



MCAAP Monday Drop In Lunch Bunch:

***“Leveraging Community
Services To Support Your
Patients’ Learning and
Developmental Needs”***

January 22, 2024

***“Meet The General Early
Intervention Program
Directors”***

***With MCAAP President:
Mary Beth Miotto, MD, MPH***



Where We've Been in Our Series... and Where We're Going



HOW DO I ACCESS OR SHARE PAST MONDAY DROP-IN CONTENT?

Find past videos and hyperlink-powered slide decks at <https://mcaap.org/cme/>

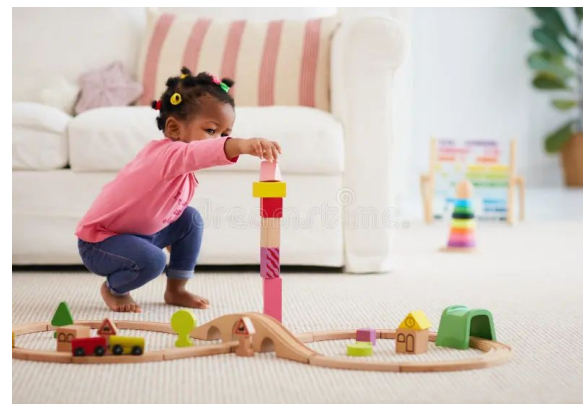
And look for your biweekly web invitation in an MCAAP member email every Monday morning.

MA EI Intervention Program Directors



The Commonwealth’s Early Intervention System includes a network of 80 services programs: 59 of which are General Early Intervention Services programs and 21 are specialty services programs.

Today’s presenters are program directors from 5 of the General EI programs.



Each program director will share their program’s mission, the towns they serve, and their service delivery model. They will also share their contact information so you can reach out with more questions.

Boston Children's Hospital Early Intervention Program

- Program serves eligible children living in Boston (excluding East Boston, Chelsea and Charlestown) and Brookline
- Program Mission Statement: In support of Boston Children's Hospital Mission Statement, the Early Intervention Program strives to provide the highest quality of care and to enhance the care and well being of children and families living in our local catchment area.
- Program service Model : With a team of dedicated therapists including – Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy , Speech/Language Pathology, Social Work, Music Therapy, Dance Therapy, Psychology, Mental Health, Developmental Specialists – we partner with families to determine goals and priorities for their children's Early Intervention Services. We provide a family-driven, developmental approach to support and offer strategies for children to make progress towards these goals! Home visits, child care visits and developmental playgroups are offered through the Early Intervention Program
- Program Director: Melanie Griffin Melanie.griffin@childrens.harvard.edu 617.919.7872

Thank you

1



Where the world comes for answers



Thom Springfield Infant Toddler Services: Allyson Lopez, Program Director

- **Communities served:** Springfield, Longmeadow, Hampden, East Longmeadow, Wilbraham
- **Mission Statement:** Our mission is to provide community based, collaborative, culturally sensitive and comprehensive services, consultation and training to young children, their families and others in the community who care for them.
- **Program Service Model:** We use a trauma-informed, routines-based, parent/caregiver coaching model that embeds strategies into daily activities to strengthen the natural competence of parents and promote healthy social emotional development.
- **Allyson Lopez, Program Director**
 - Email: ALopez@thomchild.org
 - Phone: (413)-783-5500 x111



Meeting Street: Nicole Constantino, OT/L, CEIS

- Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Gosnold, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester, and Wareham
- Meeting Street's Mission: Meeting Street compassionately and innovatively empowers children and their families to thrive by fostering the development of the whole child.
- Meeting Street's Early Intervention Program ensures all families are treated fairly and equitably, as well as, by proving evidence-based services.
- Nicole Constantino- nconstantino@meetingstreet.org



Meeting Street

Partners in Child Development Early Intervention Program

- Chris Hunt-Executive Director
 - chunt@mypcd.org
- Cheryl Bruk-Director, Early Intervention
 - cbruk@mypcd.org
- PCD's vision is to create a world in which every child can be seen for their ability and given the opportunity to achieve their full potential. Our mission is to nurture the growth and potential of EVERY child.
- Early Intervention Catchment area: Lawrence, Andover, North Andover, and Methuen
- Early Intervention provides family-centered services that support the development of eligible children by assisting the child to meet their developmental milestones.



RIVERSIDE EARLY INTERVENTION-NEEDHAM: JOANNE SWEENEY, DIRECTOR

Catchment Area: Needham, Newton, Wellesley, Weston

- **An additional program serves Cambridge/Somerville*

Riverside's mission statement:

We make a difference in the lives of individuals, families, and communities through innovative and compassionate behavioral healthcare and human services, and we use technology to improve access to quality care and expand our impact.

