



**Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia  
Part C Update  
February 16, 2010**

**Note about This Update:**

This Update is prepared by the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia State Team at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services as a means of sharing current information from the Part C Office.

**MEDICAID EARLY INTERVENTION INITIATIVE**

**Children with Medicaid**

Sometimes children are made eligible for Medicaid after they have been found eligible for Early Intervention. In some cases their eligibility is made retroactive which makes the timely entry into the VAMMIS system problematic. In those cases where a child is made eligible for Medicaid retroactive, please send an email to Ms. Keisha L. White ([keisha.white@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:keisha.white@dbhds.virginia.gov)) with a copy to David Mills ([david.mills@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:david.mills@dbhds.virginia.gov)) stating the ITOTS ID of the child and the date their Medicaid was made retroactive to. This will give the Part C Office the information that is needed to enroll the child on their correct eligibility date.

**Who do I Contact?**

For questions about claims, other than issues related to eligibility, contact Brian Campbell at [brian.campbell@dmas.virginia.gov](mailto:brian.campbell@dmas.virginia.gov) with a copy to Jeff Beard at [jeff.beard@dmas.virginia.gov](mailto:jeff.beard@dmas.virginia.gov).

For questions about enrollment of children in the Medicaid Early Intervention Program, contact David Mills at 804-371-6593 or [david.mills@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:david.mills@dbhds.virginia.gov) or Tamara Wilder at 804-786-0992 or [tamara.wilder@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:tamara.wilder@dbhds.virginia.gov).

For questions about certifications, contact Tamara Wilder at 804-786-0992 or [tamara.wilder@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:tamara.wilder@dbhds.virginia.gov) and copy David Mills at [david.mills@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:david.mills@dbhds.virginia.gov).

For data entry questions related to completion of the online early intervention certification application, contact David Mills at 804-371-6593 or [david.mills@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:david.mills@dbhds.virginia.gov).

### **The Early Intervention System Transformation Implementation Task Force**

The Early Intervention System Transformation Implementation Task Force met on February 9, 2010. Minutes of the meeting will be posted on the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia Website at: <http://www.infantva.org/ovw-Transformation.htm#TaskForce>. The task force will meet again March 23.

A System Transformation Update will be prepared on March 1. It will be posted on the Infant & Toddler Connection website at: <http://www.infantva.org/ovw-Transformation.htm>

### **Fast Facts:**

- 2943 children were enrolled in the Medicaid Early Intervention program in January;
- 109 providers are enrolled as Medicaid Early Intervention Providers (Local Lead Agencies, provider agencies and independent practitioners); and
- 926 practitioners have been granted early intervention certification.

### **FAMIS Select**

The **FAMIS Select** program allows families to choose between covering their children through **FAMIS** or through a private or employer-sponsored health plan. Children enrolled in FAMIS Select are not eligible for the Medicaid EI program. For more information about FAMIS Select, see: <http://www.famis.org/select.cfm?lang=English>

FAMIS Select has been added to the list of potential third party payors in ITOTS. This should be checked rather than Medicaid/FAMIS for children whose coverage is Medicaid Select.

### **Agency Affiliations**

System Managers are asked to check their agency affiliations in ITOTS. To do this, please navigate to the “Administrator” section and click on “Local System”. There you will find three tabs, one labeled “Local System” which is where you can update your local system information. The second tab is labeled “Contacts” and is where you list the contacts you would like to use if another system receives a likely match message when adding a child record to ITOTS. The third is labeled “Agencies”. This is where you go to list all your agency affiliations. To add an agency, click on the green plus to the right of the word “Agencies” and select an agency from the list. Please note that an agency with multiple offices will have the city in which the office is located in parentheses following the agency name. After selecting the agency, please click save to record the addition. To the right of each agency listing there is a hyperlink labeled “Delete”. Please use this when your relationship with that agency has concluded. We request that you have your agencies updates in ITOTS by March 1.

