

[Click here to see this online](#)



# Summer 2017 Newsletter



## Summer 2017 Early Intervention Training Program Newsletter

### News and Updates

#### Please give your input on the Expertise and Needs Assessment by June 30, 2017

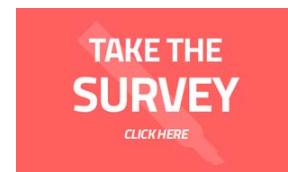
EITP and the Bureau of Early Intervention are conducting a study to determine the professional development needs of Early Intervention Providers supporting families and young children in Illinois! Your opinion really matters to us!

 Please fill out this anonymous [survey](#) (no name collected) that will only take about 5-7 minutes by **June 30, 2017**.

If you have not filled it out already, please click on the survey button or visit the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FY18Needs>

We appreciate your time and thank you for sharing your thoughts!



Click to take the Expertise and Needs Assessment

#### Sharing a Vision Conference Registration Open

[Sharing A Vision \(SAV\) 2017](#) registration is now open! SAV will be held at the *Embassy Suites and Conference Center in East Peoria, October 25-27* and will host approximately 75 sessions in alignment with DEC Recommended Practices. Please view the full registration brochure for more information, and link to online registration is below. Conference details, including an attendee FAQ and full pre-conference descriptions, can also be found on this site. [Click here](#) to download the conference brochure. To register, please visit <http://sharingavision.org/conference-details/registration/>



#### Redesigned EICBO Website Launched with Family Fee Video

The Early Intervention Central Billing Office (EI/CBO) is pleased to announce the release of a newly redesigned [website](#)! The purpose of the site is to help our EI partners get the information they need in the most convenient way. The new site is designed with a fresh look and is easy to navigate. We encourage you to check it out at <https://eicbo.info/>.

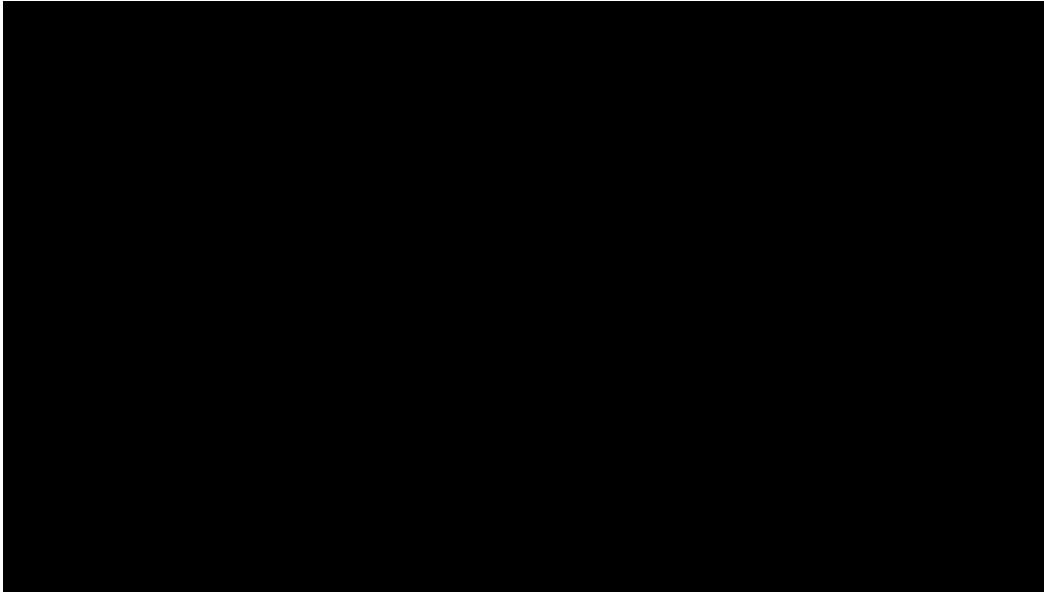
The site will feature videos that display helpful instructions for participants, providers and CFC offices. The site has launched with [a video that gives an in-depth review of Family Fee](#). Additional videos related to insurance exceptions (waivers and exemptions), the EICBO Insurance Billing Unit and before billing tips are currently in production and will be posted soon. To find the Family Fee video, please visit <https://eicbo.info/child-family-connection-office/> and scroll down to "Power Point Presentation Videos" section.

## Resources You Can Use

### Video on Writing IFSP Outcomes

In this hour long [video](#), Lee Ann Jung describes using a functional assessment to write high-quality, measurable IFSP outcomes and a method to measure. To see Modules 1 and 3 videos and participate in the Family Assessment course, contact Lee Ann by visiting [lajung.com](http://lajung.com).

You may also want to download the Growth Plan referred to in the video as a resource: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/h5rcxbkw4j70s9b/Blank%20Growth%20Plan.pdf?dl=0>



### The Service Coordinator's Role in Monitoring the IFSP

**The service coordinator plays a central role in monitoring the IFSP.** Once the team develops the IFSP, the service coordinator has to ensure that all services put in place to support the outcomes on the IFSP are implemented. Monitoring begins the moment the IFSP is created.