We believe that –

- hope is an essential element of our work.
- quality care should be available to all.
- excellence must be a guiding force in everything we do.
- advocacy on healthcare and human services is our responsibility.
- a diverse and respectful workforce is essential to attaining our mission.

Riverside Early Intervention

A SERVICE BY RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CARE

Question and Answer Time

Turn your camera back on and either put your questions in the chat or raise your hand to ask our guests.

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Contact information for today's guests from Early Intervention:

Melanie Griffin, Director
Boston Children's Hospital Early Intervention Program
75 Bickford Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
617.919.7880
melanie.griffin@childrens.harvard.edu

Allyson Lopez, Program Director
Thom Springfield Child & Family Services
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Springfield Mass 01118
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Nicole Constantino, OTR/L, CEIS,
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543 North Street | New Bedford , Ma 02740
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Chris Hunt, Executive Director
Partners in Child Development
Merrimack Valley
O: 978-475-3806 x204
C: 978-995-9228
E: chunt@mypcd.org
W: MyPCD.org

Joanne Sweeney, PT, C/NDT, CEIS/D, Program
Director
Riverside Early Intervention
255 Highland Avenue
Needham, MA 02494
Phone: 781-449-1884 Option 3 (x4977)
Fax: 781-449-7972

EI Program Contact Information

Learn more about the different Massachusetts Early Intervention programs

This page contains information on the different Early Intervention programs in Massachusetts. If you are interested in referring a child to Early Intervention, you can contact the program in your city or town directly.

If you want to speak with someone about the general process of referrals to Early Intervention, please contact [Mass Family Ties](#). Family TIES of Massachusetts is staffed by parents of children with special needs and provides information and referral services, emotional support, and training to parents of children and youth with special needs.

Find your local EI program

Please sort or search on this list by **city/town name** (not zip code) to find your local EI program.

Search by city/town name

Show 5 entries

Search:

Program Name	Phone Number	Website	Address	Catchment area	Programs in Catchment Area
Arc of the South Shore/First Early Intervention Program	781-331-2533	https://arcsouthshore.org/what-we-do/first-earl...	574 Main St. S. Weymouth, MA 02190	Braintree, Cohasset, Hingham, Hull, Norwell, Scituate. Weymouth	Arc of the South Shore/First Early Intervention Program
Aspire Early Intervention Program	781-593-2727	https://www.aspiredevelopmental.org/early-inter...	176 Franklin Street Lynn, MA 01904	Danvers, Lynn, Lynnfield, Marblehead, Middleton, Nahant, Peabody, Salem, Saugus, Swampscott	Aspire, Northeast Arc EI- North Shore
Associates for Human Services Taunton Early Intervention Program	508-880-0202	http://www.ahsinc.org/early-intervention	68 Allison Avenue Taunton, MA 02780	Berkley, Dighton, Lakeville, Middleboro, Raynham, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Taunton	Associates for Human Services Taunton

Mass.gov can help you navigate EI contacts and referrals

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The Bureau Of Family Health and Nutrition: Early Intervention Division

Massachusetts Early Intervention (EI) is a program for infants and toddlers (birth to 3 years old) who have developmental delays or are at risk of a developmental delay.

Contact Us

Address

250 Washington St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02108

[Directions](#) →

Phone

Family TIES of Massachusetts, Central Directory

[\(800\) 905-8437](tel:(800)905-8437)

Call to refer a child or learn more about Early Intervention

Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition, Main Office

[\(617\) 624-6060](tel:(617)624-6060)

For business inquiries

Online

Directory:

[Contact the Early Intervention Division](#) →

General information email: EI@mass.gov

Emily White, PhD, BCBA-D, LABA, Director, Early Intervention Division

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Additional Ways to Help Your Families Access Early Intervention: Navigate **Together**

Select Language: Eng / Esp / Port / Kreyòl Ayisyen / 中文 / Việt / Select Language

Network of Care Massachusetts Find Behavioral Health Services

HOME ▾ SERVICES ▾ LIBRARY ▾ INSURANCE #JUSTASK MY ACCOUNT ▾ EMERGENCY

Early Intervention for Children With Disabilities/Delays 02126 1 SEARCH

Languages Spoken by Staff All Radius 5 miles

Search Results

KEYWORD: EARLY INTERVENTION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES/DELAYS

9 Services Were Found Within 5 Mile(s) Of 02126

Thom Boston Metro Early Intervention (EI) Program

SHARE ▾

Distance: 2.33
Phone: (617) 383-6522
Address: 555 Amory Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
+ More Contact Info...

