

The UPDATE

News and Information for Massachusetts EI Providers

September 2016



Important Dates...Mark your Calendar!

September 27, 2016; 10am—11am: Monthly webinar; Overview of the Approved Changes to the EI Eligibility Factors

September 29, 2016; 9am—4pm: ICC Retreat; Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough
Topic: Systems of Change within the Context of Core Values; **Keynote:** Mary Beth Bruder, Director of University of Connecticut, A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service



Please be sure to check out Resources & Trainings:

[Pre RFR Memo to EI Community](#)

[Call for Presenters! Early Education Quality Conference](#)

[Zika Virus Fact Sheets: English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Haitian Creole](#)

[Show Your Friend: Family Version; EI Version; ECE Version; ECE Professionals Version](#)

Welcome New Program Directors

Isabella Iemma, MSW, LICSW has joined *Thom Child and Family Services as Neponset Valley Early Intervention* Program Director. She assumed the role in June 2016 and came to the position with over 18 years of experience in the field of early childhood mental health. Prior to her work with Thom Child and Family Services, Isabella has had the opportunity to work in various clinical and educational settings serving young children and their families across Rhode Island and Massachusetts including early intervention, psychiatric and medical hospitals, early care and education, Head Start and community mental health centers. Her work experiences have provided opportunities to serve young children and families across multiple service levels including promotion, prevention and intervention service levels. Isabella has a particular passion for reflective practice and infant mental health practice in early intervention. She is excited to be joining the Massachusetts Early Intervention community and continuing to support young children and their families in Neponset Valley! Please join us in welcoming Isabella to her new role!

Elizabeth Rieth is the new Program Director of *South Bay Community Services, Early Childhood – Framingham*. Liz has a background in physical therapy as well as extensive experience with children, especially in the birth to three age range, performing direct services and evaluations. She has also held leadership positions, such as Clinical Supervisor and Director of Youth Services, for about 10 years in programs in Indiana and New York. She attended Boston-Bouvé College at Northeastern University. Please join us in welcoming Liz to her new role!

Cape Cod Child Development Program (CCCD) is pleased to announce the hiring of a new Director of Early Intervention – **Linda Stiles**. Linda joins CCCD with thirty years of experience in Speech Language Pathology and Early Intervention services throughout CT and NY. She is a Licensed Speech-Language Pathologist and holds an M.S. in Education/Communication Disorders from The College of St. Rose in Albany, NY. Her most recent position was for the Albany County Department of Children, Youth and Families, where she was the Single Point of Entry Coordinator providing leadership for family advocacy on all types of family challenges. Prior to that role, she was the Early Intervention Official/Preschool Special Needs Coordinator for the Schoharie County Department of Health eight years. She has also held numerous roles as a Preschool Special Needs Coordinator and Speech Language Pathologist over the course of her career. Linda brings a wealth of experience to our team and will be starting on September 13. Please join us in welcoming Linda to her new role!

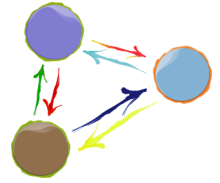
DPH Updates

Quick Reminder

Sue Murray's last name changed to Grossman this summer (Congratulations Mrs. Grossman!). Please be sure to change your contact information for her email addresses; Secure Mail & Interchange, to susan.grossman@state.ma.us and/or SecureMail: susan.grossman@eohhs-sfed.state.ma.us. We are not certain how long her emails will continue to be forwarded.

Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) Retreat and Link to RSVP

On Thursday, September 29th, the ICC Retreat will be held at the **Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel & Conference Center in Marlborough, MA**. Click [here](#) to view the agenda. Please **RSVP by Friday, September 23rd**, as lunch will be served and we want to be sure there is enough seating at <https://goo.gl/forms/qD18OTp7nsKzbiKR2>.



New Web-based Data System

Attached you will find a [memo](#) to providers that gives an update on the status of the planned EIIS/Fiscal data system.

If you have additional questions or comments about this project, please contact Noah Feldman at noah.feldman@state.ma.us or (617) 624-5532.

