

The UPDATE

News and Information for Massachusetts EI Providers March 2016



Important Dates...Mark your Calendar!

March 10, 2016: ICC Meeting, Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough, MA
Opportunity for Public Comment on Part C Application following ICC Meeting

30th Year Part C Application http://eiplp.org/part-c-public-hearing-2016/partc-app2016_final-for-posting/

March 22, 2016; 10am—11am: Monthly Webinar—Topic: Jean Shimer, EIIS Upgrade & Request for Reimbursement Update and Institute for Health & Recovery Update

April 11, 2016: 2016 4th Annual MA CSEFEL Pyramid Model Partnership Summit

April 26, 2016; 10am—11am: Monthly Webinar: Update on State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Implementation Plan

May 9 and May 10, 2016: MEIC Conference, Sheraton Framingham, Framingham, MA

June 1, 2016: Program Director Session: SSIP Integration into the MA EI System



Resources & Trainings:

Infant-Parent Training Institute at JF&CS is offering: [Relapse, Risk, Recovery, and Resilience: Engaging in complex relationship work with substance-dependent mothers and their babies](#); [Maternal Mental Health Course](#); [SOS Approach to Feeding: A transdisciplinary program for assessing and treating children with feeding difficulties](#); [Massachusetts Act Early State Team Summit Meeting Save the Date](#)

DPH Updates

Fiscal Support for “Embedding Key Principles into IFSP Process” Training

EI programs should have received notification via mail from the Department regarding the funding allocations to support the “Embedding the Mission & Key Principles into the IFSP Process Training.” Additional information regarding the funding disbursement will be forthcoming.

Web In Progress (WIP) Meeting—March 23

The WIP group will be meeting on March 23rd from 12:00 – 2:00pm at the Criterion Valley Early Intervention Program, located at 375 Fortune Boulevard, in Milford. A video will be presented that will provide a vision for what the new EIIS system could look like. Provider reports will also be discussed. If you are interested in participating please contact Patti Fougere at patti.fougere@state.ma.us.

ASQ-SE 2

The Department is actively investigating internal funding to support the purchase of the ASQ-SE 2. We are hoping to purchase the English & Spanish Starter kit for all programs, prior to the end of the Fiscal Year, June 30, 2016.

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Study

The Lurie Institute for Disability Policy at Brandeis University is working on a National Institutes of Health (NIH) study focusing on mothers who have intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their health care prenatally and in childbirth. The goal of the study is to improve care for mothers with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Researchers are especially interested in hearing from mothers with IDD themselves, and are conducting qualitative research interviews with mothers who have IDD and a child under 18 months of age. Mothers do not need to be actively parenting and will receive an incentive for their time. Researchers are able to travel to meet with mothers throughout New England.

If interested in learning more about the study and receiving outreach materials/flyers, please contact Nechama Moring, the research associate who is conducting these interviews at (781) 736-3843 or nechama@brandeis.edu.

NCSEAM Family Survey

March is NCSEAM Family Survey dissemination month. Service Coordinators should be distributing surveys to all families whose children have been enrolled in EI for at least **six** months and who did not complete a survey in October 2015. Please remind staff that it is important to follow up with families and explain to them why they should fill out and return the survey.

More information about the survey with resources to assist service coordinators and families is available on the PLP website at: www.eiplp.org.

We would like to recognize the following EI programs that had either a significant increase in their return rates or in their percentages on individual indicators.

Dimock
KDC New Bedford
Riverside Needham
Enable
KDC Attleboro
Thom Worcester

Information that families provide on the Family Survey is used to measure Family Outcomes resulting from their participation in EI services.

Thanks to all of you for your support of this effort.

Data Manager Update

March Webinar—EIIS & Request for Reimbursement

The first half hour of this month's webinar will provide a review of all changes implemented in the latest EIIS update. Additionally, the new Request for Reimbursement form and process will be discussed. Any questions that you may have about these two areas can be forwarded to Jean Shimer prior to the webinar. Otherwise please come prepared to ask questions.



Specialty Services Updates

Save the Date!!!

