Early Start Partners Symposium

Celebrating Early Start Milestones
v. February 26, 2017

April 11-12, 2017
Anaheim, CA

Early Start Personnel Development is a collaborative effort of the California Department of Developmental Services and California Department of Education, administered by WestEd Center for Prevention and Early Intervention (CPEI).

You are invited...
...to participate in the Early Start Partners Symposium (ESPS)

Intended audience:
Experienced Early Start professionals, including
- Service coordinators working in regional centers and local educational agencies
- Early intervention service providers
- Early Start family resource center directors and support staff
- Managers and supervisors

Others who may benefit:
- Parent leaders
- Staff from partner agencies, such as Early Head Start/Head Start, preschool programs, Public Health, Mental Health, and Social Services

The Early Start Partners Symposium (ESPS) has been developed to address the needs of early intervention service providers, service coordinators, and family support professionals across Early Start partner agencies. ESPS offers a comprehensive, in-person professional development and networking opportunity for the entire Early Start community. The Symposium agenda provides timely information about topics of critical interest to both seasoned and new Early Start personnel. Please join us!

Utilizing intensive, interactive, facilitated training and discussion processes, session content goes beyond foundational knowledge and strategies. Personnel from multiple disciplines, agencies and service systems who provide services for infants and toddlers with or at risk for developmental delays and disabilities and their families have the opportunity to access evidence based practices, engage in cross-agency training, and participate in collegial discussions.

Register online at: http://www.ceitan-earlystart.org/training/registration/
Fee: $90 per person
Event registration deadline: April 4, 2017 (or earlier, if capacity is reached)

Event Location
Sheraton Park Hotel at the Anaheim Resort
1855 S Harbor Blvd
Anaheim, CA 92802
(714) 750-1811

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: CLICK HERE.
A special room rate of $120 single/double is available until March 20, 2017. If you call the hotel to make your reservation, identify yourself as a participant of the Early Start Event and ask for the
WestEd Special rate.

AIRPORT SHUTTLE
To receive a discounted rate on a shuttle from the airport, CLICK HERE or call the reservations department toll free at 1-888-995-7433 and mention promo code WestEd17 at the time of reservations.
Early Start Partners Symposium

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Symposium Schedule At-a-Glance

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<td>Welcome</td>
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<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>General Session: <strong>Relationship-Based Practice; Developing Effective Working Relationships with Families and the Power of Listening</strong></td>
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<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Morning Concurrent Breakout Sessions (90 minutes)</td>
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<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Concurrent Intensive Breakout Sessions (2 hours 30 minutes)</td>
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<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>Return to Sessions</td>
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<td>4:15 p.m.</td>
<td>SSIP Presentations</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>General Session: <strong>IDEA Part C and the California SSIP: Reviewing the Past and Looking to the Future</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Afternoon Concurrent Breakout Sessions (90 minutes)</td>
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<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Closing Out</td>
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<td><strong>3:30 p.m.</strong></td>
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DAY ONE - April 11, 2017 – 8:45 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. GENERAL SESSION
Relationship-Based Practice: Developing Effective Working Relationships with Families and the Power of Listening
Presenter: Victor Bernstein, Ph.D.
During this session, Dr. Bernstein introduces (or reintroduces, if you've seen him present in years past) the power of the Parallel Process and strategies for recognizing and building on families’ strengths and relationships to support the development of their very young children with disabilities or developmental delays. Participants will learn principles for developing the best possible relationships with families to support the development of children participating in early intervention and family support programs and begin to practice skills in observation and reflection. Expansion of this work and additional practice will be offered in breakout sessions later in the day.

Breakout Sessions Day One

Morning: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

1.A. Routines-Based Intervention
Presenter: Monica Mathur-Kalluri, WestEd
Description: This session describes routines-based intervention and shares practical ideas for how early intervention professionals can plan and implement routines-based interventions in their work with families. Presenters will also share tools for professionals to self-assess their competence in using routines-based intervention.