WIP Group: New Web-based Data System Stakeholder Group

We are re-convening the "WIP" (Web-system In Progress) stakeholder group on **Wednesday September 28th at 10-11:30 am at Criterion Valley EIP, 375 Fortune Boulevard Milford, MA**.

The WIP members have been actively learning about the planned system's functionality and providing the state with valuable insights and recommendations. One of the most critical issues and concerns identified through these discussions is the impact of the federal Electronic Health Record (EHR) mandate to identify ways to link the new EI system with current and future EHRs.

We will meet as a large group to review the status of the system planning. Following this meeting we will begin the next phase of WIP meetings. These will consist of more break-out sessions for specific areas (e.g., clinical, fiscal, technical) so that members have an appropriate forum to discuss topical issues and to hear all perspectives.

Please feel free to forward this invitation to appropriate people in your agency. Please contact Noah Feldman, Director of Program Planning and Professional Development for Early Intervention, at noah.feldman@state.ma.us or (617) 624-5532.

September is Emergency Preparedness Month!



Get Ready, Be Informed, Plan Ahead, Be Prepared. Given the daily challenges many families face, emergency preparedness is not first and foremost on their minds. Lack of preparedness can make things worse. For all of us. For resources to help families create their Emergency Preparedness Plan, visit www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/emergency-prep/personal-prep/.

The link below is to the Health Promotion Clearinghouse where you can order brochures and tote bags (limited supply)! massclearinghouse.ehs.state.ma.us/

Resource: Parenting Tip Sheets in 14 Languages!

"[Welcome Here](#)" is a website that hosts an excellent collection of [parenting tip sheets](#) – 10 in all, that are available in 14 languages with English as the second page for each. Please feel free to share widely with families and community members, too.



Announcing Registration for Pyramid Model Learning Communities in 3 Regions

Developing systems to support the social emotional well-being for young children and their families in your region. **Join us for a gathering of practitioners across the early childhood system, focusing on the use of The Pyramid Model. Participants will have the chance to explore resources, share lessons learned, and connect with a variety of community programs.**

Cost: There is no cost to participants; the Pyramid Model Learning Community is supported by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Project LAUNCH with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Dates and Locations and specific registration links:

Boston, September 20th 10am-12pm

Wheelock, 43 Hawes Street, Brookline, MA 02446

Boston REGISTRATION LINK: <https://connectedbeginnings.tfaforms.net/121>

Springfield, September 23rd 10am-12pm

Springfield EEC Office, 1441 Main Street, Suite 230, Springfield, MA 01103

Springfield REGISTRATION LINK: <https://connectedbeginnings.tfaforms.net/120>

Worcester, September 27th 9:30am-11:30am

Worcester Public Library, Saxe Room, Main Branch

3 Salem Square, Worcester, MA 01608

Worcester REGISTRATION LINK: <https://connectedbeginnings.tfaforms.net/119>

Interested in attending, but can't make the date? Email Catherine Wakely at cwakely@wheelock.edu to learn about future Pyramid Model events.

Check out the latest offering from the CDC's "Learn the Signs. Act Early" Program

Milestones in Action is a FREE library of photos and videos of developmental milestones.

Using *Milestones in Action*:

Parents and Caregivers

Click on an age above to see photo and video examples of important developmental milestones. Use this library as an aid in completing the milestones checklist for your child's age. To see these photos and videos with milestones checklists, go to www.cdc.gov/Milestones.

Professionals

No permissions are needed to use the photos and images in this library for educational or awareness-building purposes.

- Embed and share photos and videos on your website and within presentations
- Share photos and videos to support information given during trainings
- Use *Milestones in Action* to support observations and conversations with parents on age-appropriate milestones
- Share photos and videos on social media to build community awareness of developmental milestones

To access the CDC Milestones in Action on their website and see instructions on how to embed the link onto your agency's website click on: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/milestones-in-action.html>

"Moms' Mental Health Matters"

Institute for Health & Recovery (IHR) recently became aware of a resource that EI staff may find useful. [Moms' Mental Health Matters](http://www.healthrecovery.org) is a new initiative to raise awareness among pregnant and postpartum mothers, their families, and health care providers about depression and anxiety during pregnancy and after the baby is born. Free education materials, which include posters and action plans are available in English and Spanish. As always, please contact Karen Gould at karen-gould@healthrecovery.org or Karen Welling at karenwelling@healthrecovery.org for training or technical assistance. We are happy to provide what you need, where you need it, at a time and format that works for you.