The Massachusetts Learn the Signs Act Early Steering Committee is planning a day long Summit on Friday, April 29 at UMass Medical School in Worcester. Final agenda and details are coming soon! The field will be notified as soon as registration is open. Mark your calendars—this is a great opportunity to get great information and helpful training!

Coming this Spring...

Thank you all for your patience in regard to the upcoming changes to reimbursement for Autism services. As soon as details are finalized and implementation dates identified you will be notified, and an information session for Specialty Service Providers will be scheduled to present new information, review current practices and discuss pertinent issues around service delivery. A phone survey is currently in process to gather information from SSPs to inform our future discussion - you will be contacted soon if you have not already received a call. Information will be shared with all EI programs as well. Thanks in advance for your participation!

EIPLP Updates

MEIC Conference 2016

As you know the EIPLP (Early Intervention Parent Leadership Project) supports one parent from each EIP to attend the MEIC Conference. This support includes their registration, parent dinner and overnight at the hotel.

MEIC packets have gone out to your identified Parent Contacts (PC). If you know that your PC is unable to attend, please email Darla at darla.gundler@state.ma.us and let her know. If you have another parent who may be interested in attending, please provide their contact information to Darla. We will need their name, address, phone and email (if applicable).

We will notify you if your Parent Contact contacts the EIPLP and they are unable to attend. If this should happen, we would look to you for assistance in identifying another parent from your EIP.

The MEIC brochure is on the front page of the eiplp.org website: <http://eiplp.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/MEIC2016-web-FINAL-1.pdf>

Please do not hesitate to contact the EIPLP with any questions about the parent registration process at the MEIC Conference at eiplp@live.com.

RCP/EEC Collaboration—Did you Know?

A strong collaboration exists between the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) and the Department of Public Health (DPH). EEC provides funding to Regional Consultation Coordinators in each region of the state, to support local school districts, by providing information about area resources for young children with special needs. This includes answering questions regarding specific resources for children with special needs, and assisting in the transition process from EI to public preschool.

The RCP works closely with the Family Community Quality Specialist at EEC to strengthen relationships with early childhood education staff, to support inclusive preschool classrooms, and to identify areas where EEC are able to assist local districts in meeting the needs of the youngest children and their families in the Commonwealth.

Remember RCPs can support local EIPs with:

- Consultation, resource and referral and family support for children 0-3 with complex care needs enrolled in Early Intervention.
- Trainings for caregivers, child care educators, early intervention professionals and public preschool personnel on a variety of topics impacting young children with special needs.
- Resource and referral information to public and private preschool personnel to ensure successful preschool inclusion. This information can include:
 - Child consultation and family support around specific needs as well as support during transition into pre-school
 - Technical assistance regarding specific resources for children with special needs
 - Contact information about area resources, including a one page, double sided guide

Please contact your local Regional Consultation Program Coordinator if you would like to hear more about these resources.

Northeast Regional Consultation Program

Birth-3:

Rachel Daniels, MS, OTR/L, ATP
Phone: (978) 475-3806 ext. 242
Email: rcp@theprofessionalcenter.org

Preschool aged:

Christy Murray, MEd, ATP, CEIS
Phone: (978) 475-3806 ext. 243
Email: cmurray@theprofessionalcenter.org

Boston Regional Consultation Program

Lea Wandelmaier, MS, MHC, CEIS
Phone: (617) 383-6207
Email: lwandelmaier@thomchild.org

Southeast Regional Consultation Program

Sonia Amaral, BA, DS, CEIS
Phone: (508) 742-6443
Email: samaral@schwartzcenter.org

Central Regional Consultation Program

Jodi Russell, BSEd, DS, CEIS
Phone: (508) 473-3422 x322
Email: jrussell@criterionchild.com

Western Regional Consultation Program

Karen Cassidy, RN, LCSW
Phone: (413) 783-5500 ext. 116
Email: KCassidy@thomchild.org

Metrowest Regional Consultation Program

Kathy Haran-Kovacs, MEd, CEIS
Phone: (617) 774-1048
Email: kharanko@ssmh.org

Comments, contributions or feedback, please contact:
Patti Fougere
Patti.fougere@state.ma.us
617-624-5975



