

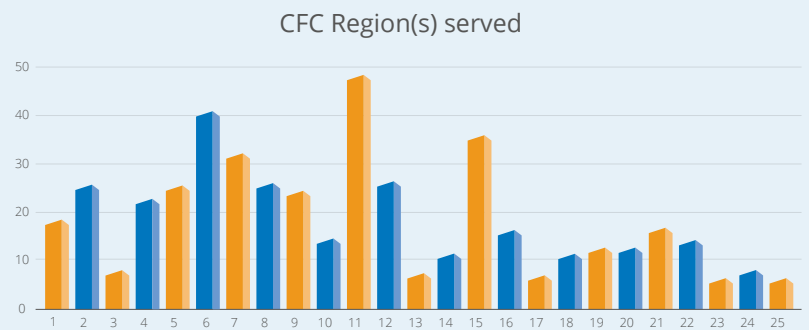
Early Intervention (EI) Provider Survey Results

In fall of 2018, a workgroup created by the Early Learning Council and the Illinois Interagency Council on Early Intervention distributed surveys to home visiting and EI providers to better understand their experiences in collaborating with each other and hear what they need to best support children and families they serve. The purpose of the survey was to identify best practices and barriers for collaboration between home visiting and EI staff in order to create better policies, procedures and guidance for providers.

Who participated?

Average: 134 families
Mode: 20 families

240 providers participated across all CFCs. Speech language pathologists, developmental therapists, occupational therapists and physical therapists accounted for 88% of respondents.

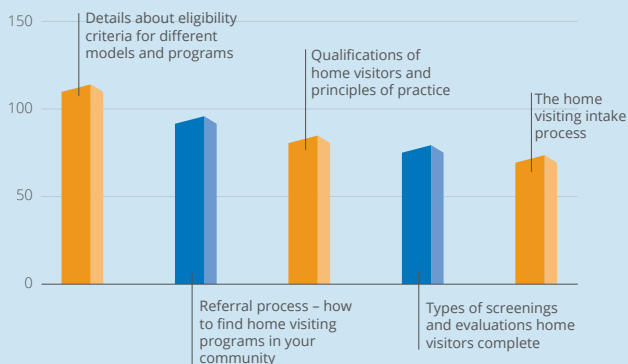


What were the major takeaways?

Although there are barriers to collaboration, EI providers want to work with home visitors when serving families enrolled in both services. Specific takeaways are:

1. EI providers would like more information on home visiting and ways of connecting families to home visiting services.

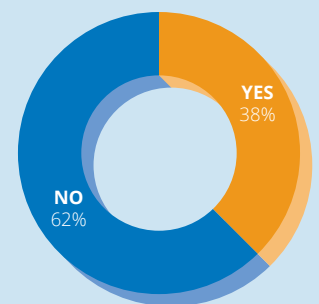
What specific training would you like to receive to enhance connections for families between home visiting and the EI systems?



2. Almost half (40%) of EI providers reported a family they served was also enrolled in home visiting.

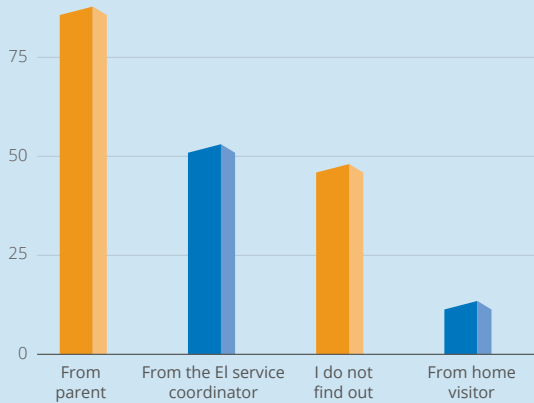
3. EI providers do not generally make referrals to home visiting. Note: service coordinators were not included in the survey.

Have you ever referred a family to home visiting?



4. Families are a go-between for EI and home visitors. EI providers learn the family is enrolled in home visiting from the family.

How do you find out who the home visiting provider is for a specific family?



5. Scheduling is a barrier to completing shared visits and for participation in goal planning and review meetings.

“Collaborative home visits do not typically occur due to scheduling and our time constraints .”

6. EI providers do not participate in community meetings with home visitors but would like to.

80% of respondents have not participated in an event where EI and homevisiting providers were at the same table.

Recommendations

1. Increase pre-service training for EI and home visiting providers on their respective systems and provide ongoing opportunities for shared professional development.
2. Share eligibility criteria and locations for home visiting and EI providers with their counterparts.
3. Convene a meeting of HV and EI funders to review and modify intake procedures and forms for easier referrals and information sharing between two systems.