NCSEAM Family Survey Update

Don't forget, **October is NCSEAM Family Survey month**. All programs should have received a shipment of surveys, cover flyers and stamped, self-addressed envelopes from Scantron the third week in August. If by any chance you did not receive your new surveys, please let either [Suzanne Gottlieb](#) or [Patti Fougere](#) know as soon as possible.

Based on feedback from our stakeholders group, the cover flyer has been redesigned. We hope that this new flyer will help service coordinators and families better understand the reasons for completing a Family Survey, where to look for assistance if needed and the options for returning it.

As a reminder, families can choose to put the Survey into the envelope provided and then mail it themselves or they can seal the envelope, initial it and give it to their service coordinator to mail.

Service coordinators will distribute the Survey to all families whose children have been enrolled for at least six months and who were not given a Survey last March. Families are asked to complete a Survey once per calendar year.

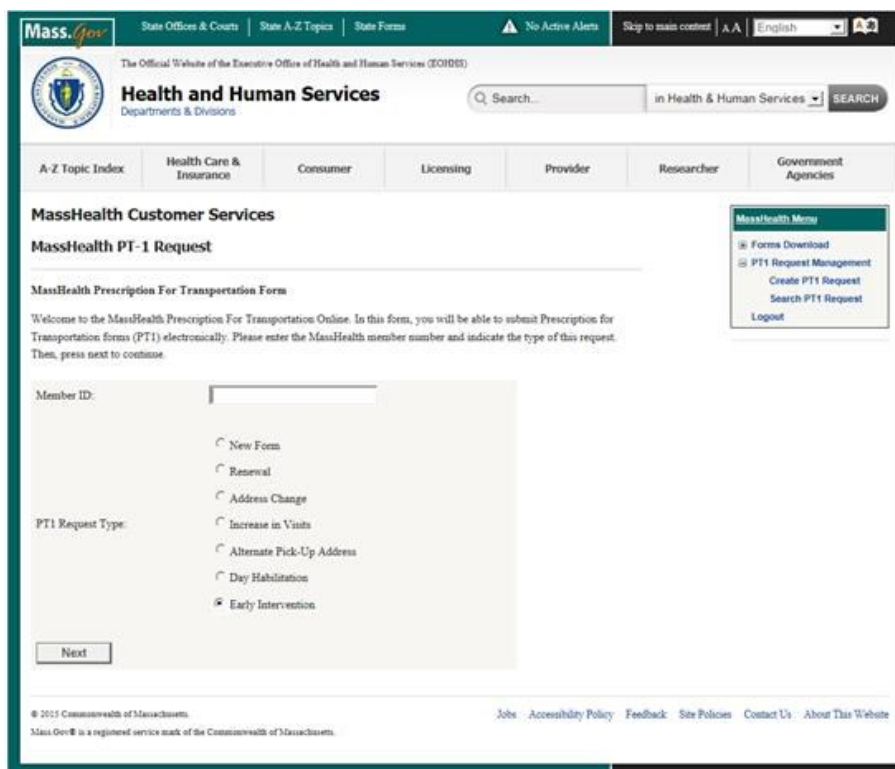
Lists of children/families eligible to receive a Survey will be coming from DPH via Secure mail during the week of September 19.

Transportation Update

Based on feedback the Department has received from the transportation brokers as well as the staff at MAXIMUS, there are situations where the local EI programs submitting PT-I forms aren't given the ability to prescribe up to 3 years.

Please remember that EI programs should be selecting the Early Intervention selection shown below, and not "New Form?"

Selecting the Early Intervention button is required and will open up all the CWP functionality that will support the 3 years duration, etc. Selecting "New Form" will only provide the submitter with standard 12 month duration that PT-1 forms.



