

# The UPDATE

## News and Information for Massachusetts EI Providers

September 2018



### Important Dates...Mark your Calendar!



**September 25, 2018; 10am: Monthly EI Webinar:** Topic—DPH Updates & Initiatives; DESE/DPH Transition Guidance

**September 27, 2018: Interagency Coordinating Council Retreat:** Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel & Conference Center, Marlborough, MA

***Please note this meeting is open only to ICC Members and Committee Co-Chairs; invitations were emailed on August 24***



### Welcome

#### **Kris Martone-Levine, Early Intervention Parent Leadership Project (EIPLP) Director**

The Early Intervention Parent Leadership Project (EIPLP) is pleased to welcome **Kris Martone-Levine** to the role of **Early Intervention Parent Leadership Project Director**. Kris brings a wealth of experience, expertise and passion to this role and we are confident that under her leadership the EIPLP will grow and flourish. She received her Bachelor's degree from Lesley University, completed her LEND Fellowship 2016—2017, and is currently pursuing her MPA at Suffolk University. Kris' previous role as Media Coordinator for the EIPLP, has prepared her well for her new role. She will begin her new role on September 17, 2018. Congratulations, Kris!

#### **Terri Sash, Program Director of Pediatric Development Center South**

Please welcome **Terri Sash** as the new **Program Director for Pediatric Development Center (PDC) South!** Terri completed her BA in Communication Disorders from the George Washington University and her Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology from Hofstra University. She is certified as a Speech-Language Pathologist in both in NY and MA as well as a certification of a Teacher of the Speech and Hearing Handicapped in NY.

Terri began her career at a public elementary school that also served as an Early Intervention Center. After 4 years, she moved to NY City to focus her career on Early Intervention and Preschool services. She started a peer supervision group and then became the Speech-Language Supervisor for the NY Lifestart Program.

After moving to upstate NY, Terri continued to work in Early Intervention. She has also worked as a Speech-Language Pathology consultant to public and private schools in Berkshire County since moving to the region in 2004, opening a private practice in Great Barrington in 2006. In 2013, Terri joined the PDC team and has been a Clinical Supervisor for Speech-Language Therapy Assistants. Please join us in welcoming Terri to her new role!

#### **Vanessa Vautrin, Program Director of Criterion Riverway**

Please welcome **Vanessa Vautrin** as the new **Program Director of Criterion Riverway!** Vanessa has always enjoyed working with kids. She worked in a daycare throughout high school and college. Vanessa graduated from UMass Amherst with a B.A. in Psychology and a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education. Vanessa started her work in early intervention at Criterion Heritage as a Developmental Specialist. She transferred to Criterion Middlesex and became a Team Leader in 2014. Please join us in welcoming Vanessa to her new role!





## **Forms & Materials**

DPH Dropbox [www.dropbox.com/sh/cpewylr7bcoefyv/AAA89\\_dDxWMwa0mb7Jj7gZ3fa?dl=0](http://www.dropbox.com/sh/cpewylr7bcoefyv/AAA89_dDxWMwa0mb7Jj7gZ3fa?dl=0)

MA Clearing House [www.mass.gov/maclearinghouse](http://www.mass.gov/maclearinghouse)



## **EITC Update**

### **BDI—2 Training Institute Update**

Thank you for everyone’s interest in the BDI-2 training institute! We have a long waitlist and are actively working with UMASS Boston to plan another series. We will update the field when we have additional opportunities. If you have staff who have signed up who cannot attend, please notify Emily Webb ([emily.webb@state.ma.us](mailto:emily.webb@state.ma.us)) ASAP so that participants can be moved off of the waitlist.

### **CEIS Suspension Reminder**

This is a reminder that the deadline to submit CEIS Portfolios is **September 30<sup>th</sup>**. Submissions must be postmarked by this date in order to be considered for review.

Candidates must have worked in MA EI for at least 2 years to be eligible to submit – hired before September 30, 2016. Please make sure that all staff that have been in the system for 2 years and do not have CEIS are aware of this deadline. Staff that had deadlines prior to September 30<sup>th</sup> will still be held to those deadlines, e.g. a person whose deadline was in August and has not submitted is past their deadline and will have to submit under the future system.

Individuals may opt to NOT submit under the current process. The new process will have a timeline for any staff who are ‘overdue’ to complete the CEIS process.



## **Specialty Services Update**

### **ACT Early Fall Summit—Register NOW!**

The Act Early Fall Summit will be held this year in Springfield at Baystate Medical Center on Friday, October 5 from 8:00am to 4:00pm. Registration fee of \$20 includes continental breakfast and lunch – and you can bring a colleague or friend for **FREE!** The full agenda includes an overview of the Learn the Signs, Act Early Materials, research update, presentation on “Family separation and effects on brain development,” and presentation from Exceptional Lives, followed by breakout sessions. Please see the [attached form for registration information and the complete agenda](#).



## **Resources**

### **American Academy of Pediatrics Rear-Facing Car Seat Update**

The American Academy of Pediatrics updated its recommendations for rear-facing car seats. AAP now recommends that infants and toddlers ride in rear-facing car seats for as long as possible. Here’s an article explaining why:

[www.healthychildren.org/English/tips-tools/ask-the-pediatrician/Pages/How-long-should-my-child-ride-rear-facing.aspx](http://www.healthychildren.org/English/tips-tools/ask-the-pediatrician/Pages/How-long-should-my-child-ride-rear-facing.aspx)

As always, please contact [karenwelling@healthrecovery.org](mailto:karenwelling@healthrecovery.org) or [karengould@healthrecovery.org](mailto:karengould@healthrecovery.org) for any training and technical assistance needs, and to get your hand-delivered (brief training included) Trauma-Informed Tip sheets.

## Federation for Children with Special Needs (FCSN) Resources

The FCSN is pleased to share these material resources:

**Haitian Creole:** [www.fcsn.org/outreach/Haitian-Creole](http://www.fcsn.org/outreach/Haitian-Creole)

- a. A Youtube training on Understanding IEP and Parental Rights with caption in Haitian Creole
- b. An audio file on Understanding IEP and Parental Rights
- c. A Youtube training on Understanding Transition Process for youth with disability with caption in Haitian Creole
- d. An audio file on Understanding Transition Process for youth with disability

**Spanish:** [www.fcsn.org/spanish/](http://www.fcsn.org/spanish/)

- a. Understanding Parental Rights in Special Education
- b. Next Steps – Services to consider once youth aging out of school
- c. Human Rights – What family needs to know?

**Stay tune for Portuguese, Chinese and Vietnamese resource sites**

**Special Educational Placement Options (new site):** [www.fcsn.org/sepo/](http://www.fcsn.org/sepo/)

This website has information related to out-of-the district placement for parents to consider. We hope to provide more information about this process, how it works, what options are available for parents and how to proceed when they believe their child's challenges are not being met in their current setting.



**Comments, contributions or feedback, please contact:**

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