Thom Boston Metro is committed to providing high quality, comprehensive, and family-centered early intervention services to infants, toddlers, their families, and others in the community who care for them...

Bay Cove Human Services: Early Intervention Program (EI)

SHARE ▾

Distance: 2.49
Phone: (617) 371-3010
Address: 105 Victory Road
Dorchester, MA 02122

<https://massachusetts.networkofcare.org/mh/services/index.aspx>

Partnering with Parents: Don't Refer without a Good Conversation

Kisa entèvansyon bonè a ye?

Pwogram entèvansyon bonè Massachusetts (Early Intervention, EI) se yon pwogram pou tibebe ak timoun piti (depri nesans yo jiska laj 3 zan) ki gen yon reta nan devlopman yo oswa ki gen risk pou gen yon reta nan devlopman yo.

Sèvis EI yo la pou ede fanmi yo ak moun k ap pran swen timoun yo, e pou amelyore devlopman ak aprantisaj tibebe ak timoun piti yo grasa yon seri aktivite endividyalize ki apwopriye pou devlopman chak timoun nan kad eksperyans nan lavi toulejou yo.

Pwogram entèvansyon bonè a bay fanmi yo sèvis pou soutni devlopman timoun ki kalifye yo. Li ede timoun yo:


- Devlope yon seri konpetans sosyo-emosyonèl ki pozitif (kiltive relasyon ak moun).
- Jwenn konesans ak konpetans (aprantisaj).
- Sèvi ak konpòtan ki apwopriye pou satisfè pwòp bezwen yo (devlope endepandans).


Mete sou sa, li ede fanmi yo:

- Konnen dwa yo.
- Kominike bezwen pitit yo.
- Ede timoun yo devlope ak aprann.

Ki kote m ka jwenn plis enfòmasyon sou pwogram entèvansyon bonè a?

Rele **Central Directory** (lis santral) nan 1-800-905-8437 oswa ale sou sit www.massfamilyties.org pou jwenn yon lis tout pwogram entèvansyon bonè ki sètifye nan vil kote ou rete a. Rele yon pwogram EI ki nan zòn ou rete a epi pale ak yon reprezantan pou rekòmande yon fanmi pou pwogram nan oswa vizite **pwojè lidèchip paran (Parent Leadership Project)** nan www.eiplp.org pou jwenn plis enfòmasyon.






Massachusetts Department of Public Health
(Depatman Sante Piblik nan Massachusetts)
Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition
(Biwo Sante ak Alimantasyon Piblik)
Division of Early Intervention Services
(Divizyon Sèvis Entèvansyon Bonè)

250 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

www.mass.gov/dph/earlyintervention
Rele: (617) 624-6060



Depatman Sante Piblik nan Massachusetts
Biwo Sante ak Alimantasyon Piblik
Divizyon Entèvansyon Bonè
www.mass.gov/dph/earlyintervention

MASSACHUSETTS EARLY INTERVENTION (EI) Home Visits



What will my visit look like?

During your home visit, you, your child and your Early Intervention Specialist will:

- Learn about things your family does every day, such as eating meals, baths or a trip to the grocery store. Are these things easy? Are they hard? How does your child do these things with you?
- Come up with strategies to support Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) outcomes.
- Help you discover ways to practice skills in your daily activities.
- Help make sure you and your child are feeling confident learning new skills while enjoying the activities you do as a family.

You are an important part of the EI visit. You play the most important role in accomplishing the IFSP outcomes for your family.



www.mass.gov/dph/earlyintervention

Why do we do visits this way?

Massachusetts Early Intervention uses research to guide our home visits. We focus on three concepts in our work with families:

1. Infants and toddlers learn best through lots of practice during daily activities.
2. You have the greatest impact on your child's progress. You are with your child every day. Early Intervention is only with your family for a short time.
3. The EI Specialist supports your relationship with your child.

We use the principles from the Parents Interacting with Infants (PIWI)* to guide our home visits. PIWI helps parents and caregivers as well as infants and toddlers feel good about what they are doing together and individually. Massachusetts EI wants children and families to be active and successful in all they do throughout their lives.

*L. Yales, J. McCollum. Parents Interacting with Infants (PIWI). Center of the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning, 2005.

Better Understanding Early Intervention In Massachusetts: 7 Key Principles: What EI Looks Like and Doesn't Look Like

Providers



Massachusetts Early Intervention System 7 Key Principles: For Providers What Early Intervention in Massachusetts Looks Like and Doesn't Look Like

Mission Statement: Massachusetts Early Intervention is a viable system that builds upon supports and resources for family members and caregivers to enhance the development and learning of infants and toddlers through individualized, developmentally appropriate intervention embedded in everyday activities.