The screenshot shows the MassHealth PT-1 Request form on the Mass.gov website. The page header includes the Mass.gov logo, navigation links for State Offices & Courts, State A-Z Topics, and State Forms, along with a search bar and language options. The main content area is titled "MassHealth Customer Services" and "MassHealth PT-1 Request". Below this, there is a section for "MassHealth Prescription For Transportation Form" with a welcome message and instructions. The form fields include "Member ID:" with a text input box, and "PT1 Request Type:" with a list of radio button options: "New Form", "Renewal", "Address Change", "Increase in Visits", "Alternate Pick-Up Address", "Day Habilitation", and "Early Intervention" (which is selected). A "Next" button is located at the bottom of the form. The footer contains copyright information for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and links for Jobs, Accessibility Policy, Feedback, Site Policies, Contact Us, and About This Website.

Family TIES Update

Family TIES Project Director, Mary Summers has left the program after 13 years. Family TIES is our statewide information and referral, and Parent-to-Parent network for families whose children have special health needs and their providers.

We will miss Mary very much and are very proud of the wonderful work she has done supporting families and providers, and helping to make Family TIES into a robust and comprehensive state and national model. Mary will be working at the Franciscan Hospital for Children and has promised to stay in touch and continue to share her expertise as needed.

We will let you know as soon as a new director is hired.

Zika Virus Resources

Please see the attached fact sheets related to the Zika virus and share with families enrolled in your program. These flyers are available in [English](#), [Portuguese](#), [Spanish](#), [French](#) and [Haitian Creole](#).

Data Manager Updates

FY 2017 Error Reports

Additional error types will be included in the fiscal year 2017 monthly error reports. Program Directors should use these error reports to identify processes that may need to be improved, in order to provide more timely and accurate data reporting. Some of the new validations to be added to these reports include the following:

- Date of Notification comes before or after another service date (e.g., 1st IFSP Meeting Date)
- Date Deemed Inactive comes before another service date (e.g., Evaluation Date)
- Child is over 3 and still receiving services



What can the Service Coordinator do to make the collection of the Annual Gross Family Income more comfortable for families?

DPH has created a draft version of an income grid to be used by clinicians as a tool to gather a family's income. It is designed to make reporting income by a family more anonymous and less uncomfortable for both the clinician and the family. Several EI programs reviewed this grid and provided valuable feedback to the Department. If you are interested in reviewing this revised income grid, please email Jean Shimer at jean.shimer@state.ma.us.

Current EIIS

EI program input needed. The current EIIS Referral Form has optional fields for 'FAMILY CONTACTS' that includes four spots for contact information of family members of the child. DPH is considering deleting these fields from EIIS. Please contact Linda Mosesso with any concerns about this potential change at: linda.mosesso@massmail.state.ma.us.

Specialty Services Updates

Autism Billing Changes and Implementation

The DPH continues to share regular updates with the field regarding information we receive from MassHealth and the commercial insurers as to guidance and billing requirements for Specialty Services for Autism. Progress has been made along many fronts, but a number of questions still remain unanswered. The DPH has made this a priority and is committed to disseminating information as soon as it is received. Once all information has been confirmed, the DPH will issue a comprehensive guidance document to the entire field, both EIPs and SSPs.

The DPH would like to thank participants from both EI and SSP agencies for their assistance in reviewing documents and sharing best practices. This continued collaborative effort will be a key to the successful full implementation of these new policies.

We encourage both EIPs and SSPs to continue to submit questions about any aspect of the billing changes. This information will help to insure that the final guidance document is complete and thorough. Please send questions to Joan Rafferty at joan.rafferty@state.ma.us.

RITA-T – A New Level 2 Autism Screening Tool

Roula N. Choueiri, MD, a pediatrician at UMass Medical School, has developed a rapid intervention screening test for autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in toddlers, designed to improve early identification and access to treatment.

As part of the implementation plan, Dr. Choueiri has collaborated with staff members of the Thom Worcester EI Program.



