



Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia MONTHLY UPDATE

AUGUST 2020

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IRENE SCOTT IS RETIRING!



After more than 30 years at DBHDS, Irene Scott is retiring, effective August 1, 2020. Irene's retirement is well deserved. She has worked in several roles at DBHDS and has always, been a wonderful resource. Many of you have shared how helpful she has been, so I'm sure you will miss her just like we will at DBHDS. Effective August 1, 2020, if you have questions about enrollments for children with Medicaid insurance please contact Keishia White at keisha.white@dbhds.virginia.gov.

STATE SYSTEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SSIP)

While our early intervention system continues to deal with challenges associated with the COVID-19 public health emergency, we also continue to see some bright spots and opportunities related to our SSIP work:

- We continue to hear about great work happening at the local level to advance the use of evidence-based practices in the areas of functional assessment, child outcome summary process, coaching and natural learning environment practices. As we increase the availability of in-person services over the coming months, we encourage you to take this opportunity to think about how you'll ensure you continue to use those practices that were necessary during telehealth even when you're in person with the child and caregiver. It will be easy to fall back into old roles and practices, but let's remember all the benefits we saw for families when

we were forced to really be coaches and let caregivers take the lead. By thinking about it now, we can also set those expectations with families when we transition back to in-person services.

- The July 29th SC Chat focused on the important role of service coordinators in the child outcome summary process. There were lots of great ideas shared!
- The Infrastructure Work Group, which paused its work to deal with COVID-related priorities, will meet on August 21st.
- And the biggest news of all ... {drum roll, please} ... the Request for Proposals (RFP) for our new early intervention data system was issued on Monday, July 20th!!!! Proposals are due August 31. We're on our way!

All SSIP-related materials are posted to the SSIP section of our website at <http://www.infantva.org/Sup-SSIP.htm>. If you have questions about the SSIP, please contact Kyla Patterson at k.patterson@dbhds.virginia.gov

"THE LEADER IN ME SERIES"



Leading from the Middle: Leadership in an Era of New Beginnings!

What Wellbeing Means in the Coronavirus Era

Adapted from Gallop article written by Brian J. Brim, ED.D and Jennifer Robison

Now more than ever, your skills as a leader are being tapped. Whether it's your own wellbeing, that of your team mates or the wellbeing of the families you coach and support your leadership is critical.

No one could have anticipated the impact of COVID-19. It has caused the entire world to shift. A recent Gallop poll revealed more than a third of U.S. adults (37%) say they feel less connected to family and friends. Eighty-four percent say they are avoiding small gatherings. People's habits and expectations -- of themselves, family, friends and their work life-- are dramatically different. So is their perception of their wellbeing.

Wellbeing isn't just about being happy or physically fit. It's about everything that is important to each of us and how we experience our lives. "A life well-lived" means something different to every person. By studying 98% of the world's population, Gallup uncovered the common elements of wellbeing -- physical, career, social, financial and community -- that need to be fulfilled for people to thrive.

As we pause and reflect during this crisis, our wellbeing takes on new meaning. And we should be ready for that shift if we want to thrive.

So what does that mean for us as leaders and providers during this time of social isolation?

- First and foremost we need to take care of our own wellness. It's so easy to lose sight of the five elements of wellbeing during an extended period of isolation.
- We also need to recognize that our "jobs" influence every element of our wellbeing. Organizations, supervisors and team members that actively support the whole person are poised for better, stronger partnerships with one another.
- The wellbeing of our early intervention community ultimately translates into better interactions, coaching and outcomes with families.

A New Era of Wellbeing

COVID-19 has called the world to embark on a new journey. A journey focused on wellbeing. Leading from the middle means effectively redefining our partnerships with colleagues and clients during this crisis to support the five elements of wellbeing.

As a result, the post-pandemic world of early intervention will sustain high performance like never before. People will look at their "work" as places of wellbeing like never before. And the world can be like it never was before. It can be much better -- full of people with thriving wellbeing. Let's make it so.

ITOTS USERS

Please send requests for ITOTS logon assistance to the email address below.

deltaprod@dbhds.virginia.gov

Type "ITOTS Password" in the Subject Line and tell them your username.

EARLY INTERVENTION CERTIFIED PRACTITIONERS

Have issues with your username or password for Early Intervention Certification?

Please send requests for Early Intervention Certification logon assistance to the email address below.

dbhdsproductionsupport@dbhds.virginia.gov

Type "EI Certification" in the subject line and tell them your username.

Or, click on the link below and type your request in the email that opens.

[Early Intervention Certification](#)

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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 DBHDS/Part C Office.

Enrollment of Children in the Medicaid Data System (VAMMIS)

Please note the following contact information for questions about enrollment of children in the Medicaid Data System (VAMMIS).

- [Keisha White](#) * 804-786-3710
- [Sarah Moore](#) *804-371-5208
- [Telisha Woodfin](#) *804-786-1522

Early Intervention Certification

For questions about certification of practitioners, contact * [David Mills](#) 804-786-6593.

For questions related to completing the online application, contact [DBHDS Production Support@cov.virginia.gov](#)

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