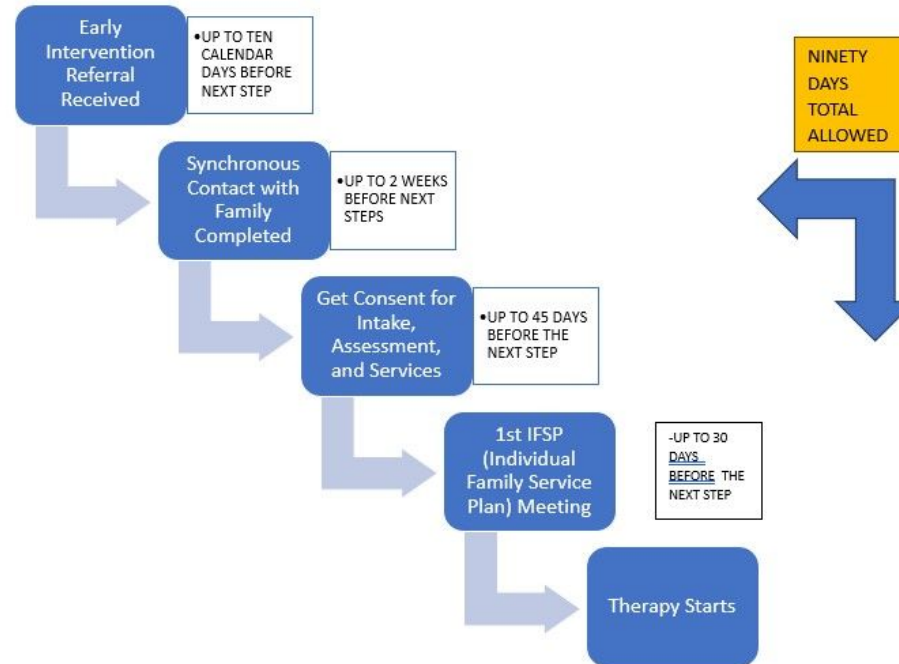
Key Principle #1: Infants and toddlers develop and learn best through meaningful everyday experiences and interactions with familiar people in familiar places.

Key Concepts of this Looks Like:	Doesn't Look Like:
Visits are with children, their families or caregivers, in their natural environment.	Working with children in a separate room or space in the home or in a separate location in the childcare settings.
Support caregivers to engage with the child in enjoyable learning opportunities, focusing on skills that need to be developed and practiced in their everyday routines.	Expecting caregivers to sit and watch an early intervention session instead of, or without, actively participating.
Include all family members in services; use strategies to focus on caregivers' ability to increase child's participation in everyday activities and routines with those they spend time with.	Not including siblings or peers in services and isolating the child and family members from what they would be typically doing.
Visits support daily activities the family does (e.g. eating meals, bath time, watching the garbage truck, etc.). These strategies support participation in the child and family's	Bringing toys or materials into the home implying that the professionals' toys or materials are necessary for the child's progress.

The Early Intervention Referral Timeline: Similarities to Part B

-How does this impact your office referral workflow?

Early Intervention Referral Process and Timeline-Massachusetts Regulations



The Process Map and Timeline for Establishing Early Intervention Services (Part C Services) is similar to the timeline for establishing IEP (Individual Education Plan) services for children under Part B IDEA. Children receive EI services up to age 36 months (3 years) so it's important to get the child referred by no later than 2 ½ years. If you add up the "allowable" time until initiation of therapy services, it can easily be NINETY DAYS. If a referral waits until 33 months or after, the most we will get for the child is assistance with referral to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (school district). We will work more on streamlining this process. Children from 33 months on should probably just be referred to their school district directly by the MCHC team.

8/18/23 Mary Beth Miotto MD MPH

Additional EI Information and Resources for Pediatric Teams:

Sample IFSP (Individual Family Service Plan) forms in multiple languages:
<https://www.mass.gov/lists/individualized-family-service-plan-ifsp-documents>

Family Rights Notices in multiple languages:
<https://www.mass.gov/lists/early-intervention-family-rights-and-procedural-safeguards#family-rights-notice->

Consent for Evaluation (available in multiple languages):
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/consent-for-evaluation-and-assessment-english/download>

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**Thank you to our guests
from Early Intervention
for ALL you do for
children!**

Please contact Mary Beth Miotto, MCAAP President, with any ideas/ feedback on this series

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