"We have been developing and studying a level 2 interactive autism screening test in toddlers the Rapid Interactive screening Test for Autism in Toddlers (RITA-T). Our aim is to develop a clinically valid interactive level 2 screening assessment for autism spectrum disorders (ASD) in toddlers that is brief, easily administered, and scored by clinicians."

We have developed the training for the RITA-T and developed its standardization, and validation with ASD-specific diagnostic instruments. The RITA-T can be administered and scored in 10 minutes and includes 7 items for 9 presses; a manual is also available.

We studied the validity of the RITA-T to distinguish between toddlers with ASD

from toddlers with developmental delay (DD)/non-ASD and the test's performance in toddlers with no developmental concerns. We identified a cutoff score based on sensitivity, specificity, and positive predictive value of the RITA-T that best differentiates between ASD and DD/non-ASD.

At a cutoff score of >14, the RITA-T had a sensitivity of 1.00, specificity of 0.84, and positive predictive value of 0.88 for identifying ASD risk in a high-risk group. The training for the RITA-T is 3-4 hours long and leads to reliability of administration and scoring. Training consists of reviewing the RITA-T items, administration and scoring of each item, the review of videos together than the review and scoring of videos.

As the MCHAT-R/F alone has a high rate of false positive results, we have been collaborating with Early Intervention programs to test a new screening model that would include MCHAT and RITA-T as both Level 1 and Level 2 and this has yielded a better and fastest recognition of ASD.

The RITA-T is a promising new level 2 interactive screening tool for improving the early identification of ASD in toddlers in general pediatric and early intervention settings and allowing access to treatment."

To expand the collaboration with Early Intervention Programs in Central Massachusetts, Dr. Choueiri has been working with Joan Rafferty at DPH to identify EI practitioners who may be interested in learning more about the RITA-T administration and receiving training. Please share this information with program staff and send the names of any staff interested in attending a training to Joan Rafferty at joan.rafferty@state.ma.us.

For additional information and a short video about Dr. Choueiri's work, check out the links below:

<http://www.umassmed.edu/AutismRITA-T/>

<http://www.umassmed.edu/news/news-archives/2015/07/umms-pediatrician-develops-improved-rapid-screening-test-for-autism-in-toddlers/>



EITC Updates



Foundations of MA EI (Part 1): Partnering with Families throughout the IFSP Process

The first *Foundations of MA EI (Part 1): Partnering with Families throughout the IFSP Process* Workshop is on September 28, 2016. This is the **NEW** Part I of the required EI orientation for new staff and has been **adapted** from the Embedding the Key Principles into the IFSP process training that was completed at EI programs between January 2016-June 2016. If you have staff that attended Embedding the Key Principles into the IFSP Process at your program, they **DO NOT** have to attend Foundations of MA EI: Part I.

Registration for ALL workshops and on-line trainings offered by the EI Training Center is at: www.eitrainingcenter.org

Shishmanian Fellowship—Promoting Positive Peer Interactions in Very Young Children has a Big Impact on Future School Success

Denise Galford-Koeppel used her 2015-1016 Eunice Shishmanian Fellowship award to create materials, promoting positive peer interactions, for families and early childhood practitioners. These materials are available for families, early intervention practitioners, and early childhood professionals.

Opportunities for healthy peer relationships are essential to helping young children prepare to become successful students and citizens. Research has shown that children who experience more negative peer interactions during childcare experiences in early childhood, later show difficulties with school performance in the 3rd grade (NICHD Early Child Care and Youth Development Research Network, 2008). We have the opportunity to move young children with disabilities forward in readiness for school success, by raising awareness of the importance of implementing strategies that support peer social competence in all natural environments, including for very young children.

The National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study (NEILS) study indicated that parents of 25% of children who had been enrolled in EI, reported that their child had trouble playing with other children in early elementary school (Hebbler et al., 2007). Their children had fewer invitations to play at another child's house than other children in kindergarten who did not have Individual Education Plans (IEPs). Families want to have their children find success with peers and to make friends (Guralnick, 2001). Families can use education about the development of peer interaction skills, in order to make decisions about their child's needs, in the area of social development.

