

The UPDATE

News and Information for Massachusetts EI Providers May 2020



Important Dates...Mark your Calendar!

May 19, 2020, 3p–4p: Webinar: EI Program Updates (moved to every other week)

June 11, 2020: ICC Meeting, Virtual

- Agenda TBD; more information forthcoming



Welcome

Ann Kline, OTD, OTR/L, New Program Director of Lipton Early Intervention

Ann Kline began her career in EI as an Occupational Therapist 20 years ago at the Criterion Valley Child Early Intervention program. Throughout the years, she has worked in a variety of pediatric positions in clinics, hospitals, schools, specialty programs as well as early intervention in NH where she has resided since 2002. Both of her children were a part of the early intervention program in NH and she has worked in a variety of capacities with EI throughout her career. Most recently, Ann left the public school system to move back to Early Intervention. She was excited to assume the position of **Director of Early Intervention for the Lipton Early Intervention Program through Community Healthlink** in Leominster, MA on January 27, 2020. **Please join us in welcoming Ann!**



DPH Updates

NCSEAM Family Survey

As you know, due to the COVID-19 crisis, the Department suspended survey distribution to families as of March 21, 2020.

However we have heard from Piedra Data that they have received some completed surveys. If your program was able to give out surveys we will need to know how many and in what languages.

Look for an email from Patti Fougere with more information and the distribution results form coming shortly. Thank you.



New podcasts will be featured in this section as they become available.
They are always available at <https://eionthefly.podbean.com/>.

[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](#)

[Episode 6: Functional Assessment and the Initial IFSP](#)

[Episode 7: Ongoing Functional Assessment](#)

[Episode 8: What Functional Assessment Means to Supervisors, Practitioners and Families](#)

Thank you to Episode 8's guest: Riverside Cambridge Somerville EI Program!



Resources & Events

Ensuring Ongoing Access to High Quality Early Intervention Services Through Telepractice: Practical Ways to Provide Support with Technology Webinar: Thursday, May 14

There is a free webinar being held on Thursday at 1PM on EI for children who are deaf and hard of hearing. The registration link is below or can be found here:

http://www.infantheating.org/resources_home/events/index.html#bhs-2020-webinars

DEC Wellness Wednesdays

Join us for a bit of "us time!" every Wednesday in May!

During this unprecedented time, you as early interventionists/early childhood special education staff are being called upon to support infants, toddlers, preschoolers, young children and their families through the pandemic and transform overnight how you provide intervention and/or teach. At the same time, you may yourself have stress and anxiety caused by how these events are impacting you and your own families. That makes it all the more important to prioritize your own wellness during this challenging time.

Nancy Surbrook-Goins, Training and TA Manager in Michigan, provides an opportunity to share your experiences, tips for personal wellness, self care and stress management during the pandemic.

The first event will take place May 6th, 5:00 - 6:00 PM Eastern Time. Future events will take place every Wednesday at 5:00 PM EST throughout May. [This opportunity is open to DEC members and partners \(open access\). Register here to attend.](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZtkd-uvpzwrHNDptlgnI0A6B27enjTNZJNv) (<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZtkd-uvpzwrHNDptlgnI0A6B27enjTNZJNv>)



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