

The UPDATE

News and Information for Massachusetts EI Providers January 2020



Important Dates...Mark your Calendar!



January 16, 2020, 12p—1p: Webinar: Interpreter Language Line Pilot

January 28, 2020, 10a—11a: Monthly EI Webinar—Topics include:

- **PIWI Evaluation**

February 3, 2020: State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report—Due to OSEP

March 12, 2020: ICC Meeting, DPH, 67 Forest Street, Rooms 1020/1021, Marlborough, MA

- **9:30a—12:15p: ICC Business Meeting** (schedule subject to change)
- **1p—2:30p: Standing Committees and Task Groups**



Welcome

Beth Harrington

Please welcome **Beth Harrington** to the Division of Early Intervention. Beth comes to the Division of Early Intervention with over 10 years of administrative experience and most recently worked at the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services. Beth will support the business needs of the Division. Beth is extremely motivated and very organized. We look forward to having her on our team. **Please join us in welcoming Beth!**



DPH Updates

CEIS Revision

On behalf of the Department of Public Health I would like to personally thank the following members of the Stakeholder Advisory Council (SAC) for their time and commitment to the Revised CEIS process. The DPH team was impressed by the amount of work that was accomplished in the short time period and the thoughtfulness that went into the process. Each member brought their individual perspectives and expertise to the creation of a high quality product and tools.

Amanda Kasica, Beth Hurley, Stephanie Laverdiere, Debra Smith, Ana Soto-Andrews, Maura Buglione, Rhonda Gurley, Judith Hahn, Stefanie Izzi, Patti Kuzmeski, Courtney Rice, Lori Book, Jessica Nuhbian, Colleen Ciccarello, Leslie Siciliano, Stephanie Silva and Cindy Warren.

Program Closure

The Department of Public Health received formal notification that Eliot Community Human Services intends to terminate its contract with the Department of Public Health for its Cambridge/Somerville Early Intervention Program, **effective March 13, 2020**. Eliot Community Human Services is working collaboratively and proactively with DPH staff and the Riverside Cambridge Somerville Program to ensure a smooth transition for all children and families.

FY20 Interpreter Language Line Pilot

The Department of Public Health (DPH) Early Intervention Program would like to announce the FY20 Interpreter Language Line Pilot. The Department has set aside \$75,000 this fiscal year to support the costs of programs' use of phone interpreters through a phone interpreting service. This pilot came out of the recommendations of the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) Fiscal committee to DPH around the rise in interpreter needs for families and the costs to programs. This is a time limited pilot running January 21, 2020 through June 30, 2020. It will allow us to gather data on usage across the system to try to determine if this is an equitable means of meeting the language needs of the system for families and programs.

DPH has set up a contract with Language Line Solutions to provide the phone interpreter services to programs. They provide immediate access to phone interpreter services in 240 languages.

Each program will receive an email with more details about the pilot and stating the amount of money that they will be allowed to use through the language line during the pilot. This amount was determined based on the most recent available DPH Program Summation Report data, based on the number of families that identified a language other than English as their primary language.

A webinar about the pilot and Language Line Solutions will be held on January 16, 2020 at 12:00pm.

Any questions please contact Michelle Conlon at michelle.e.conlon@state.ma.us.



Identifying a Parent Contact



The Early Intervention Parent Leadership Project (EIPLP) provides opportunities to Parent Contacts that they may not otherwise know about or have access to. We are pleased to be supporting **up to 15 Parent Contacts** to attend the Federation for Children with Special Needs, **Visions of Community 2020** conference on **Saturday, February 29, 2020**. The EIPLP has reached out to the Parent Contacts we have on file...if you haven't identified a Parent Contact or if your Parent Contact has changed, please email us at eiplp@live.com to update us.

Finding Your Footing: Using Your Family's Experience to Inform System Change

On Saturday, January 11, 2020, the 4th session of this cohort met in Marlborough. **Dr. Eben Weitzman** of UMass Boston, presented on the topic of **Conflict Resolution**. The caregivers in this cohort walked away understanding reframing, looking at things through different perspectives, the usefulness of planning and preparing for difficult conversations, and had the opportunity to participate in "real play." The feedback from this experience was very positive...the EIPLP looks forward to seeing this cohort of parents at the Federation for Children with Special Needs, Visions of Community 2020 conference on February 29 and our final training day on Saturday, April 4.



Forms & Materials

Please note: Most forms and materials from the Dropbox have moved over to the new DPH website at mass.gov/dph/earlyintervention. Please use the website to find materials, including brochures.



