

The UPDATE

News and Information for Massachusetts EI Providers

October 2018



Important Dates...Mark your Calendar!

October 23, 2018; 10am—11am: Monthly EI Webinar

November 8, 2018; 9:30am—3pm: Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting: Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel & Conference Center, Marlborough, MA

December 12, 2018: Program Directors Session: Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel & Conference Center, Marlborough, MA



WELCOME

Please join us in welcoming three new **Regional Consultation Program Coordinators!**

Western RCP - Naomi "Amy" Clark is a developmental specialist with 8 years of experience in early intervention. Prior to joining EI, she was a foster parent of infants with complex needs and traumatic birth histories. Amy also collaborated with MSPCC and Wings of Love, Inc. to host monthly trainings and annual activities for Foster Adoption parents over a 4-year period. She received an award from the Department of Children and Families based on her service and was a special guest speaker on National Adoption Day for the City of Springfield. During her EI career, Amy has worked with children and families with an array of needs, including complex medical needs, with a focus on supporting the whole family. She also comes to the RCP with personal experience as a parent of a child with complex care needs. Please join us in welcoming Amy to her new role!

Central RCP - Andrea DellaCroce is excited to be the new Central Region Consultation Program Coordinator. Andrea has been a Developmental Specialist at Criterion-Valley Early Intervention for the past 11 years, with several of those years spent as Team Leader. She has a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education and worked in public schools before moving to the Early Intervention, where she felt she could make the most impact. Andrea has a passion for working with families handling the ups and downs of complex medical needs. Please join us in welcoming Andrea to her new role!

Boston RCP – Mary Sarin, LCSW, is the new Coordinator at the Thom Boston Regional Consultation Program. Mary brings many years of experience to this role having worked at Thom Boston EI program. Prior to receiving a social work degree, she spent over 10 years in the marketing communications end of publishing and then software development. Mary's passion is sharing and making information more readily available and providing support for her clients. She also has a 19-year-old daughter. Please join us in welcoming Mary to her new role!

You can find an updated RCP Directory in the EI Dropbox, Specialty Service Providers folder, Regional Consultation Programs. These experienced clinicians will be a great addition to the RCP Team!



DPH Updates

FY19 IFSP Outcome Data Collection

This fall Regional Specialists will be going out to EI programs to collect IFSP outcomes as part of the evaluation for our State's Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). The SSIP is a federally required (Indicator 11) state designed, multi-year quality improvement plan. Massachusetts has chosen improving children's social-emotional outcomes as their quality improvement area to focus on.

IFSP outcomes will be collected from 10 files, from IFSPs developed during the 7/1/2018 through 12/31/2018 time frame using the new IFSP form. Files will be selected randomly; a mix of both initial and annual IFSP's, and no more than 3 outcomes per file, will be collected. The outcomes will then be rated based on the 6 criteria of a high quality participation based outcome. Programs will receive a report on the results by February 2018.

For our federal SSIP submission, we will be using the combined statewide data to evaluate the effectiveness of the state's effort in implementing and supporting the practices that were presented in Embedding the Key Principles into the IFSP Process and now in Foundations of MA EI, Part 1.

EIPLP: Identifying Parent Contacts

Thank you for identifying Parent Contacts on your Annual Reports! The EIPLP has reached out to all of our new Parent Contacts, welcomed them to the EIPLP, and sent them their Parent Contact Resource Guides. They also should have received their first Parent Contact Update, which is sent the first Thursday of every month. It contains updates, opportunities, and resources for families in EI, and is tailored to families looking to get involved beyond their own services.

When your program's Parent Contact changes, please let us know so that we can make sure the new Parent Contact is being supported by the EIPLP Team. Simply email Liz Cox at liz.cox@state.ma.us to make the change!



Specialty Services Update

SSP Autism Survey

Thank you very much to all the EI Program Directors, staff, and SSP Autism Program Directors for completing the surveys sent out at the end of July. The summer posed challenges to getting surveys returned in a timely manner, but overall the response was excellent and provided enough information to analyze data both statewide and regionally. With that said, it has taken longer than expected to sort through the data from 60 EIPs and 15 SSPs. A summary and recommendations compiled as a full report will be shared with the field in the near future. Until that time, DPH will continue to monitor capacity for SSP Autism services in Early Intervention programs.