Practitioners are asked to log into the certification database (<https://www.eicert.dbhds.virginia.gov/Logon.aspx>) and to check to be sure that all agency affiliations are current and that all local systems within which you will provide services are listed. The certification user manual (<http://www.infantva.org/documents/ei-Cert->

[usermanual.pdf](#)) describes the process and procedures for creating agency affiliations beginning on page 8.

### **Referral Requirements**

Part C Participating Agencies are required to comply with Federal and State Regulations, Policies and Procedures and Practices, including those related to child find and referral. In addition, as part of the early intervention certification process, individual practitioners sign assurances that they will comply with the requirements.

Federal Part C regulations (Sec. 303.321) require an effective method for making referrals by primary referral sources no more than 2 working days after a child is identified as potentially eligible. Primary referral sources listed in the federal regulations include hospitals, including prenatal and postnatal care facilities; physicians; parents; day care programs; local educational agencies; public health facilities; other social service agencies; and other health care providers. All Part C participating agencies are considered primary referral sources and are obligated to refer potentially eligible children to the local Infant & Toddler Connection system. This requirement is emphasized in Chapter 3 of the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia Practice Manual. The family may exercise their option to decline Part C services when contacted by the local Infant & Toddler Connection system, but the referral must be made to ensure the family has the opportunity to make an informed choice about their participation in Part C. The following script is an example of how a private provider who is a Part C participating agency and receives a referral directly from a doctor or hospital, for instance, might explain this to a family:

### **Sample Script**

Since your child is under age three, you may be eligible for early intervention services through the Infant & Toddler Connection of \_\_\_\_\_. We need to make a referral to the Infant & Toddler Connection system, and (name of person) will then contact you to explain early intervention, including who is eligible and what services are available. With your permission and at no cost to you, a service coordinator will work with your family and other professionals to determine whether or not your child is eligible. If your child is eligible, continuing service coordination, assessment, and team meetings are provided at no cost. Other services your child needs may be paid for by Medicaid, private insurance or family fees, and no family is denied services based on an inability to pay. In addition, there are specific rights and procedural safeguards for your child/family when you participate in the early intervention system. You have the option to accept or decline any services through the Infant & Toddler Connection, and if you prefer to come to (our agency) instead of receiving services through early intervention, they will help transition you to us for services. They can also connect you with other resources in your locality that you may need or want.

### **DMAS Fiscal Agent Transition**

On or before July 2010, DMAS will transfer all Fiscal Agent and Provider Enrollment Services functions from First Health Services Corporation (FHSC) to ACS State Healthcare (ACS). ACS State Healthcare will takeover existing operations historically performed by FHSC including

claims processing, provider enrollment, electronic data interchange (EDI), checks/remittances and electronic funds transfers (EFTs), web-based and telephonic inquiry applications (Automated Response System and MediCall), and member eligibility functions. See <http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/fa-trans.htm> for more information.

### **Proposed OT Regulation changes:**

This link will take you to proposed changes in the regulations regarding OTs and OTAs. <http://www.townhall.virginia.gov/l/ViewXML.cfm?textid=3829>.

The changes will be posted in the Virginia Register February 1 and will be open for comment until March 3, 2010. <http://www.townhall.virginia.gov/l/ViewStage.cfm?StageID=5356>.

## **COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT (CSPD)**

### **Professional Development Surveys**

The Integrated Training Collaborative (ITC) recently completed two professional development surveys to assist the Collaborative and the Part C office in planning activities for CSPD. The first survey was sent to all certified practitioners. The second survey was emailed to local system managers and clinical directors/infant program directors. The evaluation reports and a one page summary for each survey are now available on the Integrated Training Collaborative web page.