JOIN US! - DEC Institute on Family Engagement



On March 16, the Division for Early Childhood will bring together a passionate group of dedicated individuals who work with or on behalf of young children (0-8) with disabilities and other special needs and their families. Attendees will gather from all over Massachusetts and its surrounding regions to unite with other participants who are invested in supporting and facilitating family engagement in early intervention and early childhood special education.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Dr. Mary Beth Bruder Keynote Speaker

Mary Beth Bruder, PhD, is the Director of the University of Connecticut A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, and a professor in the School of Medicine. She has been in the field of early childhood intervention for 40 years and she has directed state and national research, training and demonstration projects. She currently co-directs (with George Sugai) the Early Childhood Personnel Technical Assistance Center and the Doctoral Leadership program in Early Childhood Intervention.



STUDENTS

Learn more about your field of study in a diverse, professional environment

FAMILIES

Network with local professionals & other families that have children with exceptionalities

PROFESSIONALS

Refuel yourselves while meeting new colleagues in the field of EI/ECSE



HOW MUCH?

DEC Members - \$75

Non Members - \$125

Parents, Families, Students

DEC cares about you! In an effort to offer support to parents, families, and students, and ensure that our Institute on Family Engagement is easily affordable, DEC is extending the \$75 member rate to students pursuing coursework in early childhood special education and parents and families of young children with special needs. (A 40% discount!) In order to receive a discount code, parents/family members must send an email to Ben@dec-sped.org, explaining their relationship to the individual with special needs and their intent to attend. Students, please send an email to Ben@dec-sped.org describing what degree you're pursuing, where you attend school, and your intent to attend. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity and will choose to join us at the DEC Institute on Family Engagement on March 16.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Institute on Family Engagement Program

[View the Schedule-at-a-Glance](#)

[View the full session/presenter schedule](#)

Event Details

March 16, 2016 - 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Institute will be held at Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel and Trade Center
181 Boston Post Road West
Marlborough, Massachusetts 01752 USA

Infant-Parent Training Institute

Caring for Generations

JF&CS
Jewish Family & Children's Service

Relapse, Risk, Recovery, and Resilience

Engaging in complex relationship work with substance-dependent mothers and their babies

Master Class Overview

Mothers struggling with the dual tasks of substance-use recovery and early parenting face multiple uncertainties and competing needs. Clinicians working with these vulnerable moms are confronted with challenges of our own. How do I balance a focus on the mother's emotional experience with concerns about the baby's relationship needs? What is my role as a clinician in providing essential concrete resources? How do I stay open to the issues of truth and secrecy while managing concerns about risk and safety?

About the Speakers

Three Project NESST® (Newborns Exposed to Substances: Support and Therapy) clinicians from the JF&CS Center for Early Relationship Support® will share lessons learned and questions held from their work with mothers in recovery:

- **Jennifer Meyerhardt, MEd, JD** is the NESST Mentoring Mom Coordinator/Supervisor and has worked with vulnerable families for more than 15 years.
- **Caroline Phillips, DCLinPsy, MPhil** is a clinical psychologist trained in the United Kingdom who also has a certification in parent-infant psychotherapy from Columbia University.
- **Amy Sommer, LICSW** is the Clinical Coordinator for Project NESST and Project Bright and co-author of the 2015 *Zero to Three* article, "Building a model program for substance-exposed newborns and their families: From needs assessment to intervention, evaluation, and consultation."

Friday, March 11, 2016

Check-In & Coffee: 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Program: 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Networking and brown bag lunch: (optional)
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Continue the discussion and network with other like-minded professionals over lunch. Please bring a brown bag lunch if you are interested in participating.

Location: JF&CS Headquarters
1430 Main Street, Waltham

Cost: \$50

Register for the Master Class online:




<http://bit.ly/MasterClassMarch2016>

Registration is required before the session.

Space is limited. For more information, contact Deborah Walker at dwalker@jfcsboston.org or 781-693-5652.

An application for social work continuing education credits has been submitted.

