



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Corning Tower The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Richard F. Daines, M.D.
Commissioner

James W. Clyne, Jr.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

November 2009

Dear Parent:

The NYS Department of Health's Bureau of Early Intervention and the Family Initiative Coordination Services Project at the Just Kids Foundation are sponsoring an *Early Intervention Partners Training Project* in the Western Region this spring. The *Early Intervention Partners Training Project* is for parents of infants and toddlers with disabilities currently receiving early intervention services in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates counties.

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.

We are inviting you to apply to participate in this training program. We will select parents from Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates counties to attend. The training program is *free of charge*, and all meals, training materials, and overnight accommodations are provided at no cost. A 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.

A series of three sessions will be held at the **Holiday Inn**, 8250 Park Road, Batavia, NY, on the following dates:

Session	Day	Date	Time	Meals
Session I:	Saturday	March 20, 2010	9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.	Lunch
Session II:	Friday	April 16, 2010	4:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.	Dinner
	Saturday	April 17, 2010	9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.	Breakfast/Lunch
Session III:	Friday	May 14, 2010	4:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.	Dinner
	Saturday	May 15, 2010	9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.	Breakfast/Lunch

Session I meets for one day. Sessions II and III meet for two, two-day sessions and include an optional overnight stay.

Applicants must commit to attend Session I and *both* days of Sessions II and III. 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.

Space is limited. If you are interested in attending, you must complete and return the enclosed application. You can also download extra copies, or complete the application online at: <http://www.eifamilies.com>. Applications are due by Monday, **January 25, 2010**. Notification of acceptance will be mailed on Wednesday, **January 27, 2010**.

These training sessions will help parents of infants and toddlers with disabilities gain a better understanding of the Early Intervention Program. Parents who are accepted to attend will receive information about early intervention laws and regulations, Individualized Family Service Plan development, family assessment, natural environments, transition, funding, record keeping and confidentiality, clinical practice guidelines, and parent rights. In addition, parents who are accepted to attend will also learn more about opportunities for parent involvement within New York State's Early Intervention Program.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Margaret Sampson, Family Initiative Coordinator:


- E-mail: margsampson@optonline.net
- Phone: 1-877-205-0502 (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,



Bradley Hutton, M.P.H.
Director, Bureau of Early Intervention
NYS Department of Health



Margaret Sampson
Family Initiative Coordinator
Family Initiative Coordination Services
Project

Enclosure

APPLICATION

Early Intervention Partners Training Project

Applications are due by January 25, 2010

Please use black ink. Or complete online at <http://www.eifamilies.com>

Name: (print) (Mr., Ms., or Mrs.) _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (home): _____ (work) _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Date of birth of child in Early Intervention Program: _____

Please check the county you live in:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Allegany	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cattaraugus	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chautauqua	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chemung	<input type="checkbox"/>	Erie	<input type="checkbox"/>	Genesee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Livingston	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monroe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Niagara	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ontario	<input type="checkbox"/>	Orleans	<input type="checkbox"/>	Schuyler
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seneca	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steuben	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wyoming	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yates	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Please check the program your child is enrolled in:

The Early Intervention Program (birth to 3 years old) _____

The Preschool Program (3 years to 5 years old) _____

The School-Aged Program (5 years to 21 years old) _____

Describe your child(ren) who has a disability (age, type of disability, and the type of program or services he/she is receiving).

Why are you interested in participating in this Early Intervention Partners Training Project?

If you are accepted for this training, how will you use the information you gain to help children and families in the Early Intervention Program?

Each county/municipality has a Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council (LEICC) comprised of parents and professionals. The purpose of the LEICC is to advise the municipality's Early Intervention Official about local early intervention issues, such as gaps in services.

If you are currently a parent member of the Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council (LEICC) in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, or Yates counties, please check here _____.

Please tell us about any LEICC sub-committees or workgroups you participate in:

If you are interested in becoming more involved in the LEICC, please check here _____.

Do you currently belong to any advocacy organizations? If so, please list:

Ethnic background (optional): _____

Acceptance into the program requires a commitment to attend all three sessions:

- ◆ Saturday, March 20 (9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.)
- ◆ Friday, April 16 (4:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.) and Saturday, April 17 (9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.)
- ◆ Friday, May 14 (4:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.) and Saturday, May 15 (9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.)

Are you able to commit to attending **all** of these training sessions? Yes _____ No _____

Are you able to travel to Batavia to attend these sessions? Yes _____ No _____

Do you need any special accommodations to participate? Yes ____ No ____ If yes, please describe: (accessibility, interpreter, diet, etc.)

I understand that a requirement for acceptance to the Early Intervention Partners Training Project is my commitment to participate in all of the training sessions. If you need more information or an application form, please call Margaret Sampson or Liz Muller (toll-free) at 1-877-205-0502.

Please mail or fax your application to: **Margaret Sampson, Family Initiative Coordinator or Liz Muller, Project Assistant**

(Applications must be received by **January 25, 2010**)

Early Intervention Partners Training Project
Just Kids Foundation
P.O. Box 12, Longwood Road
Middle Island, New York 11953
1-877-205-0502 (toll-free)
Fax: (631) 924-8777 or (631) 924-1243
E-mail: margsampson@optonline.net or
lizmuller@optonline.net