Born This Way Presents: Deaf Out Loud

I'm sure many of you are familiar with the A&E TV series, "Born This Way," that follows a group of young adults with Down Syndrome and their families as they navigate adulthood and the issues of independent living, working, and friendships. If you haven't seen this series, it is something you may want to check out!

On September 12, 2018, a new production, Deaf Out Loud, first aired.

"Executive produced by Academy® Award-winner Marlee Matlin, this new documentary special follows three predominantly deaf families as they raise their children in a hearing world. With many differing opinions about how deaf children should be raised swirling in the social consciousness, these families work to forge their own paths forward and combat the daily social stigmas many deaf people face."

This show differs from the Down Syndrome series as it highlights families with young children, with both hearing and deaf parents, with hearing and deaf siblings. The topic of this first episode focused on the options families have regarding ASL and Cochlear Implants and Inclusion to name a few. The important message is that families have choices and decisions are not made easily. For those of you working with children who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing and their families, this program may prove to be enlightening in your work. For more information visit the website:

www.aetv.com/specials/deaf-out-loud



Forms & Materials

DPH Dropbox www.dropbox.com/sh/cpewylr7bcoefyv/AAA89_dDxWMwa0mb7Jj7gZ3fa?dl=0

MA Clearing House www.mass.gov/maclearinghouse



Resources

Institute for Health & Recovery (IHR)—All Babies Cry

The Children's Trust Fund created a video for parents about managing the stress of caring for a crying infant, and the importance of never shaking a baby. It is called All Babies Cry and can be found at <https://vimeo.com/trust4kids/review/261918872/deb2c220d9>

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



Events

Social Emotional Outcomes Cross-State learning Collaborative National Center for Systemic Improvement Webinar Series

This 4-webinar series sponsored by Social Emotional Outcomes Cross-State Learning Collaborative (SEO CSLC) is open to all NCSI learning collaboratives and providers. The series is focused on collaborative processes in EI and use of the Primary Service Provider (PSP) approach. Please share the flyer and encourage individuals and program staff to register to attend the first one on October 16.

October: Setting the Context for Inter-professional Practice in Early Intervention.

November: Overview & Rationale for Using a Primary Service Provider Approach to Teaming.

December: Primary Service Providers: Frequently Asked Questions.

January: System Change for Primary Service Providers.

Register for October 16 Webinar: Setting the Context for Inter-professional Practice in Early Intervention.

(Flyer) <https://tinyurl.com/yasae5j5>



MA Newborn Hearing Screening Program: Family Social for families with a child who is deaf or hard of hearing

Family Social ([flyer attached here](#))

Dr. Seuss Museum

21 Edwards Street

Springfield, MA

Monday, November 5, 10am to 12 noon

Free – Must RSVP to Sarah Stone (617) 624-5912 or sarah.stone@state.ma.us





18th Annual Working Together Conference!

“Ingredients for Success: Feeding the Needs of the Whole Child”

What unique challenges and successes has your family had in raising a child who is deaf or hard of hearing? How do our brains process language? How can we foster relationships between siblings and other family members? Join us for our 18th annual conference featuring guest speaker Dr. Amy Szarkowski! Speakers and panelists will share information on 'ingredients' they have found beneficial as deaf or hard of hearing adults themselves, when working with and/or raising a child who is deaf or hard of hearing. We encourage families and anyone working with deaf or hard of hearing children, students and their families to attend!

When? Friday, October 12, 2018 8:00am—3:15pm

Where? The Puritan Conference & Event Center
245 Hooksett Rd. Manchester, NH 03104

Registration Cost: \$95.00

Are you a parent of a deaf or hard of hearing child? If so, contact us at info@ndhhs.org for possible scholarships Interested in becoming a Sponsor or Exhibitor? Give us a call at 603-224-1850 or email us at info@ndhhs.org . For more information and to get registered, click the link! www.ndhhs.org/workingtogetherconference

Boston Children’s Hospital: Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program: 2018 Fall Seminar

Explore the impact of how terminology is used with families, as well as the implications for how opportunities for both spoken language and visual language learning are framed in discussions with families. ([see flyer attached](#))

When? Monday, November 5, 2018 9:00am—1pm

Where? Boston Children’s at Waltham
9 Hope Avenue, Waltham, MA

RSVP by October 24



Comments, contributions or feedback, please contact:

Patti Fougere

Patti.fougere@state.ma.us

617-624-5975