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Winter 2014 Newsletter



Winter 2014 Early Intervention Training Program Newsletter

Holiday Greeting

Happy Holidays

During this holiday season many of us take the time to reflect on those things and people we are grateful for in our lives. My own reflections continue to center around how lucky I have been over the past twenty plus years to get to work with some of the most talented early intervention professionals in the country, who always put the needs and concerns of families above everything else. I have had the pleasure to get to know families and providers from every corner of Illinois. I want to take this time to thank you for the work you do to make the Illinois Early Intervention System a great experience for each and every family who receives EI's support. Without your passion and commitment to high standards many of these families may not have had the opportunity to participate in EI and celebrate all of their children's strengths and successes. The staff at EITP wishes all of you a very Happy Holiday Season filled with joy, abundance and bright moments!

Paul Burke



News and Updates

Limited Access for New Users of EITP Online Training during Holiday Break (December 22nd - January 5th)

This closure effects people wanting to set up a Moodle account for online training. If you plan to complete online trainings and you do not have a Moodle account set up, please submit Moodle account requests no later than December 19.

During this closure, if you have a Moodle account already, you should be able to register and complete online trainings.

If you have questions about online trainings, please check our [Online FAQ](#) page, especially the [Online Troubleshooting](#) and [Online Road Map](#) sub-pages, for assistance.

Check out our new EITP website!

The Early Intervention Training Program (EITP) at the University of Illinois is pleased to announce that we have a new website! You can find our new, more modern site at <http://eitp.education.illinois.edu/>.

Please bookmark the new address to find us easily!

Almost all the content from our previous website has been carried over to the new website with improvements in organization and updates. For instance, our home page has a new focus on the Mission of the EITP as well as the Principles of Early Intervention that guide all that we do. Perhaps the most improved page is our [Resources](#) section, which has a drop down menu to help you locate resources and pictorial links to EITP social media and key collaborators.

Please note that the **Training Events** and **Credit Request** pages currently route to our original website. We anticipate those pages to move to the new website in 2015.

We'd love to hear from you on what you think about the new website. If you have a few minutes, we invite you to take a brief survey after viewing the new website. **EITP Website Feedback Form:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EITPwebsite2014>



New Procedure for EITP Online Training Certificates

EITP will be automating their certificate process for online trainings. Instead of waiting to have a certificate emailed, you will be able to access the certificate in Moodle after completing the evaluation! The automated certificates for online training will start after December 22nd. For additional details please download [EITP Online Certificates \(PDF\)](#).



Save the Date for the 9th Annual Empowering Professionals Conference

Early Intervention Training Program (EITP), Illinois Developmental Therapy Association (IDTA) and Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago are proud to announce the upcoming 9th Annual Empowering Professionals Conference. The conference will be held on Friday, March 6, 2015 at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills, IL. **Additional registration information will be coming soon!**

[Click here](#) to download the "EPC Save the Date" with further details.



New Report Card on Child Homelessness from National Center on Family Homelessness

It is often eye opening to see how the situations of the families we serve continues to change, and sometimes in such a frightening ways. The National Center on Family Homelessness has released [America's Youngest Outcasts: A Report Card on Child Homelessness](#) (November 2014). The report finds that 2,483,539 children experienced homelessness in the U.S. in 2013. This historic high represents **one in every 30 children**. From 2012 to 2013, there was an 8% increase nationally in children experiencing homelessness. Children are homeless in every city, county, and state. The report provides trends by state and includes policy recommendations for addressing the issue. Please visit <http://www.homelesschildrenamerica.org/> to learn more.

Resources You Can Use

Goldstick Family Lecture on Communication Partnerships

The 10th Annual Goldstick Family Lecture took place on October 30th in Champaign. Ann Kaiser of Vanderbilt University delivered a presentation themed "Every Child is Communicating Now: Some Things We Know as Scientists, Some Things We Know as Humans". Dr. Kaiser's presentation focused on the importance of communication partnerships, especially the partnership between child and parent, as well as the use of enhanced milieu teaching (EMT). Learn more about Dr. Kaiser's research and programs at KidTalk here: <http://kc.vanderbilt.edu/kidtalk/>



See highlights of this year's event by visiting <http://education.illinois.edu/news/10th-anniversary-Goldstick-Family-Lecture-highlights-progress-combating-communication-disorders>. To learn more about the Goldstick Initiative, [click here](#).