### **Professional Development/Training included in Standard Rate:**

Through technical assistance requests to the Part C Office, it has been expressed that there is not a clear understanding of what is encompassed in the EI reimbursement rate, including the expectation that practitioners participate in trainings and team meetings. On October 1, 2009, Virginia's Early Intervention System Transformation went into full effect. As part of that transformation, a standard early intervention reimbursement rate was established which includes professional development/training. Additionally, providers completed the online credentialing modules and applied to become a certified Virginia Early Intervention practitioner. On the Practitioner Application for Certification, each practitioner agreed (by his/her signature) to several assurances and acknowledgements including:

*I understand the early intervention rate incorporates the total cost of providing the face-to-face service including travel time and costs, documentation, supervision, training, billing, and support staff time, in addition to the personnel costs for the individual providing the direct service.*

For additional resources on this topic, please see:

1. <http://www.infantva.org/> Personnel Qualifications: Questions & Answers (dated 2/27/09 and updated 3/25/09). Note questions 28 and 55.
2. Practice Manual, Early Intervention Rates, page 113.
3. Practitioner Application for Certification

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

One of the deliverables for the Integrated Training Collaborative is to share available professional development opportunities occurring statewide and nationally. In an effort to reduce

the number of emails and avoid duplicate emails from multiple staff, all professional development activities/trainings will be posted in the monthly Update. For those professional development activities in which there is a short turnaround time for registration, emails will be sent with the subject line: Professional Development Opportunity: (name of event). Please note that any shared professional development activity requires each practitioner to ascertain relevance to his/her work. No endorsement of any activity not offered through the state Part C office should be assumed.

## **Professional Development Opportunities**

### **Shining Stars**

You are invited to submit a proposal to present a session at Virginia's early childhood conference, Shining Stars 2010, which will be held in Virginia Beach July 14th – 16th. This year, we are asking that all proposals be submitted electronically. To do this, you must use Adobe Acrobat or Adobe Reader. If you do not have either of these programs on your computer, Adobe Reader can be downloaded for free by clicking on <http://www.adobe.com/go/reader>.

You can access the Call For Proposals form at <https://acrobat.com/?d=xXYf90vFNRbl2ARCY0RnEQ>. You will be asked to download the form to your computer. Once you have done this, click the X in the top right hand corner to close the screen. You may then open the Call for Proposals form and fill in the highlighted areas.

When you have completed the form, click Submit (in the top right corner of page 1) to send your proposal to the Review Committee for consideration.

If you have any questions related to submission of forms, contact Dionne Paul-Wiggins at [dpaulwig@gmu.edu](mailto:dpaulwig@gmu.edu) or at 703-993-4496. For questions related to proposal content, please contact Phyllis Mondak at [Phyllis.Mondak@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Phyllis.Mondak@doe.virginia.gov).

We look forward to seeing you at Shining Stars 2010: Charting the Future for Today's Children in Virginia Beach!

### **2010 Virginia Conference on Visual Impairment and Blindness**

#### **Set Your Sight: Get on Target**

This year's conference will be held March 3 – 5, 2010 at the Best Western Inn & Suites Conference Center in Waynesboro, Virginia. This is a wonderful professional development opportunity for special and general educators, vocational rehabilitation counselors, orientation & mobility specialists, paraprofessionals and other service providers involved with individuals who are visually impaired or blind.

The conference includes inspiring keynote and session speakers: Dr. Phil Hatlen speaking on the National Agenda and the Expanded Core Curriculum, Carl Augusto, President & CEO of the American Foundation for the Blind, and Linda Alsop, Director for Deafblind Programs from Utah State University to name only a few. Participants will be able to choose from over 40 breakout sessions. Registration forms and information may be obtained at <http://virginia.aerbvi.org>.

