



Infant & Toddler
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To: Stakeholders in Virginia's Part C System
From: Mary Ann Discenza, Part C Coordinator
Date: October 14, 2005
Subj: State Performance Plan for Review and Comment

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 requires that each State's Part C Lead Agency develop and submit a State Performance Plan (SPP) to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). The State Performance Plan is intended to evaluate the State's effectiveness in implementing the requirements and purposes of Part C of IDEA and describes how the State will improve such implementation over the next 6 years. Each State Lead Agency must then submit an Annual Performance Report to OSEP documenting the State's performance based on the targets established in the State Performance Plan. The State Lead Agency is also required to report annually to the public on the performance of each Part C program located in the State on the targets identified in the State Performance Plan. The State Performance Plan is due December 2, 2005. The first Annual Performance Report will be due in February 2007.

For the State Performance Plan, the Monitoring Priorities and Indicators that each State must address have been identified at the federal level. For most Indicators, the data source and measurement instructions that must be used to document the State's performance are also dictated from the federal level. In developing the SPP, the State must provide baseline data on each of the Indicators and then identify measurable and rigorous targets for that indicator for each of the next 6 years. These targets will be the basis for how OSEP judges Virginia's performance each year.

It is expected that States will develop their State Performance Plan with broad stakeholder input and public dissemination. The Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council (VICC) is being used as the primary stakeholder group providing advice and assistance to DMHMRSAS in the development of Virginia's SPP. VICC members provided input on an initial draft of the SPP during their September meeting. Based on input provided by the VICC and continued work by the Part C staff, the original draft State Performance Plan has been revised and will be available by Monday, October 17th to all stakeholders on our website, www.infantva.org. You may submit written comments through November 4, 2005 to:

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When reviewing the draft SPP, it may be helpful to note the following:

- OSEP has provided specific data source and measurement instructions that must be used in determining what data is reported and how required percentages are calculated;
- OSEP is requiring that the targets for Indicators 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 14 be set at 100%;
- The SPP is intended to be an “executive summary” regarding each State’s status on the given priorities and indicators; and
- Indicators 3 and 4 are new indicators and States are required to report in the SPP their plans for collecting and reporting baseline data for these indicators in the first Annual Performance Report (due in February 2007). You will notice in the draft SPP that the information to be included with these new indicators is still evolving as the Core Team works, with stakeholder input, to further define the infrastructure and procedures that will be used to collect, report and analyze the required data.

The State Performance Plan will drive the evolution of Virginia’s Part C system over the next six years, and I thank you for your participation in the development of this important planning document. The State Performance Plan will be finalized based on public comment and submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) no later than the December 2, 2005 due date.