1.B. Critical Foundational Skills in Early Start
Presenters: Kristine Pilkington, Early Intervention Consultant; Patty Moore, Alpha Resource Center of Santa Barbara
Description: Relationships are the heart of Early Start. The relationship between the provider and the parent impacts the relationship between the parent and the child, which ultimately results in positive outcomes for the family. As Jeree Pawl says, "How you are is as important as what you do." In this session, recommended for all Early Start professionals, presenters will discuss the fundamentals of relationship-based intervention and how to apply these principles to work with infants and toddlers in Early Start and their families.

1.C. Sleep Disorders in Children with Developmental Disabilities
Presenters: Dr. John Saito, Children's Hospital of Orange County; Parent Partner TBD
Description: Healthy sleep is critical for development. Presenters will discuss common sleep problems and disorders in children with developmental disabilities, the possible impacts of sleep disorders on development, and causes and treatments to alleviate problems and disorders.

1.D. Step by Step... Transition from Early Start
Presenters: Erin Paulsen, California Department of Developmental Services (DDS); Sheila Self, California Department of Education (CDE)
Description: Representatives from DDS and CDE will discuss federal and state requirements for transition from early intervention services at age 3. The presentation includes "steps and services," the responsibilities of the regional center and the local
educational agency during the transition process, and critical communications with and involvement of the family. Bring your questions!

1.E. Establishing Parent-Led Support Groups in LA County: What We Learned  
**Presenters:** Victoria Berrey and Ivor Weiner, Family Focus Resource Center (FFRC)  
**Description:** FFRC will share their experience participating in the Parent Support Circles of Los Angeles County initiative to establish peer-led parent support groups, including lessons learned and strategies and resources for creating parent-led support groups in communities throughout California.

1.F. Assessing and Providing Services to Very Young Dual-Language Learners  
**Presenter:** Dr. Gabriela Simon-Cereijido, College of Health & Human Services, California State University, Los Angeles  
**Description:** This session focuses on the challenges and advancements in providing language services to young children from bilingual and non-English-speaking backgrounds.

1.G. Relationship-Based Practice... Continued: Extended Practice in Observation and Listening  
**Presenter:** Victor Bernstein, Ph.D.  
**Description:** Continuing the work initiated during the general session address, participants will work with Dr. Bernstein to learn: how to recognize the effects of their own judgments, their own stress, and those of the family; coping strategies to maintain their effectiveness and enjoyment of their work; strategies for supporting one another when stressed; coping strategies to see difficult situations from a more positive perspective; and techniques for sharing their observations and asking questions non-judgmentally. **This session is an all-day session;** participants will break for lunch and continue with Dr. Bernstein through the afternoon session. **If this session is selected, registrants may not choose another session for the afternoon.**

**Afternoon: 1:15 - 4:00 p.m.**

1.H. Relationship-based Approaches to Support Social and Emotional Development  
**Presenters:** Presenters TBA  
**Description:** Presenters will describe how professionals can support the social and emotional development of infants and toddlers through their own relationships with parents and caregivers. Using the *Take a Minute – Provider Tips for Supporting Social-Emotional Development* as a practical guide, participants will learn about foundational principles in relationship-based practice, classic resources, and opportunities for professional development.

1.I. Being With, not Doing For: Using the Coaching Model With Families  
**Presenters:** Lisa Houghtelin, North Coastal Consortium for Special Education; Ross Adams, WestEd  
**Description:** Recognizing that ongoing developmental support within daily routines and activities is much more effective for supporting development than sporadic episodes of concentrated early intervention activities, early intervention professionals now work with *parents and caregivers* rather than *on children* to build the capacity of families to support the development of children. While this approach is not new, it can be challenging to
implement, especially for professionals who are outcome-oriented or accustomed to traditional therapeutic or educational models. Participants will learn practical strategies for applying a coaching model in their work with families. Presenters will provide a list of seminal resources and engaging, real-time practice in applying a relationship-based approach to early intervention.

