

# The UPDATE

## News and Information for Massachusetts EI Providers

February 2019



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

**February 14, 2019; 9:30am—2pm: ICC Meeting**, Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough, MA

**February 26, 2019; 9:30am—10:30am (note time change): DPH Webinar—Client System Demo**

**February 26, 2019; 9:30am—4pm: Web-based System Stakeholder Meeting**, Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough, MA—Detailed agenda coming soon!



### Welcome

#### Family TIES Director, Pat Cameron

We are pleased to announce that Family TIES of Massachusetts, a project of the Federation for Children with Special Needs (FCSN), funded by and in collaboration with DPH, has a new director, Pat Cameron.

Pat comes to Family TIES with years of experience in education, special education and young children's social emotional development. Most recently, Pat was the Sr. Technical Assistance Specialist at the Center for Applied Research Solutions (CARS) providing T&TA to states, tribes and territories with SAMHSA's Project LAUNCH grants. Prior to that, she worked at Education Development Center (EDC) on several projects including their Center for Early Learning Professionals in RI, providing T&TA with child care providers, administrators and public schools to increase the quality of their programs. Pat has also worked at the MA Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) as the 619 Coordinator for Preschool Special Education as well as the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in Early Learning Services as the Accountability Specialist. Pat also worked on the staff of the Governor's Commission on Mental Retardation. Pat is the parent of two adult children; her 35 year old daughter, Beth, has Down syndrome as well as hearing and vision challenges.

Family TIES is the statewide information and referral network for families whose children have special health needs and their professional partners. The project also serves as the Central Directory for Early Intervention, offers Parent-to-Parent matching and skill building. Please call 1-800- 905- 8437 for EI and other local and regional resources. Pat can be reached at: [patricia.a.cameron@massmail.state.ma.us](mailto:patricia.a.cameron@massmail.state.ma.us)



### DPH Updates

#### BDI—2 Video Submission Information (FY19)

Video submissions are being accepted **now**, through **Friday, September 6, 2019** (deadline). Early submissions are welcomed and appreciated!

The instructions for this year's process are [attached](#). This information is also available in the DPH Resources for Massachusetts Early Intervention Programs (files on Dropbox), in the BDI—2 Fidelity Folder. Please note that there is a **new EI—Photo Release Form 2019** (Dropbox).

## DPH EI Web-based System Update

Detailed information for the activities scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2019:

- 1. DPH Webinar:** The regular DPH webinar will be from 9:30-10:30am (time change – see email dated 1/25/19). This webinar will offer a Demonstration of the developing EI Client System. We welcome you to invite anyone in your agency/program to tune in to the webinar and see the system. SSG will walk us through the parts of the system that are available for viewing.
- 2. Web-based System Stakeholder meeting:** The Stakeholder meeting will begin at 9:30am and at that time we will be showing the Client System demonstration/webinar as part of the meeting. Representatives from SSG (IT vendor) will be present at the Stakeholder meeting. There will be time for questions both in person and for those participating in the webinar. The SSG component of the meeting will be offered concurrently through the webinar. A full agenda with times will be sent about 1 week prior to the meeting.
- 3. User experience testing:** This activity will happen at SSG in Needham. The purpose of this is to have actual users of the system try out the developed pages and forms to give feedback to SSG about the ease of use.

This is a lot to have occurring in one day. Given our resources and timelines, this is the most efficient way to get all of the work done, that needs to be done, in order to deliver the Client System on time.

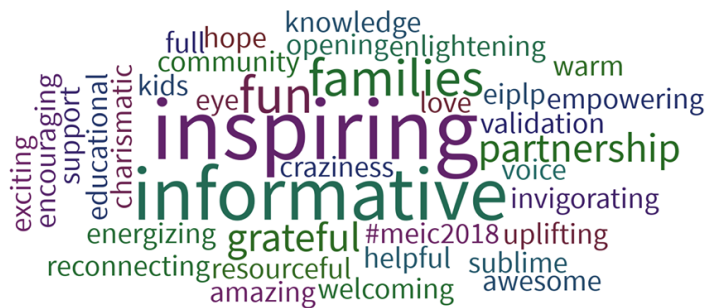
We know that you are waiting for more information from DPH about implementation, support to programs, responses to individual agency questions, and requirements for upload...this will be coming soon! We are working hard to get information out to you!

