



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

August 2020

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 Downstate Region this fall 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 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 Early Intervention Program (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 Early Intervention Program.

We are inviting you to apply to participate in this training program. The training program is *free of charge*, and all meals, training materials, and overnight accommodations are provided at no cost. A very limited amount of funding is available to assist parents in need of support for child care and travel expenses. Prior approval by the Family Initiative Coordinator is required for those needing assistance.

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 anytime 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 meets for a two-day, in-person training and includes an optional overnight stay at the Radisson Hotel, One Radisson Plaza, New Rochelle, NY 10801. (Should conditions warrant, the in-person training will instead be conducted on-line.)

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



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Session	Day	Date	Time	Meals
Pre-recorded Video (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	N/A
Session I Interactive Webinar: (viewed on your personal computer or mobile device)	Saturday	October 24, 2020	9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	N/A
Session II In-person at: Radisson Hotel One Radisson Plaza, New Rochelle, NY 10801	Friday	November 13, 2020	4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	Dinner
	Saturday	November 14, 2020	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	Breakfast/Lunch

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 Thursday, October 1, 2020.

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

- E-mail: 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