The service coordinator will make contact with the family monthly and will also contact the provider(s) to find out how the family is progressing on the IFSP outcomes. Monthly contact should be purposeful and inquire beyond "how are services going".

Service coordinators need to ask about progress on specific outcomes and document responses in Vstone case notes. They also need to find out if there are changes to a family's insurance, income, family size, or family situation as all these impact progress on the IFSP.

Service coordinators make sure that these contacts are successful and that the family is reached, therefore it is important to ask the family how they want to be contacted.

Just as every family is unique, every family has their preferred method of contact. The service coordinator is likely to have more successful contact when contacting the family using their preferred communication method.

For additional resources around Service Coordination, such as communication tools and tips, please visit <http://go.illinois.edu/ServiceCoordination>.

## New DEC Recommended Practice Guides from ECTA

Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA) produces [practice guides for practitioners and families](#) along with other products around the [Division of Early Childhood \(DEC\) Recommended Practices \(RPs\)](#). The recently released the following guides:

- **For practitioners:** "[Engaging Families as Assessment Partners](#)" related to the topic of "Assessment" [View Description](#)
- **For families:** "[Family Members Communicating with Other Team Members](#)" related to the topic of "Teaming and Collaboration" [View Description](#)

## Free YEC Journal Article

### "Empowering Families During the Early Intervention Planning Process"

In each Newsletter, EITP will highlight a free article focused on Early Intervention that will be available for PDF download from the Young Exceptional Children journal!



Currently, we are featuring "[Empowering Families During the Early Intervention Planning Process](#)" by Theresa A. Byington and Peggy J.S. Whitby from *Young Exceptional Children*, v14, December 2011. This link will be open until July 15, 2017.

"Parents play important roles as advocates for their child with a disability. Advocacy is the process of striving to improve the quality of life for someone else... Moving from an IFSP to an IEP can be a challenging and stressful time for parents of children with disabilities as the focus moves from the family to the educational setting. IDEA Parts B and C emphasize the importance of family involvement and family-centered practices for both the IFSP and IEP. This article intends to strengthen the understanding of the importance of family-centered practices during the IFSP or IEP planning process, to present strategies that professionals can use to empower families and to share ideas on how to convey a personalized view of the child to team members. (Contains 3 tables and 2 figures.)" [Abstract from ERIC](#)

## Service Coordinator Corner

*The "Service Coordination Corner" is a new column featured in our newsletters to spotlight the important work that service coordinators are doing within the Illinois EI System.*

### Special Thanks to Amber Ortiz and Shameka Brown

EITP would like to give special thanks to service coordinators **Amber Ortiz** (CFC 4) and **Shameka Brown** (CFC 21) for their leadership as they partnered with us this spring. Amber and Shameka took time out of their busy schedules to help plan, prepare and co-host a linked learning opportunity for service coordinators titled "Using Your Facilitation Skills to Be an Effective Host." They also engaged in coordinated efforts to continue this meaningful conversation with service coordinators at the CFC Conferences.

Amber and Shameka have shared their wisdom, experience, knowledge and their passion for serving children and families with others who also perform the very important role of service coordination in the Illinois EI System. We look forward to our continued partnership with them and their future leadership as we begin to embark on a new initiative to further support and engage service coordinators in the Illinois Service Coordination Community of Practice (IL SC CoP).

### Illinois Service Coordination Community of Practice (IL SC CoP)

Service Coordinators- please check your email for an invite to join this CoP. The group will host its first quarterly meeting via a web conversation on July 12, 2017.

If you would like to join or learn more about the IL SC CoP, please email Sarah Nichols at [snichols@illinoiseittraining.org](mailto:snichols@illinoiseittraining.org).

## SSIP Updates

### State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Year End Update

We completed **year 1** of the implementation phase and even though we did not complete all the activities and short-term outcomes we planned, we did focus on establishing the infrastructure and on building the capacity of the Leadership Teams (LT).

We are excited to report the following results:

- Leadership Teams (LT) are operational in the 3 pilot areas (Aurora, Williamson County and East St. Louis).
- Professional development around the Child Outcomes Summary (COS) process continues to be offered to increase the knowledge and skills of LT members, local providers and CFC staff.
- A Professional Development (PD) rubric was developed and is being utilized to revise all PD curricula available through the Early Intervention Training Program (EITP) to ensure high quality.
- Resource Guides are being developed to accompany PD offerings.
- A Messaging workgroup revised and released the EI brochure in English and Spanish.
- A new COS procedure has been developed to support CFC staff and providers.
- New COS materials for families were developed in English and Spanish.

During **year 2** of the implementation phase, we will continue our efforts to complete and evaluate the activities and short-term outcomes related to COS and will begin to shift our focus to the SSIP's second improvement strategy related to evidence-based intervention practices. These practices will strengthen our EI family-centered system by supporting family capacity-building, family engagement and family decision making.

