



**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
Governor

## Department of Health

**HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.**  
Commissioner

**LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.**  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

January 2021

Dear Parent:

The New York State Department of Health Bureau of Early Intervention (NYS DOH BEI) and the Family Initiative Coordination Services Project at Just Kids Early Childhood Learning Center are sponsoring an *Early Intervention Partners Training Project* in the Western Region this winter for parents of infants and toddlers with disabilities currently receiving early intervention services. The training is also for parent members of the Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council (LEICC) and its committees.

The *Early Intervention Partners Training Project* helps parents of young children with disabilities become involved in Early Intervention Program (EIP) leadership activities. The training sessions provide information, resources, and skill-building activities designed to increase parent advocacy and leadership skills. Parents are encouraged to form working partnerships with early intervention professionals and policymakers.

The training sessions will help parents of infants and toddlers with disabilities gain a better understanding of the EIP. Parents who are accepted to attend will receive information about early intervention laws and regulations, Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) development, family assessment, natural environments, the history of the disability movement, individual leadership goals, clinical practice guidelines, parent rights, information regarding Early Intervention Coordinating Councils (EICC), opportunities for parent involvement and the process of transitioning out of the EIP.

We are inviting you to apply to participate in this training program. The training program is *free of charge*, with all training materials being provided.

**Pre-recorded video to view.** Prior to Session 1, participants will receive a link to view a short video about early intervention which they may watch from a computer or a mobile device any time before the Session 1 web-based training.

**Session I**, is a web-based training, presented as an interactive webinar titled, IFSP Functional Outcomes, to be viewed from a personal computer or mobile device.

**Session II** is a virtual two-day training.

Please see the next page for information on the dates and times of sessions.



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Session	Day	Date	Time
<b>Pre-recorded Video</b> (viewed on your personal computer or mobile device)	N/A	N/A	At your convenience any day or time prior to the Session 1 webinar
<b>Session I</b> Interactive Webinar: (viewed on your personal computer or mobile device)	Saturday	February 6, 2021	9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
<b>Session II</b> Virtual two-day training	Friday	March 5, 2021	4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
	Saturday	March 6, 2021	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Applicants must commit to participate in Session I and attend *both* days of Session II. This commitment is a requirement for acceptance to the *Early Intervention Partners Training Project*. In addition, parents who wish to attend with a partner or another family member must submit a joint application.

If you are interested in attending, you must complete and return the enclosed application. You can also download a copy of the application or complete and submit the application online at <http://www.eifamilies.com>.

**Applications are due by January 22, 2021.**

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Angela M. Furci, Family Initiative Coordinator:

- E-mail: [angelamfurci@justkidsecl.org](mailto:angelamfurci@justkidsecl.org)
- Phone: (877) 205-0502 (toll-free)
- Web: <http://www.eifamilies.com>

We thank you for your interest and commitment to this project, and for your cooperation by responding in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

*Constance L. Donohue*

*Angela M. Furci*

Constance L. Donohue  
Director  
Bureau of Early Intervention

Angela M. Furci  
Coordinator  
Family Initiative Coordination Services Project