## Universal Database Sign Up Form **Now** Available in English, Spanish & Portuguese!

The Universal Database Sign Up Form is used to sign families up to receive the Parent Perspective newsletter and information about opportunities beyond their IFSP services. The EIPLP is excited to make them available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese! You may access these forms on the EIPLP website at [www.eiplp.org/universal-database-sign-up-form/](http://www.eiplp.org/universal-database-sign-up-form/). We really appreciate your help in having families sign up.

## MEIC & Your Parent Contact

Over the next couple of weeks, the EIPLP will be reaching out to confirm your program's Parent Contact. It is important that we have accurate contact information for them as we start to prepare MEIC Conference registration mailings. DPH supports each program to send their parent contact to this conference. **We are looking forward to having a parent representative from every program this year!** This conference is a great opportunity to engage your Parent Contact in learning, networking and connecting with the EIPLP, other families and providers.



Words families used to describe 2018 MEIC Conference!

## NCSEAM Family Survey Update

Last week, your individual NCSEAM Family Survey report with your 2018 results was mailed to your program. Please take this opportunity to share the results with families and staff. Remember to look on the back of your report to see how families ranked the services they received. This is a great way to think about areas where as individual programs and a system we can enhance our work.

The next NCSEAM Family dissemination will be in March 2019. Each EI Program should have received a list of eligible families – those whose children have been enrolled for at least 6 months and who did not complete a survey in October 2018 from Linda Mosesso.

Please reach out to Suzanne Gottlieb ([suzanne.gottlieb@state.ma.us](mailto:suzanne.gottlieb@state.ma.us)) if you need additional surveys or if we can help in any way.



## 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)



## Resources

### **Diversity-Informed Tenets for Work with Infants, Children & Families**

**The Diversity-Informed Tenets for Work with Infants, Children, and Families** are a set of guiding principles that raise awareness about inequities and injustices embedded in our society. The Tenets empower individual practitioners, agencies and systems of care to identify and address the social justice issues intricately intertwined with all infant mental health work. The Tenets are rooted in belief that self-awareness and intentional action are the cornerstones of principles of equity and inclusion. The Tenets are a product of the [Irving Harris Foundation](http://www.IrvingHarrisFoundation.org) Professional Development Network. Learn more by visiting <https://imhdivtenets.org/about/> and view the Tenets [here](#).

### **Hear to Learn/Oir para aprender—February 2019 Webinars (time sensitive)**

Wednesday, **February 13**, 2019; 2:30—3p.m.

*"Parents Know Best: Empowering Parents with Tools to Facilitate their Infant/Toddlers' Spoken Language Development"*

Learn more & register here: [https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_7QcNz9ReSjf7hvn](https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7QcNz9ReSjf7hvn)

### **Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program Winter Webinar**

The Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program will be hosting its winter webinar on **February 19<sup>th</sup> from 12-1pm**. *"Making the Case: Following 1:3:6 for Children With Microtia/Atresia"* will be presented by Meredith Berger and Michelle Kraskin. Register [here](#)...and please share with interested colleagues!

### **Institute for Health & Recovery (IHR)—Training & Technical Assistance**

Today's IHR post details a resource that we hope you'll utilize: **IHR**. Specific trainings we can provide *at your location at no cost* to your program include: trauma, substance use disorders (including substance-exposed newborns), skills for having difficult conversations with caregivers, motivational interviewing, reflective listening, being alert to and combating one's own bias, secondary trauma and self-care, and others upon request.

We can also provide technical assistance on particular families or issues, on the phone or in-person. Don't hesitate to contact us to explore how we might be helpful to your program. We can be reached by email at [karenwelling@healthrecovery.org](mailto:karenwelling@healthrecovery.org) or [karengould@healthrecovery.org](mailto:karengould@healthrecovery.org).



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

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