of a 2-year old interacting with you on video for more than a moment or two - and that's okay. You can still do early intervention without that interaction when you focus on engaging the parent (or other caregiver) who will then engage the child."*

For more on how to Engage Parents in Telehealth sessions, visit <https://www.veipd.org/earlyintervention/2020/04/14/10-strategies-for-engaging-parents-not-children-during-tele-intervention/>

Practice-Based Coaching

How can I use this in my EI visits with family's? Practice-based coaching can be used with family's by implementing the following elements;

- Collaborative partnership- *"established between the coach and the coachee where partners work together to set coaching goals and identify action steps."*
- Goal setting and action planning- *"An action plan guides coaching activities"*
- Focused Observation- *"provides an opportunity to gain information about the implementation of the practice"*
- Reflection and Feedback- *"After the focused observation is concluded, the coachee is asked to reflect on practice implementation"*

For more info on Practice-Based Coaching, visit; <https://ectacenter.org/~calls/2017/learninglab-supporting.asp>

Early Intervention FAQs



Photo Source: https://veipd.org/main/sub_coaching.html

More information on transition and other EI FAQs can be found on the Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities website <http://www.ric.edu/sherlockcenter/ei.html>

What should I do if the LEA is unable to attend the transition conference?

EI should make every effort to work with the LEA and the family to set up a mutually agreed upon time to hold the Transition Conference.

The purpose of this meeting is to begin the development of a plan to support the child and family as they leave Early Intervention. If, for any reason, an LEA is unable to attend the Conference, the Early Interventionist must still hold the Conference in the child's 30th month.

Remember, the Conference is an IFSP meeting, so prior written notice must be provided before scheduling and holding the Conference with the family. The family may choose to postpone the meeting until the LEA is available. In this case, the parent's choice to postpone must be well documented by the EI provider.

If the LEA is not able to attend the Transition Conference, EI must review certain information with the family. This includes:

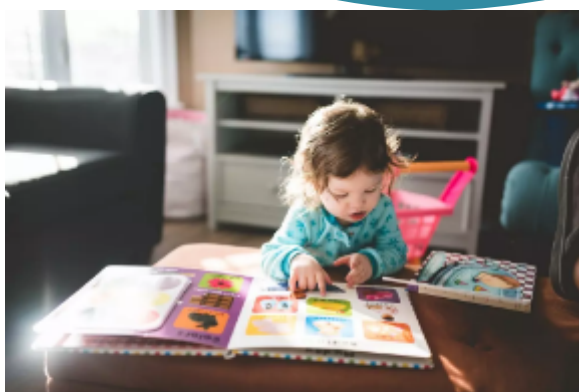
- A description of Preschool Special Education (Part B) eligibility definitions.
- The timelines for consenting to Part B eligibility determination.
- The availability of special education and related services.
- The timelines and process for consenting to an evaluation and conducting eligibility determinations for Part B.
- RI Special Education Procedural Safeguards
- District Special Education Parent Advisory Committee Contact Information

Resources

Feeling exhausted after being on zoom visits all day?

Zoom fatigue is a real thing! This article provides tips on how to make zoom calls less tiresome.

<https://hbr.org/2020/04/how-to-combat-zoom-fatigue>



Eligibility Determination During Stay-at-Home Orders

Photos from Unsplash How can children with suspected delays be deemed eligible for Part C

"This post discusses our opportunities to focus our concept of early intervention on needs and prevention rather than on deficits and intervention".

<https://naturalenvironments.blogspot.com/search/label/early%20intervention?m=0>



How to Combat Zoom Fatigue

Five research-based tips.