1.J. Using Technology in Early Intervention  
**Presenter:** Larry Edelman, Senior Clinical Instructor, Department of Pediatrics in the University of Colorado School of Medicine  
**Description:** Video-supported early intervention is proving to be an effective strategy for both improving intervention practice and engaging parents as partners in supporting the development of their children. Participants will see how early intervention and early childhood professionals around the country are using technology with each other and with families. Time will be dedicated for discussion to explore possibilities in personal practice.

1.K. What Are Functional, Meaningful Outcomes and How Do We Write Them?  
**Presenters:** Michelle Oliver, Santa Clara County Office of Education; Debbie Whitmer, Early Intervention Consultant  
**Description:** This interactive workshop offers specific information and resources for developing Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) outcomes. Participants will be invited to participate in follow-up coaching activities following the Symposium to support putting the knowledge and skills learned in this session into practice.

1.L. Orientation to the Early Start System  
**Presenters:** Linda Landry, Family Resource Center Network of California (FRCNCA); Cesar Garcia, Westside Regional Center; Jennifer Fisher, Southwest Special Education Local Plan Area  
**Description:** This interactive session for new staff clarifies the who, what, when, where, and how of the California Early Start system. Participants will also learn about the various professional development opportunities offered through California’s Comprehensive System of Personnel Development.

4:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. GENERAL SESSION  
CA State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Cohort Presentations  
**Presenters:** Representatives from Cohort 1 TBD  
Phase III of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) kicked off in July 2016. Five regional centers 'stepped up' to participate, along with their local Early Start partners, in the first cohort of Early Start programs crafting and implementing plans to build local capacity to support the social and emotional development of children served by Early Start; up to eight regional centers will join a new cohort of implementers this year. What has happened in the Cohort I programs and what can programs participating in the next cohort expect? Representatives from the five regional center catchment areas who participated in Cohort I will share highlights from their implementation of SSIP activities.

4:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. GENERAL SESSION  
SSIP Walkabout and Networking Reception  
Attendees are in for a treat! After the brief presentations from SSIP Cohort 1 teams, be our guest at a reception where participants will have the chance to network as they visit information stations.
where the state lead agencies and each of the local teams will display and discuss SSIP materials and information. Take this opportunity to talk about what’s worked and lessons learned with the people who jumped in early. Will your regional center catchment area join the next cohort of SSIP local implementation teams?
DAY TWO - April 12, 2017 - 8:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. GENERAL SESSION
IDEA Part C and the California SSIP: Reviewing the Past and Looking to the Future
**Presenters:** Sharon Walsh, Walsh-Taylor Incorporated; Sharon DeRego, DDS; Sheila Self, CDE
National policy consultant Sharon Walsh, Walsh-Taylor Incorporated, will provide a brief history of the Infants with Disabilities Act, Part C, including what led to the passing of the Act, and its significant milestones and impact. Ms. Walsh will also provide an update on recent federal action impacting services for young children with disabilities and their families, including the new administration, federal legislation, regulations and budget activities that impact education, social services, and health care. Early Start’s partner agencies leadership will provide an update on California’s SSIP activities so far, focusing on the next phase of statewide implementation and evaluation efforts.

Breakout Session Day Two

Morning: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

2.A. Supporting Parents of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children: Parent Links and California Hands & Voices
**Presenters:** Kat Lowrance, Parent Links and California Hands & Voices; Apryl Chauhan, California Hands & Voices
**Description:** Parent Links is a program sponsored by CDE for families with children identified as Deaf or Hard of Hearing ages birth-3 years old. California Hands & Voices is a parent-driven nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting families of children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. Presenters will provide information about supporting families of children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and about available resources and services.

2.B. What's New in Accessing Insurance for Early Start Services
**Presenter:** Katie Hornberger, Disability Rights California
**Description:** Accessing insurance for Early Start services continues to be a complicated process for both service coordinators and families. What impact can be expected from possible changes to the Affordable Care Act? This session will cover information concerning the use of public or private insurance for early intervention therapy services. Presenters will discuss developmental vs. medical services, covered services, what to do when there are no providers available in the network, and what to do when a service is denied.