The Infant-Parent Training Institute is a Training Affiliate of the Cambridge Health Alliance Department of Psychiatry, which is a teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School.

jfcsboston.org | 781-647-JFCS (5327) | Stay Connected:   

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Claims Conference ועידת התביעות
The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

Infant-Parent Training Institute

Caring for Generations
JF&CS
Jewish Family & Children's Service

Maternal Mental Health Course

Course Overview:

A mother's mental health affects her own sense of self, the well-being of her children, her close relationships, and the functioning of the family. A mother of an infant or young child who is struggling with depression, anxiety, or other emotional difficulties faces multiple challenges in coping and parenting. This eight-session course examines the profound emotional transformation of becoming a mother, the influence of culture on maternal mental health, and the impact of mental health on the parent-child relationship. Issues of trauma, intergenerational parenting patterns, research on maternal depression, and mothering under special circumstances are considered. Use of video and opportunities for exploring case material will be provided.

About the Faculty:

Rachel Kalvert, LICSW, is a Supervisor in the Visiting Moms® program. Before moving to the Boston area in 2011, Rachel maintained a private practice in Seattle that focused on working with new moms who were having difficulty with the transition to motherhood. Also, in Seattle, she served as a Group Leader and Supervisor for the Listening Mothers program that provides mothers with an eight week group to help understand the emotional changes that occur between a mother and baby in the first year. Rachel trained at the Seattle Psychoanalytic Society and Institute and graduated from its Analytic Program. She holds an MSW from New York University and a BA from Smith College.

**Wednesday mornings, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
March 23 – May 18, 2016**

JF&CS Headquarters
1430 Main Street, Waltham




Tuition: \$700. Space is limited to 12 students.

Applications can be downloaded from our website at www.jfcsboston.org/IPTI

Please send completed application, copy of resume, and tuition deposit of \$300 (checks payable to JF&CS) to: *Deborah Walker, Administrative Coordinator, Infant-Parent Training Institute, JF&CS, 1430 Main Street, Waltham, MA 02451.* CEU's available for some disciplines. **Balance of tuition is due by the first class.**

To make a credit card payment, please call 781-693-5652.

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Claims Conference ועידת התביעות
The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

Opportunities

Save the Date!



MA CSEFEL
Pyramid Model
Partnership

Collaboration on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL)



Date: April 11, 2016

**Location: Westford
Regency Inn**

**219 Littleton Road
Westford, MA
01886**

**2016 Fourth Annual
MA CSEFEL Pyramid Model Partnership Summit**

**The Pyramid
A Common Language for Community Building**

Keynote speaker
Neal Horan, PhD

Dr. Horan is the director of the Helping Our Youth Succeed (H.O.Y.S.) Clinic at Georgetown University in the Center for Child and Human Development, and is also the director of the Early Childhood Division at the university. Dr. Horan is a renowned clinical psychologist, and was the co-author on a publication entitled "A Public Health Approach to Children's Mental Health".

Please look for upcoming registration information in early March or contact AdCare- Denise at Denise@edcare-educational.org

SOS Approach to Feeding

On August 12-14 a SOS Approach to Feeding training is scheduled in Marlborough. It may appeal to professionals who work with poor eaters. SOS Approach to Feeding is a transdisciplinary program for assessing and treating children with feeding difficulties and weight/growth problems of all ages, with a special focus on children from 12 months to 5 years old. It integrates posture, sensory, motor, behavioral/learning, medical and nutritional factors to comprehensively evaluate and manage children with feeding/growth problems.

Please visit <http://www.sosapproach-conferences.com/conferences/2016-speaking-schedule> for more information.



Save the Date!

Massachusetts Act Early State Team Summit Meeting

Friday, April 29, 2016

8:30 - 4 pm

UMass Medical School

Worcester, MA



Summit Meeting Theme:

Building Capacity as an Early Identification Learning Community

Come join colleagues from the MA Act Early state team for a day of learning and sharing related to early childhood development.

In the morning, topics will include the latest in free CDC "Learn the Signs. Act Early." resources, brain-based infant research on screening and siblings, autism screening, telepractice for intervention delivery, and a panel on cultural and racial equity in identification of developmental concerns.

Take part in afternoon workshops including learning about the RITA-T screening tool, the *Considering Culture in Autism* training, Know Your Language Rights, Using Cultural Brokers and more.

Space will be limited to the first 100 who register.

Watch your email for a Registration Invitation next week.

Please contact Elaine.Gabovitch@umassmed.edu with any questions.

www.maactearly.org