## **DIR Certificate Program**

Professional Educators and Clinicians, and Floortime™ Players

We invite you to pursue the *DIR® Certificate Program* at the 2010 DIR® Institute in Potomac, Maryland. (New beautiful location near Washington, DC)

**July 7– 11, 2010**

Visit [www.icdl.com](http://www.icdl.com) for all details

**Registrations now open.**

- **Where:** Bolger Center, Potomac, MD. A new site with wonderful facilities located near the Bethesda Metro station with shuttle service. Lowest fees ever. To learn more about the Bolger Center [click here](#).
- **For:** Licensed or credentialed professional educators and clinicians of all disciplines who work with children and adolescents with emotional and developmental challenges, as well as BA level Floortime assistants working under DIR® supervision.
- **Pre-Requisites:** Completion of introductory training in the DIR® and Floortime™ model (e.g., ICDL November Conference, introductory training by ICDL Faculty, Greenspan on-line training course). See website for announcements of upcoming opportunities. Registrants for the Greenspan course can apply before completion of the online course.
- **Programs:** DIR® Beginning Program (DIRB), DIR® Certificate Program (DIRC), Floortime™ Player Diploma Program (FTP), and DIR® School Administrators Program (DIRA). Continuing Education Credits expected. For program descriptions please visit [www.icdl.com](http://www.icdl.com).
- **New online application and payment process:** Review detailed descriptions of each program and **start your [online application](#) now**. Contact [DIRInstitute@icdl.com](mailto:DIRInstitute@icdl.com) if you need assistance.

### **ONLINE APPLICATION**

**Early Bird 1 - February 16 receive a \$100 discount**

**Early Bird 2 –March 9 receive a \$50 discount**

**Registration of 3 or more from same program \$50 Discount**

**\*\*Application Submission Deadline: April 30, 2010!!! \*\***

(Applications received after this date will be considered on a space available basis only)

**The 2010 Infancy and Early Childhood Training Course-Online: The Basic Course on the DIR®/Floortime™ Model**

**Taught by Stanley I. Greenspan, M.D.**

Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics, The George Washington University Medical School, Supervising Child Psychoanalyst, Washington Psychoanalytic Institute, and Chair, Interdisciplinary Council on Developmental and Learning Disorders.

The Basic Course will be available to registered participants for over eight weeks, from March 12 through May 9, 2010

***Take the course in the comfort of your own home or office, at your own pace and without the added expenses of travel and lodging!***

**To Register and for more information, visit [www.stanleygreenspan.com](http://www.stanleygreenspan.com)**

**The Basic Course Topics Include:**

Assessment, Diagnosis and Intervention for Developmental and Emotional Disorders Including: Autistic Spectrum Disorders; Multisystem Developmental Disorders; Regulatory Disorders involving Attention, Learning and Behavior Problems; Cognitive, Language, Motor and Sensory Disturbances; and a range of Infant and Early Childhood Developmental and Mental Health Problems such as Trauma, Abuse and Neglect

**Workshops:**

**A Lifespan Approach to Autism** exploring different types of individuals at different functional levels to demonstrate the best ways to advance their development: *A 6 hour workshop for parents and professionals taught by Stanley I. Greenspan, M.D.*

**Meltdowns:** Helping infants, children and adolescents overcome behavior problems, aggression and tantrums: *An 8 hour workshop for parents and professionals taught by Stanley I. Greenspan, M.D.*

**Regulatory Sensory Processing Disorders** including Autism Spectrum Disorder, Regulatory Disorder, ADHD, Behavior Problems and Learning Challenges: *A 10 hour workshop for parents and professionals taught by Rosemary White, OTR/L and Stanley Greenspan, M.D.*

Workshops will be available online for over 8 weeks, from March 12 to May 9, 2010.

To download a brochure with complete details and registration materials, click here :

[www.stanleygreenspan.com/wp-content/uploads/ICDL7441-Course-Catalog-2010\\_011310.pdf](http://www.stanleygreenspan.com/wp-content/uploads/ICDL7441-Course-Catalog-2010_011310.pdf)

(if the link does not work, cut and paste the link into your browser)

[http://stanleygreenspan.com/wp-content/uploads/ICDL7441-Course-Catalog-2010\\_011310.pdf](http://stanleygreenspan.com/wp-content/uploads/ICDL7441-Course-Catalog-2010_011310.pdf)

**Connections 2010 Resource Fair**

**Connections 2010**, a resource fair for children and youth with special needs and their families, will be held from **9:30 to 12:30 on Saturday, April 24 at the Children's Museum of Richmond** (2626 W. Broad Street). *The event is free.* The first 500 fair participants will receive free admission to the Children's Museum and a free tote bag! Door prizes will be awarded. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

More than 60 exhibitors will be on hand to give families and professionals information about their services. In addition, there will be many special features including magician Jonathan Austin and other child-friendly entertainers, complimentary dental screenings and fluoride varnish, therapeutic horseback riding demonstrations, pet therapy dogs, free legal and financial consultations, and arts and crafts. Special accommodations are available including sign language and Spanish interpreters.