2.C. Assistive Technology in Early Intervention
**Presenters:** Laura Kessel, Center on Technology and Disability (CTD); Laura Simmons-Martinez, Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK)
**Description:** What are the options and advancements in assistive technology for children birth to three? How can families access assistive technology for their children? Find out from experts in assistive technology for infants and toddlers with disabilities. In addition to universally available information and resources, representatives from TASK share information and resources from their on-site TECH Center.

2.D. Q&A Session on Part C and the CA SSIP
**Presenters:** Sharon Walsh, Walsh-Taylor Incorporated; Sharon DeRego, DDS; Sheila Self, CDE
Description: In a follow-up to the general session, participants will have the opportunity to ask Sharon Walsh, federal policy consultant, questions about Part C at the federal level. Participants will also be able to ask lead agency representatives about the California SSIP progress and current and future activities.

2.E. Beyond the NICU: Planning Early Intervention for Premature Infants and their Families
Presenters: Tammy Yoon, High Risk Infant Follow-Up (HRIF) Coordinator, Children’s Hospital of Orange County; Debbie Sarmento, FRCNCA

Description: This session will examine the issues facing parents of babies admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), discuss support strategies and explore resources available after discharge.

2.F. Reaching Underserved Populations through the Promotora Program
Presenter: Rose Castillo-Chacana, Koch-Young Resource Center

Description: Reaching underserved populations can be challenging, yet is an essential component of Part C early intervention. Promotora programs are a model for equipping lay health educators to provide culturally sensitive education and services to Latino communities throughout the United States. Presenters from the Koch-Young Resource Center in Los Angeles share the success of their Promotora Program in reaching underserved communities in their area.

2.G. Writing Family Outcomes Using the Strengthening Families Framework
Presenters: Kelly Young, Warmline Family Resource Center; Monica Mathur-Kalluri, WestEd

Description: Presenters will review the five protective factors of Strengthening Families and discuss how they can be used to develop outcomes that increase parental resilience, social connections, concrete supports, knowledge of parenting and child development, and the social and emotional competence of their child. Participants will practice writing functional family outcomes using the Protective Factors Framework as a context and a template for writing complete IFSP outcome statements.

Afternoon: 1:15 – 2:45 p.m.
2.H. Guidelines for Screening and Assessment of Social and Emotional Development
Presenters: Marie Kanne Poulsen, California Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC); Representative TBD, DDS

Description: The California Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC), in partnership with DDS, recently published practice guidelines to support Early Start service coordinators and service providers in the assessment of social and emotional development of infants and toddlers referred to or eligible for Early Start. Representatives from ICC and DDS discuss the Guidelines for Evidence-Based Infant-Toddler Social and Emotional Assessment and Screening for Early Start in California, including how professionals can use this resource in their work with colleagues and with children and families.

2.I. Promoting Professional Wellness: Strategies for Supervisors
Presenter: Colby Arguelles, LCSW; Susan Graham, H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection Family Resource Center
Description: Managers, directors and supervisors of Early Start personnel need practical solutions for supporting their staff. Staff who are working in home and community environments need help to set and maintain boundaries with families and to prevent burnout. Presenters will offer tools and strategies for assessing staff wellness and satisfaction, ongoing activities that promote wellness, and options for addressing acute situations that may threaten wellness.

2.J. Next Generation Leadership: Building on the Foundation of California’s Families
Presenters: Linda Landry, FRCNCA; Patty Moore, Alpha Resource Center of Santa Barbara
Description: In this session, participants will engage with the legacy of historic milestones in the Disability Rights Movement, learn about key legislation and policies that shape the lives of people with special health care needs and disabilities, and develop informed tactics for shaping the next generation of policy making.

2.K. Outcomes to Address Social and Emotional Development
Presenters: Yvette Baptiste, Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center; Ross Adams, WestEd
Description: California’s SSIP has brought increased focus to the social and emotional development of infants and toddlers eligible for Early Start. This session will examine the process for writing child and family IFSP outcomes related to social and emotional development. Participants will learn how to generate child outcomes based on assessed needs in the social and emotional developmental domain and family outcomes specific to supporting a child’s social and emotional development.