Tips for Raising a Compassionate Infant or Toddler

Recent research shows that infants and toddlers are far more empathetic than we once thought. While they have short fuses, and don't cope well with sharing, they are capable of being compassionate. With this in mind, this column offers [ten tips](#) for supporting pro-social behaviors in infants and toddlers that apply in home and program settings. Check out this great resource from NAEYC at <http://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/10-tips-raising-compassionate>

DEC Recommend Practices Video and Training Opportunities

The DEC Recommended Practices were developed to provide guidance on practices related to better outcomes for young children with disabilities, their families, and the personnel who serve them. As the field continues to evolve and new research emerges about how best to serve children with disabilities, it is important that the Recommended Practices are revisited and revised to remain current and relevant. DEC created a Recommended Practices Commission which was tasked with updating and revising the Recommended Practices. Check out the video [DEC Recommended Practices: Parents, Home Visitors and Educators Speak!](#) by clicking on the image.

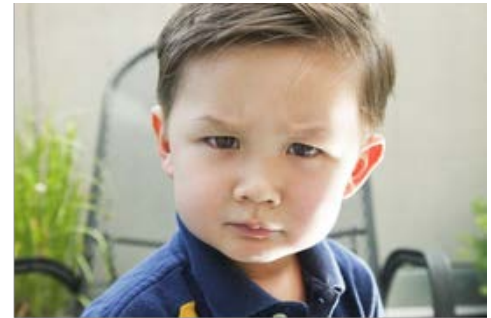


Also, please join us on January 14th for a webinar to learn more about the DEC Recommended Practices being presented by Commission members Tricia Catalino and Chelsea Guillen. Go to our [Training Page](#) to register for this opportunity.

Resources focused on "Addressing Challenging Behavior"

Family Coaching Training in Champaign

This fall, Early Head Start home visitors, early intervention providers, EITP staff, and University of Illinois faculty and students participated in a three-part series on family coaching presented by Vanderbilt University's Erin Barton. Through thoughtful activities, lively discussion, and personal reflection, the group developed skills in building relationships with families, assessing social and emotional development, and addressing challenging behaviors. Sharing experiences and perspectives from these different groups of professionals allowed for greater understanding of different programs that serve young children and families. The training helped to invigorate participants' practice and research efforts.



To learn more, download a [module on Positive Behavior Support](#) and [additional resource list](#). The series focused on using a holistic approach to building families' capacity to support their children and is provided by the [Center for Social and Emotional Foundations of Early Learning](#).

Also, check out Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention's (TACSEI) Making Life Easier series to share with families here: http://challengingbehavior.fmhi.usf.edu/do/resources/making_life_easier_orgr.html



Resources from the Illinois EI Clearinghouse

The [Illinois Early Intervention Clearinghouse \(EIC\)](#) identifies and collects research-based and best-practice early intervention information to share with families. Illinois EIC has a free [lending library](#) that also has great resources for you as well! To learn more about how to use their library, [click here](#). The following is a sample of resources from EIC that address challenging behavior. **Click on the title for more information about the resource**

Books:

[Prevent-teach-reinforce for young children: the early childhood model of individualized positive behavior support \(Book with CD-ROM\)](#)

[Mr. Incredible: A story about autism, overcoming challenging behavior, and a family's fight for special education rights.](#)

[Optimistic parenting: hope and help for you and your challenging child](#)

[Addressing challenging behaviors in early childhood settings: a teacher's guide](#)

[Using skilled dialogue to transform challenging interactions honoring identity, voice, and connection](#)

Bilingual resource:

[Behavior has meaning: 3 steps for understanding and responding to challenging behavior = El comportamiento tiene un significado : 3 pasos para entender y responder a los comportamientos difíciles](#)

DVDs:

[Challenging behaviors in young children: strategies & solutions](#)

[Challenging behaviors in young children: techniques and solutions](#)

[Addressing adventuresome behavior while maintaining dignity for all!](#)

Upcoming Conference on Addressing Challenging Behaviors

The [Florida Center for Inclusive Communities](#) (FCIC) and the Pyramid Model Consortium are pleased to bring you this unique and inspiring professional development experience. NTI's format is designed to provide an in-depth learning experience built around the Pyramid Model.

The Institute brings together experts from around the country who skillfully present three-hour workshops offering practical, ready-to-use information on social and emotional development. It is an unparalleled opportunity to increase your skills, build a network of colleagues, and become part of a growing professional community who use the Pyramid Model.

The institute is from April 21-24, 2015 at the Vinroy Renaissance Resort and Golf Club in St. Petersburg, FL. [To learn more about the institute or register, please click here.](#)

12th NATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE
ON EFFECTIVE PRACTICES

Addressing
Challenging
Behavior

Ask Lucy!



"...questions, boy do I get questions. I may not always have the answers, but with access to a rather wealthy reserve of resources at the Local, State, and National levels I am more than willing to track them down- or at least find leads to them. I am happy to help and happier when I know that I can. As the Training Events Coordinator and Field Training Support Specialist for EITP, this is part of what I do. So when you have an early intervention question, go ahead and just **Ask Lucy...**" - *Lucy Gimble, EITP*

Lucy answers your questions on Rule 500

Since recent changes made to Rule 500 went into effect on May 14, 2014, I am frequently asked about the changes in continuing professional education. The most common with slight variation:

An SLP renewing her EI credential in the Spring of 2015 has been planning to use her participation in the annual ISHA conferences for the past 3 years towards her continuing ed requirement. She read in the last EITP newsletter of the changes in the Rule and calls EITP wanting to know, is she now expected to complete 20 hours of continuing ed assigned to her by EITP in order to meet this requirement for her renewal.