Ways that MA early intervention programs used of the "Show Your Friend" materials:

- Provided as part of new staff orientation
- Trained staff to consider suggesting peer interaction skills as an outcome on the IFSP
- Utilized content as strategies on IFSP's
- Create specific goals and strategies in community playgroups
- Presented as part of parent groups and parent-child groups
- Incorporated as in-service training on social-emotional development

The ultimate goal is for families to see their children demonstrate improved skills with peers in their daily experiences, that will best prepare them for future school success. Promoting positive peer interaction is a no-cost, preventative intervention.

Directors and others can access the materials at the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B6QreUfXYVxOYXpBU1dXXzAxNUU>

Comments, contributions or feedback, please contact:

Patti Fougere

Patti.fougere@state.ma.us

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TO: Early Intervention Executive and Program Directors

RE: Procurement for Replacement of EIS Client and Fiscal Data Systems

FROM: Ron Benham, Director of Bureau of Family Health & Nutrition

DATE: September 12, 2016

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health Early Intervention Program is in the process of procuring a replacement of the existing Early Intervention Information System (EIS) and the Early Intervention Service Delivery and Fiscal System (Fiscal System). The state is planning to issue a procurement document, Request for Response (RFR), in the Fall 2016.

DPH is focused on updating the program technology in a way that supports all Early Intervention programs and acknowledges the different program sizes and access to resources based on parent agency. The new EI data system will provide two ways of client and service data collection and transfer. EI providers will have the ability to either (1) enter all client and service data directly into EIS, and download this data to their own Practice Management System (PMS), Billing System or Electronic Health Record (EHR), or (2) upload all client and service data into EIS from their own system. If data is transferred into EIS then it must meet all EI operational business rules. EI providers will be allowed to choose which data collection and transfer method they want to implement in order to most efficiently integrate their own data and billing systems with EIS. Based on provider feedback, the state intends to offer download and upload options of all client and service data, however the actual system will depend on the vendor offering.

The new system procurement is the culmination of over two years of planning efforts, including comprehensive diagnostic evaluation of existing systems and processes, review of other state systems, and ongoing stakeholder engagement. The state followed best practices for the requirements gathering and procurement document creation following national models for such efforts, e.g., the Office of Special Education (OSEP) and the Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems (DaSy), <http://dasycenter.org/resources/dasy-framework/>. However, the most important principle is to procure a solution that meets the diverse needs of all providers within our available budget.

The project vision is to implement a comprehensive, integrated web-based data system that will support a full spectrum of Federal and State specified activities and leverages the functionality that is increasingly common in EI systems.

The new EIS will improve data quality and clinical workflow with several key features:

- Full documentation of the participant life-cycle from referral to transition contained in a single data system. The system will meet requirements to be the system of record for the program and a critical tool to supporting consistency of practice and service quality.
- Paperless documentation of client visits by clinicians with tools to support supervisor oversight in real time
- Secure, role-based user access to specific data on all EI clients across the state
- Parent portal for ongoing access and engagement
- Extract and upload capability to support direct linkage with EI provider PMS, EHR and/or billing systems
- Enhanced accuracy of service data entry before moving onto a provider's own billing and claims processing
- Fiscal management capabilities that support HIPAA compliant claims processing

The current timeline is to have bidders' responses reviewed by Early Winter 2017. The system implementation, including the pilot period, will begin in late FY17 or early FY18, most likely with the EIS system rolling out first and then rolling out the Fiscal system next.

DPH is very appreciative of all the feedback provided to date and welcomes on-going input from providers. However, with the release of the RFR, the state will be required to limit its discussions regarding the proposed system to ensure it does not provide any potential bidder an undue advantage.

Background

EI client and service delivery legacy systems are not integrated with each other. Both systems are outdated and inefficient, requiring significant manual intervention. Growth in the program over the past decade has strained system capacity with current EI program enrollment long past the scale of the current systems.

Access to the EIS system and its data is limited. Client data is often incomplete, duplicative and error prone. Similarly, existing claims processing procedures are highly intensive, conducted manually, and do not support HIPAA 5010 compliant claims files. The fiscal system traces back 30 years and is ill suited to handle the current \$170+M in EI claims data.

