



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.
Acting Commissioner

MEGAN E. BALDWIN
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

March 2023

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 Central Region this spring 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-directed assessments, natural environments, the history of the disability movement, individual leadership goals, clinical practice guidelines, parent rights, information regarding Early Intervention Coordinating Councils (EICCs), 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 I, participants will receive a link to a short video about early intervention, which can be viewed on a personal computer or mobile device before the Session I web-based training.

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

Session II is an in person two-day training held at the Hampton Inn & Suites Syracuse North (Airport Area), 1305 Buckley Road, North Syracuse, New York, 13212. **If conditions warrant, this session may be held virtually.**

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

Session	Day	Date	Time
Pre-recorded Video: (viewed on your personal computer or mobile device)	N/A	N/A	At your convenience prior to the Session I webinar
Session I: Interactive Webinar (viewed on your personal computer or mobile device)	Saturday	April 15, 2023	9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Session II: In person two-day training at the Hampton Inn & Suites Syracuse North (Airport Area), 1305 Buckley Road, North Syracuse, New York 13212	Friday Saturday	May 19, 2023 May 20, 2023	4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

If conditions warrant, Session II may be held virtually.

Applicants must commit to participate in all sessions. 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 Monday, April 3, 2023.

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

- E-mail: angelamfurci@justkidseclc.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,

Raymond L. Pierce

Raymond L. Pierce
Director
Bureau of Early Intervention

Angela M. Furci

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Coordinator
Family Initiative Coordination Services Project