It is true that the changes in Rule 500 became effective last May; however, this Continuing Professional Education requirement in the Rule as is, is broad in its meaning and requires policy to further define and clarify it. Currently, that policy does not exist and until it does, the policy in place before the change in the Rule remains status quo.

When will new policy take effect?

Changing policy is a process and in many cases a slow one. Though it is not anticipated that new policy will be in place before the beginning of the next fiscal year, July 1, 2015, we really do not know for sure.

Be assured that the EITP will do all that it can to keep you apprised of the situation. Monitor our website, <http://eitp.education.illinois.edu> regularly for announcements. You can also check [our Announcements page](#) for past announcements. You are also encouraged to stay informed by connecting to the websites of Illinois Early Intervention Partners and other Stakeholders in the System

Spotlight on: FAMILY OUTCOME SURVEYS

Early intervention is a family-centered system of supports and services. Both children and families are considered to receive benefits from Early Intervention Program.

Why it's Important?

The Family Outcomes Survey is one way we can learn whether or not families are getting what is intended from early intervention services. Family outcomes are defined as the changes experienced by the family as a result of early intervention services and supports. Researchers at the [ECO Center](#) constructed the Family Outcomes Survey.

This survey asks families to think about things like understanding your child's strengths, abilities, and special needs and helping your child develop and learn. Family Outcomes Surveys have been sent to a portion of the families in the early intervention system each year. Last year, 2,660 of the 19,967 surveyed early intervention families returned the surveys that were sent directly to their homes.

What's New?



Over the past several years the Family Outcomes Surveys were mailed out to every family with an active Individualized Family Service Plan in the Early Intervention System at a point in time. This year surveys will be mailed out to all families that exit the EI program.

What you can do!

To help improve return rates, providers should let families know that as they exit the EI system, a survey will be mailed out to their homes. Please encourage families to complete and return the surveys, so that we can learn about their experience while in the Early Intervention Program. By continuing to expand the number of families completing and returning surveys, we should soon be able to describe the benefits of early intervention for both children and their families.

Upcoming Events

Winter Webinar Wednesdays

Whoa...it's cold and snowy outside – how can I possibly get to trainings?!

The Early Intervention Training Program (EITP) will be hosting a Winter Webinar Series that will run each Wednesday in January – March 2015.

- 1-2 webinars each Wednesday, starting January 14, 2015
- The webinars will be free!
- They are approved for early intervention credit as well as licensure hours for SLP, PT, OT, and SW
- Our webinars will be focused on a range of topics identified as a need through the EITP Needs Assessment conducted.

We hope that these webinars will offer a way for you to connect with the material, keep up to date with training, and stay safe in the winter months! You will be able to register for our webinars through our [Training Calendar](#) starting in mid-December.

To see details about webinars (dates, times, topics), please download our [EITP Winter Webinar Calendar \(PDF\)](#).



Upcoming EITP Sponsored Training Events

Click on the event title to register or learn more about that event

Date	Event	Location
12/19/2014	Battelle Developmental Inventory - 2nd Revision	Tinley Park
12/19/2014	Bi-lingual Language Proficiency Exams for Interpreters/Translators in IL Early Intervention	Palos Hills
1/12/2015	Online Systems Overview One Day Follow Up Session	Chicago
1/13/2015	Online Systems Overview One Day Follow Up Session	Springfield
1/13/2015 - 1/15/2015	System Overview for Bilingual Interpreters and Translators in the IL Early Intervention System	Chicago Heights
1/23/2015	Hawaii Early Learning Profile (HELP)	Collinsville
1/30/2015	Online Systems Overview One Day Follow Up Session	Mokena



EITP Weather Policy

Now that winter is upon us, we wanted to remind everyone of our weather policy for training events. EITP policy is to hold all scheduled training events regardless of weather conditions, whenever possible. Safety is of the utmost concern and participants are urged to use their own judgment in determining if weather conditions make the commute too hazardous even though the event is still being held. If a training event is cancelled, we will make every effort to announce the cancellation of daytime events by 5:00 am and evening events by 2:00 pm on the day of the event.

Cancellation announcements will be posted on the [home page of our website](#), and a message will be recorded at our toll free number 866-509-3867.

[To view a full list of events, including events not sponsored by EITP, visit our website](#)



by clicking the calendar image. Please note that schedule is subject to change and availability.

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 on the Web site are intended for information purposes only and are not intended to take the place of medical or legal advice, or of other appropriate services.

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