We began our new stakeholders' recruitment efforts to add members that can help us guide this year's work, and we continue to seek and receive technical assistance from our national partners.

We are finalizing an SSIP Communication Plan that will help stakeholders visualize this multifaceted and multi-layered process.

We welcome everyone's input so if you have any comments, please email them to [claudia.fabian@illinois.gov](mailto:claudia.fabian@illinois.gov).

## Research Participation Opportunity

Christine Spence, a doctoral student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an invaluable part of the EITP team, is conducting research for her dissertation on the experiences that families have had with early intervention (EI). She would like to understand more about the outcomes of EI for families and how EI therapists helped to achieve those outcomes.

For providers working in Cook and DuPage county, please share this PDF flyer (<https://illinois.edu/blog/files/6039/140057/113296.pdf>) with families who currently participate in EI or who have recently discharged.

**Families will receive a \$25 gift card in appreciation for their time and input!**

If families are interested, please have them contact me at [cspence@illinois.edu](mailto:cspence@illinois.edu), call 217-244-6742, or text 773-844-0980.

Has your child participated in early intervention?

I would like to understand more about the outcomes of early intervention for families and how EI therapists helped to achieve those outcomes.

I am inviting parents to complete a survey and participate in an interview describing your experiences in early intervention.

You are eligible to participate if your child has received early intervention services for at least six months. They can still be participating in early intervention or discharged from early intervention services within the past six months.

The interview can be scheduled at a time and place that is convenient for you. The total time commitment is approximately an hour to an hour and a half.

You will receive a \$25 gift card in appreciation for your time and input.

Please contact Christine Spence at [cspence@illinois.edu](mailto:cspence@illinois.edu) or 217-244-6742 with questions or to schedule a time to meet for the interview.

Flyer for Families

## Upcoming Events



### Upcoming Events from EITP and others

To view upcoming events sponsored by EITP only, please visit <http://go.illinois.edu/EITPEvents>.

For a list of online trainings offered by EITP, please visit our [EITP Online Events Calendar](#).

For a list of events sponsored by other entities (non-EITP events), please see the [Non-EITP Events Calendar](#).

Date	Event and Registration Link	Location
6/22/17	<a href="#">Have A Seat! Learning What Children Know Through Play</a>	Live Webinar ( <a href="#">MFLN</a> )
6/27/17	<a href="#">Responsive Feeding: Understanding When &amp; How to Develop a Feeding Relationship with Infants</a>	Live Webinar ( <a href="#">MFLN</a> )
7/10/17	<a href="#">Online System Overview Follow-Up Session</a>	Chicago
7/18/17-7/20/17	<a href="#">3 Day System Overview Training for Bilingual Language Interpreters/Translators</a> All 3 days are required.	Mokena
7/20/17	<a href="#">Hawaii Early Learning Profile (HELP) Overview Training.</a> *Gateways approved event* This is a <b>Global Assessment</b>	Aurora
7/24/17	<a href="#">Online System Overview Follow-Up Session</a>	Mt. Vernon
7/31/17	<a href="#">Online System Overview Follow-Up Session</a>	Freeport
8/8/17	<a href="#">Online System Overview Follow-Up Session</a>	Springfield
8/18/17	<a href="#">Online System Overview Follow-Up Session</a>	Mokena
8/24/17	<a href="#">Online System Overview Follow-Up Session</a>	Chicago
8/25/17	<a href="#">Hawaii Early Learning Profile (HELP) Overview Training.</a> *Gateways approved event* This is a <b>Global Assessment</b>	Collinsville
10/19/17	<a href="#">When Play is More than Just Playing: Delivering Intentional Instruction Through Daily Interactions</a>	Live Webinar ( <a href="#">MFLN</a> )
10/20/17	<a href="#">Building Bridges: The Transition Process From Early Intervention to Early Childhood</a>	Urbana
10/25/17-10/27/17	<a href="#">Sharing a Vision Conference</a> EITP will be presenting several sessions at this wonderful conference!	East Peoria
11/17/17	<a href="#">Building Bridges: The Transition Process From Early Intervention to Early Childhood</a>	Moline
12/7/17	<a href="#">Beyond the Shape Sorter: Playful Interactions that Promote Strong Academic and Social-Emotional Skills</a>	Live Webinar ( <a href="#">MFLN</a> )

READ MORE ABOUT



Central Billing Office | Monitoring | EI Central Directory

The Early Intervention Training Program is housed within the **Department of Special Education** at the **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** and funded through the **Illinois Department of Human Services**.

---

#### **Disclaimer**

The information provided in this Newsletter is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. The opinions, resources, and links provided in the Newsletter are intended for information purposes only and are not intended to take the place of medical or legal advice, or of other appropriate services.

The content of the EITP Newsletter does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Illinois Early Intervention Training Program, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, or the Illinois Department of Human Services; nor does the mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the Illinois Early Intervention Training Program, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, or the Illinois Department of Human Services.

[Subscribe](#) [Unsubscribe](#)