For more information, please contact Central Virginia Care Connection for Children at (804) 827-1795 or toll-free (866) 737-5965. Information can also be found online at [www.careconnections.vcu.edu](http://www.careconnections.vcu.edu).

### **Quick Tip from the Field**

One way to quickly gain insight into a parent's learning style is to ask them how they would prefer to learn how to use a new appliance. Would they prefer a detailed manual, or have someone demonstrate how to use it, or just start pushing buttons, or perhaps skim a quick start guide, then try it out with someone there to answer their questions, etc.

### **The Virginia Infant & Toddler Specialist Network**

The Virginia Infant & Toddler Specialist Network is excited to present the third in a series of audio conferences for providers of infant and toddler care. This session, "Early Intervention Services for Infants and Toddlers", will be held March 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:00 pm. The following content will be addressed during the audio conference: An overview of Early Intervention (Part C) in Virginia, including how to make referrals; what to do when child care providers have concerns about a child's development; and a family perspective in early intervention.

Registration information can be found at <http://www.va-itsnetwork.org>. Please encourage early care and education providers in your area to register for this audio conference. Registration deadline is March 4, 2010.

For additional information about the Infant & Toddler Specialist Network, check out this flyer: <http://www.va-itsnetwork.org/rfs/handout.pdf>. Some regions are making plans to hold additional training events linked to this audio conference to better inform early care providers about early intervention services. Contact your region's Infant & Toddler Specialist if you are interested in planning activities in your region.

### **Cognitive, Emotional, and Social Development Are Connected: You Can't Do One Without the Other**

"Cognitive, emotional, and social capacities are inextricably intertwined in the brain, and, in like fashion, learning, behavior, and both physical and mental health are highly interrelated throughout the life course. One domain cannot be targeted without affecting the others. The brain's multiple functions operate in a richly coordinated fashion: Emotional well-being and social competence provide a strong foundation for emerging cognitive abilities, and together they are the bricks and mortar that comprise the foundation of human development. The emotional and physical health, social skills, and cognitive-linguistic capacities that emerge in the early years are all important prerequisites for success in school and later in the workplace and community."

The Center for the Developing Child at Harvard University recently added a new interactive feature to their Web site that explains core concepts in the science of early childhood development through images and text. It discusses how brains are built over time; the interaction



of genes and experience; the damage caused by chronic, unrelenting adversity (“toxic stress”); and why early intervention matters to all of us. It is available at [http://developingchild.harvard.edu/library/multimedia/interactive\\_features/coreconcepts/](http://developingchild.harvard.edu/library/multimedia/interactive_features/coreconcepts/)

### **Charting Progress for Babies in Child Care Website!**

CLASP has redesigned the web resources for the Charting Progress for Babies in Child Care project. New pages for each of the project’s 15 recommendations feature easy-to-navigate tabs that contain:

- Research to “make the case” for the recommendation;
- A research bibliography;
- Policy ideas that states can use to move toward the recommendation;
- State examples including links to relevant legislation and regulations, a description of how the state developed and implemented the policy, and any cost data and evaluations or other data; and
- Online resources.

Users can also navigate to technical assistance tools that CLASP is developing to help states chart their own progress in improving infant/toddler care, as well as other related resources in CLASP’s Child Care and Early Education work. Visit the new site at:

<http://www.clasp.org/babiesinchildcare>

### **PART C STAFF CONTACT INFO**

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