2.L. Serving Children 0-3 in Foster Care
Presenters: Laurie Jordan, Rainbow Family Resource Center; Karen Nutt, Parents’ Place Family Resource Center; Jane Tabor-Bane, UC Davis Center for Human Services
Description: There are currently over 12,000 children under age 3 in foster care in California. In addition to the everyday challenges of caring for a child, foster/adoptive/kinship caregivers must also address the physical, developmental, and mental health needs of foster children, who tend to experience these issues at disproportionately high rates. Early Start Family Resource Centers (FRCs) may provide training, resources and information to assist these caregivers and the Early Start personnel working with them. Presenters will share strategies for professionals to support foster/adoptive/kinship families in navigating three very complex systems of care (regional center, education, and child protective services), as well as enhancing the primary relationships and social and emotional development of their children.
Early Start Scholarship Fund

Early Start Attendance Scholarships have been established to promote best practices in early intervention. Scholarships are available to encourage personnel who deliver early intervention and transition services to attend Early Start trainings to enhance their qualifications and competencies to provide quality services to infants and toddlers and their families who are eligible for California Early Start.

- Applicants or their agency of employment are responsible for paying all registration fees. Scholarship funds are awarded as a reimbursement for training expenses.

Scholarship funds are limited to available funding, therefore apply early.

Application forms for Attendance Scholarships are embedded in the online Symposium registration form.

Eligible Applicants
- Regional center (RC) staff
- RC-vendored early intervention program staff
- Individual RC-vendored specialists who provide Early Start services
- Local education agency early intervention staff
- Service coordinators
- Early Start family resource center staff
- Early Head Start staff
- Head Start or other child development program personnel providing early intervention services during transition

Requirements
- Complete the Attendance Scholarship Application portion of the registration form prior to the registration deadline.
- Complete and submit the Verification of Responsibility form, including the signature of the applicant’s Administrator or Supervisor, prior to the Early Start training event. The Verification of Responsibility form will be emailed to applicants upon submission of the Attendance Scholarship Application. Instructions for submitting the signed Verification of Responsibility form are included on the form.
- Complete and submit the Verification of Attendance form upon completion of the training to prevent cancellation of the award. Verification of Attendance forms will be provided to scholarship applicants at the conclusion of the Early Start training event.

Award Limits
- Awards for one staff person within an agency may not exceed $300 per Early Start event.
- Total agency awards per Early Start event may not exceed $1200.
- Total agency awards per year may not exceed $2400. (The fiscal year is from July through June.)
- Scholarship funds are intended to supplement a portion of training costs. Agency of employment must be willing to administer and guarantee appropriate expenditure of funds, as indicated in the Verification of Responsibility form.
Eligible Expenses

Reimbursement of travel expenses is based on state-approved rates. Meals/per diem are not covered. Collaborative funding is strongly encouraged. Applicants should identify all available funding resources. Attendance Scholarship funds are intended to supplements costs related to:

- Travel and mileage
- Airport/train, parking
- Lodging
- Registration

FUNDING LIMITATIONS AND EXCEPTIONS

- Scholarship awards are contingent upon the appropriation of funds by the Legislature via the Annual Budget Act and for as long as the funds are available.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

California Board of Registered Nursing contact hours and California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board contact hours are offered for Early Start Symposiums and require payment of CEU fees and completion of evaluations or forms as determined by the specific granting agencies.

**The provider is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing** for ten (10) contact hours per training day at $10 per hour. Completion of the Early Start Partners Symposium earns twenty (20) contact hours from the California Board of Registered Nursing; the total fee is $200.

**The provider is approved by the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board** for ten (10) contact hours per training day at $10 per hour. Completion of the Early Start Foundations Symposium earns twenty (20) contact hours from the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board. The total fee is $200 per Symposium.

Please note that due to recent changes in credentialing at the Board of Behavioral Sciences, CEU hours for LMFTs, LPCCs, LEPS and/or LCSWs are not offered at this time.

*Application for CEUs is included in the online registration form.*