EI Training Center

PIWI Learning Institute

The DPH EI Training Center (EITC) and UMass Boston are offering a 4-day Training Institute for PIWI Champions, and Supervisors. The Institute will provide an overview of the Parents Interacting With Infants (PIWI) model, the "why" behind PIWI, strategies for successful implementation, and opportunities to problem-solve challenging situations. Institute learning objectives include:

- ◆ Applying the use of dyadic and triadic strategies to support parent/child interactions and progress towards achieving IFSP outcomes
- ◆ Differentiate how each discipline in EI can support and promote the PIWI philosophy using their individual experiences
- ◆ Demonstrative how functional assessment supports the PIWI philosophy in Massachusetts EI home visits.

Location: MA Department of Public Health, 67 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA

Dates & Times:

March 9, 2020—9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

April 13, 2020—10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

May 11, 2020—10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

June 8, 2020—10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Registration: <http://www.cvent.com/events/eitc-543-piwi-learning-institute/event-summary-19e4616265344ad9bac1f75adb36cf45.aspx>



New podcasts will be featured in this section as they become available.

They are always available at <https://eionthefly.podbean.com/>.

About EI on the FLY: "As an early interventionist, you meet different families, work in homes and community settings, watch infants and toddlers grow and learn, and yes – spend lots of time in your car. This podcast is designed so you can easily listen between visits during your day. Each episode focuses on an important topic discussed by Dana Childress, PhD and Emily Webb, MS ED, two experienced EI professional development specialists who have also been service coordinators, service providers, and parents of children enrolled in EI. Listen often to learn, reflect, and hear a few good tips to add to your practices. *This podcast is a collaborative effort of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (through a contract with the Partnership for People with Disabilities/VCU).*"

[*Episode 1: What is Functional Assessment and Why Does it Matter?*](#)

[*Episode 2: Intentional Observation*](#)

[*Episode 3: Asking Meaningful Questions \(Emily's personal favorite!\)*](#)

[*Episode 4: Active Listening*](#)

[*Episode 5: Implicit Bias*](#)



Resources & Events

SSI/Public Benefits for Children with Special Health Care Needs Training Opportunity

-----TRAINING OFFER-----

SSI/PUBLIC BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

 IF YOU WISH TO HOST A TRAINING PRESENTATION AT YOUR AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION FOR STAFF, MULTIPLE AGENCY PERSONNEL, AND/OR A PARENT GROUP ON SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI), COMMONHEALTH, KALEIGH MULLIGAN HOME CARE PROGRAM AND OTHER PUBLIC BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN...

To schedule a date and time for a training at your location, contact:

Gail Havelick, SSI/Public Benefits Training and Policy Specialist
Division for Children & Youth with Special Health Needs
Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition
MA Department of Public Health

Phone: 1-800-882-1435 or (617) 624-5961
E-mail address: gail.havelick@state.ma.us

TRAININGS ARE FREE/NO COST

Length of training session is approximately 1.5 – 2.5 hours (weekdays/daytime preferred)

Information and written materials are provided on complex public benefits systems that families rely on to finance health care for children with disabilities, blindness, or chronic illness.



Click on photo for link to printable flyer

New Tobacco Education Coordinators (TEC) Orientation Training

The Institute for Health & Recovery (IHR) is hosting an orientation training for TECs.

New TEC Orientation | February 11, 2020 in Northampton

New TEC Orientation | March 18, 2020 in Canton

Learn more by visiting their website at <https://bit.ly/2QSAjms>

Infant Parent Mental Health Postgraduate Certificate Program

APPLY NOW TO JOIN OUR 2020-2021 COHORT
BEGINNING March 2020

"This program changed my thinking and my career. It is fabulous!"
- 2011 IPMH Graduate Fellow



Infant Parent Mental Health
University of Massachusetts Boston's Postgraduate Certificate Program

- Interdisciplinary fellowship program open to professionals in all fields who work with children ages 0-6 and their parents
- Learn directly from world-renowned luminaries in the field
- Receive reflective supervision/consultation supporting the integration and advancement of your clinical work
- Prepares professionals for the credential: *Endorsement for Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-Focused Practice Promoting Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health®*
- Now accepting applicants for the two-year program, meeting one weekend every other month on the UMass Boston campus, beginning in March 2020

For More Information, or to apply to the program, please visit us at: umb.edu/ipmh



For more information visit our website: www.umb.edu/ipmh or email: ipmh@umb.edu

To view the application visit: <https://files.constantcontact.com/daff9ae001/0da31b8f-7204-4a5b-a812-0558f4434c68.pdf>

21st Annual New England Fathering Conference: Focus on Dads! A 20/20 Vision

Early Bird Registration for the 21st annual New England Fathering Conference is NOW OPEN! The NEFC will take place in Newport, Rhode Island on March 18th, 19th and 20th, 2020. This year's conference theme is *Focus on Dads! A 20/20 Vision*. To learn more, visit their website at nefatheringconference.org.



Comments, contributions or feedback, please contact:

Patti Fougere

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617-624-5975