

# Ohio's Early Intervention System

*Part C eligible infants,  
toddlers and their families*

## A Coordinated Plan



Department of  
Developmental Disabilities



# History

**2009**

The Ohio Early Childhood Cabinet directed a review of Part C policies, practices, outcomes and funding.

## Goals

- Ensure compliance with federal regulations;
- Leverage resources;
- Provide appropriate services to eligible children and families.

# History

## 2009 - 2010

- Stakeholder meetings parents, professionals, agencies, advocacy groups and the HMG Advisory council were facilitated.
- *Future Directions for Ohio's Part C/Early Intervention Program: Recommendations from the Part C/Early Intervention Workgroup of the Early Childhood Cabinet* (released April 2010).
- The recommendations from that group and link to the full document are provided in your folders.

# History

## July 2011

- Finalized the Ohio Part C Early Intervention Implementation Study. Funded through Part C of IDEA ARRA funds, United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Chicago (UCP) Early Intervention Training Program (EITP) was charged with assisting Ohio in making changes in the service delivery system.
- Stakeholders from across the state and from multiple systems were convened and data was collected from a statewide provider and administrator survey.
- The recommendations from that group and a web link to document are provided.

# History

**2012**

Through Inter-agency Agreement, ODH and DODD developed a plan to implement and sustain an effective service delivery approach.

The process included a review of the federal Part C regulations, intent of IDEA, and an evaluation of the *“Mission and Key Principles for Providing Early Intervention Services in Natural Environments.”*

*[Handout Provided]*

# History

## November 2012

### ODH and DODD Collaborated To:

- Ensure agreement on language and purpose of Early Intervention under Part C of IDEA;
- Develop a plan for system change implementation utilizing the strengths of the two state agencies as well as those of local entities (developmental disability, health and medical, and other social service systems);
- Develop a plan which reflects the years of work and recommendations from stakeholders, including those for a more coordinated, comprehensive system.

# History

## November 2012

ODH and DODD began creating an Ohio plan that:

- Adheres to the tenets and requirements of IDEA, Part C, including:
  - Providing services in natural environments and within everyday routines;
  - Meeting critical timelines and procedural safeguards
  - Beginning a lifetime expectation of inclusion and participation in community activities with ones' family and peers;
  - Ensuring a comprehensive, coordinated and statewide system.
- Is based upon the science of how the development of infants and toddlers is best supported.

# State Coordination

**Beginning immediately, ODH and DODD will:**

- Clarify primary roles for components of the early intervention system; and
- Create a better way to garner family and provider input into the process of Ohio's early intervention system of child find, public awareness, referral, eligibility determination, service coordination, service provision, professional development, and financing.

# Inter-agency Shared Responsibilities

DODD & ODH, in partnership with other agencies serving families with infants & toddlers, including Mental Health, Education, Medicaid, Child Welfare and Childcare; and through the HMG Advisory Council, will collaborate and communicate for all activities, but will maintain and/or assume primary responsibility and leadership in the following key areas....

# ODH Continues

- As Part C lead agency
- Provides primary leadership and oversight for:
  - Public awareness program
  - Comprehensive child find system
  - Referral procedures
  - Service Coordination services
  - Procedural safeguards and dispute resolution
  - Data system
  - SICC
  - Rules, forms, technical assistance, oversight and guidance related to the above
  - General supervision & monitoring, including data monitoring, of the Early Intervention system

# DODD Assumes

- DODD will assume primary responsibility for:
  - Timely, comprehensive evaluation and assessment
  - IFSP development, in concert with ODH service coordination
  - Early intervention services (with the exception of service coordination)
  - Evidence based early intervention services in natural environments
  - Comprehensive System of professional development
  - Rules, forms, technical assistance, oversight and guidance related to the above

# A Visual of Collaboration

ODH Primary Leadership	DODD Primary Leadership
Public awareness program Comprehensive child find system	Timely, comprehensive evaluation and assessment
Referral procedures	IFSP development, in concert with ODH service coordination
Service Coordination services	Early intervention services (with the exception of service coordination)
Procedural safeguards, including Dispute resolution	Evidence based early intervention services in natural environments
Data system	Comprehensive system of professional development
Rules, forms, technical assistance, monitoring and guidance related to the above	Rules, forms, technical assistance, oversight and guidance related to the above
General supervision & monitoring, including data monitoring, of the Early Intervention system	
State Inter-agency Coordinating Council	

# Next Steps

**Convene the HMG Advisory Council, with this stakeholder group, to provide input into plans for:**

- Articulation of mission and approaches to early intervention
- Public awareness (outcomes, features/components, evidence)
- Implementation with timelines and evaluation measures
- State, regional, and local infrastructure changes to support and sustain (including funding)
- Training, technical assistance and professional development
- Measuring program-wide consistency and fidelity
- Aligning state and local processes for oversight, monitoring, reporting, supports
- Sustainability, including financing, infrastructure, fidelity, & quality
- Alignment/coordination with Ohio Health Transformation efforts

**Your Participation is Key**

**Please Share Information and Collect Feedback**

**Questions?**

# RESOURCES

- **Recommendations from the Part C/Early Intervention Workgroup:**

<http://ohiopproject2011.pbworks.com/f/Future%20Directions%20for%20Ohio's%20Part%20C%20EI%20Program%20Recommendations.pdf>

- **Ohio Part C Early Intervention Implementation Study:**

[www.ohiohelpmegrow.org/professional/~media/32855012403C4B7087EB1B3780077BFC.ashx](http://www.ohiohelpmegrow.org/professional/~media/32855012403C4B7087EB1B3780077BFC.ashx)