Planning Process

A system planning team consisting of DPH Early Intervention leadership and EHS IT staff reviewed system needs and gathered requirements from EI providers. During this process, the planning team released a Request for Information (RFI) and received 17 vendor responses, all with comprehensive existing systems. The team reviewed all responses and asked 8 vendors to demonstrate their systems. At the same time, the planning team made visits to multiple EI program sites and agencies to identify system needs and overall fit of the proposed vision and design with the current available technology and their overall IT strategy. Redundancy of data entry into multiple systems became a major theme with staff needing to manually check data across systems.

Department staff have been very focused on reaching out to all Early Intervention (EI) programs. The team held an informational webinar on December 1, 2015 as part of the EI monthly provider calls. The team also invited all EI agencies to participate in the “WIP” (Web-system In Progress) stakeholder group, with the goal of collecting and utilizing their feedback to blueprint functional requirements of the new system. The WIP Group includes representatives from DPH EI leadership and clinical staff, EI agencies, and EI billing system developers. To date, the WIP Group has met on August 19, 2015, October 26, 2015 and March 23, 2016. Additional meetings are being planned for the System Design, Implementation, and Training Phases. The next phase of WIP meetings will consist of more break-out sessions for specific areas (e.g., clinical, fiscal, technical) so that members have an appropriate forum to discuss topical issues and to hear all perspectives.

The WIP members have been actively learning about the planned system’s functionality and providing the state with valuable insights and recommendations. For instance, one of the most critical issues and concerns identified through these discussions is the impact of the federal Electronic Health Record (EHR) mandate to identify ways to link the new EI system with current and future EHRs.

In order to evaluate the impact, the planning team conducted an online survey of all EI programs during the month of July 2015. The survey revealed that 17 of 60 programs had implemented or were planning to implement an EHR system in the next 2 years. Discussions in the WIP Group have emphasized to the Department the need to not underestimate the movement of agencies toward implementing an EHR system across their agency programs.

The planning team is appreciative of all input and is determined to eliminate any kind of data redundancy at the program or agency level by providing an efficient, stable and seamless process for data sharing.

Consequently, DPH has made numerous modifications to the system plan and the RFR to accommodate the feedback including:

- Specification of the download file to feed information from the new EIS into Practice Management, EHR and/or Billing Systems
- Upload functionality to allow for client and service delivery data upload from each agency Practice Management, EHR, and/or Billing System including a comprehensive data quality review of the upload
- Parent portal to improve link with parents and improve service quality and data access
- Options for clinician’s working in low-connectivity environments

The Department will continue to provide updated information regarding this project when available. If you or your staff have any questions about the project then please contact Noah Feldman at (617) 624-5532 or noah.feldman@state.ma.us.

Call for Presenters: Early Education Program Quality Conference
Fall 2016

Early educators are invited to apply to be a workshop presenter at the 2016 Program Quality Conference highlighting the importance of continuous quality improvement and reflective practice.

This one-day conference will be offered twice, on the dates below:

Friday, November 18, 2016 and Saturday, November 19, 2016
at Doubletree Hotel Westborough, MA

Presenters will be awarded a stipend to present a 2-hour training in the morning and facilitate a session in the afternoon that will allow participants to engage in reflective practice.

The focus of the conference will be program quality best practice through the lens of a reflective feedback model. All sessions must integrate the Continuous Quality Improvement Plan (CQIP) tool as part of the topic. All workshops should address quality in early education, family child care or out of school time programs through best practices, and should include strategies for educators to embed the training into practice. Priority consideration will be given to workshop proposals that utilize adult learning strategies, large and small group discussion, and interactive learning.

Examples of potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Indoor Gross Motor Skills
- Nutrition, Health & Safety
- Curriculum
- Service Learning Curriculum (ASOST)
- Business Planning/Budgeting for FCC
- Leadership, Development & Supervision
- Teacher-Child Behavioral Interactions

To request a conference presenter application, please contact:

Nicole Miles

Child Development and Education, Inc.

Email: n.miles@outlook.com

****Proposals are due by September 30, 2016 ****