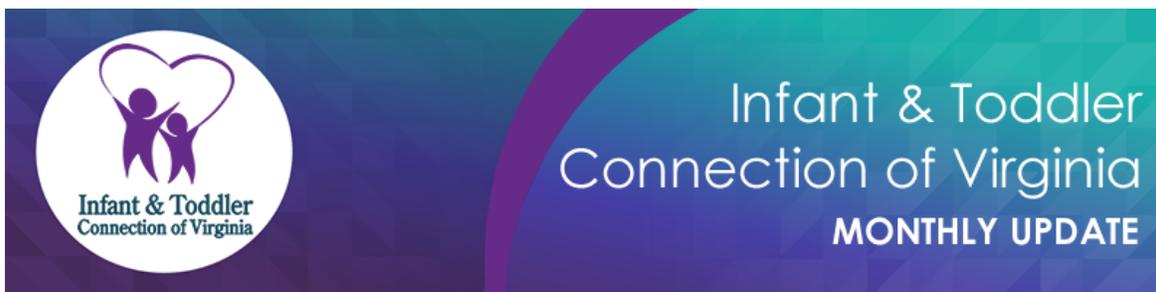


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FEBRUARY 2019

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In This Issue

STATE SYSTEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SSIP)

We are nearing the end of our third year of SSIP implementation! In February, we are reconvening the State Leadership Teams that developed the SSIP in order to review progress and evaluation data and determine the need for any revisions to the plan as we move forward. In March, we will be reporting to the Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council (VICC) about our progress to date, including evaluation activities and results. Our annual SSIP report to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) must be submitted by April 1, 2019.

The following new resources developed through our SSIP work are newly available or coming soon:

- Revised Child Outcomes Booklet - http://www.infantva.org/documents/va_child_outcomes_booklet%20-%20Final.pdf
- Spanish version of the new Decision Tree - https://www.veipd.org/main/pdf/decision_tree_child_outcome_discussion_12.19.18_spa.pdf
- Ongoing Support for Coaching and Natural Learning Environment Practices: Guidance for Facilitating Reflection with Individuals and Groups - https://www.veipd.org/main/pdf/guidance_fac_reflect_10.3.18.pdf
- Orientation checklists, short introductory modules and new fiscal tutorials to support new local system managers, local system manager supervisors and local fiscal staff - coming soon to the VEIPD website at https://www.veipd.org/main/sub_local_sys_mgt.html

As a reminder, 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 k.patterson@dbhds.virginia.gov.

"THE LEADER IN ME SERIES"



Leading from the Middle: Eggplant Cinderella

Leadership through the Eyes of a Two Year Old

I recently had the pleasure of spending time with my neighbors and their two year old daughter Moorea, who happens to be in constant admiration of Disney princesses. Although her favorite right now is Belle from Frozen, they invited me down one evening for Eggplant Cinderella, a specialty of Moorea's. Curious, how could I refuse?!!

To put things in perspective, Cinderella has been an iconic role model since Charles Perrault wrote the fairy tale in the late 1600's. The relevance of her story and character continue to make an impact even hundreds of years later.

If you stop and think about it, Disney movies teach valuable lessons about the power of encouragement, teamwork, and developing leadership skills. Many of these qualities are essential to young children, but also highlight some of the most important qualities of a leader and a successful team. So yes, thanks to Disney's interpretation, I was reminded that Cinderella's subtle lessons of leadership continue to influence young girls even at the age of two!

Teamwork was what I saw as Moorea and her dad crafted her Eggplant Cinderella. Their teamwork was an amazing example of building a future leader and reminded me of one of my favorite scenes from Cinderella when all joined in to make Cinderella a dress for the ball: <https://www.teambonding.com/disney-leadership-qualities/> In this clip, Cinderella's clan of critters joins forces to cheer up an overworked and under the weather Cinderella. Together they were able to flawlessly tailor a beautiful dress that enabled Cinderella to go to the ball and meet her prince. Because Cinderella is a kind and caring leader, her team is willing to go through hoops and bounds to make her happy.

Leading from the middle does not mean leading in isolation. Teamwork is best! Cinderella shows us that through working with others you can achieve the best work (she did, after all, show up to the ball wearing one epic outfit, and with a swanky ride!). So rather than trying to take on too much ourselves, we should welcome the skills and knowledge of others if we want our work as coaches to succeed and empower families.

And while it turns out that Eggplant Cinderella was named because Moorea couldn't say "Parmigiano"; and the word "Mozzarella" always came out as "Cinderella" that evening was priceless! But even more worth its weight in gold was how Moorea's dad used the relevant leadership examples from the movie in coaching two year old Moorea thru the process of making Eggplant Cinderella! I see the making of a future Leadership Princess!

PART C CONTACT NOTES-DOCUMENTATION THAT REFLECTS YOUR VISIT



A new resource is now available on the Virginia Early Intervention Professional Development website for provider contact notes.

This four part online tutorial series addresses documentation requirements, documenting ongoing assessment, quality documentation and documenting coaching and natural learning environments for contact notes written by early intervention providers. Follow-up activities are available for each section and a facilitation guide is included for use with groups.

These can be found at [Tools of the Trade](#) (under Tools for Service Delivery) or [Implementing Supports and Services](#) (under eLearning/Presentations/Webinars).

CORRECT USE OF DISCHARGE CATEGORY "IFSP COMPLETION LESS

THAN AGE 3"



The federal explanation of the "IFSP Completion Less than Age 3" discharge category states "This category includes all children who have exited Part C before age 3 because they are no longer eligible under IDEA, Part C."

This means that all children under this discharge category were less than age three and no longer met eligibility criteria at the time of discharge.

If a child is less than age 3 and still meets eligibility criteria, a different discharge category must be used. For example, if a child is automatically eligible due to prematurity, met their current outcomes and goals, parent has no further concerns and parent wants to end services the discharge category used would be "Parent Withdrew".

REGIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY TO HELP ENHANCE SERVICES FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN

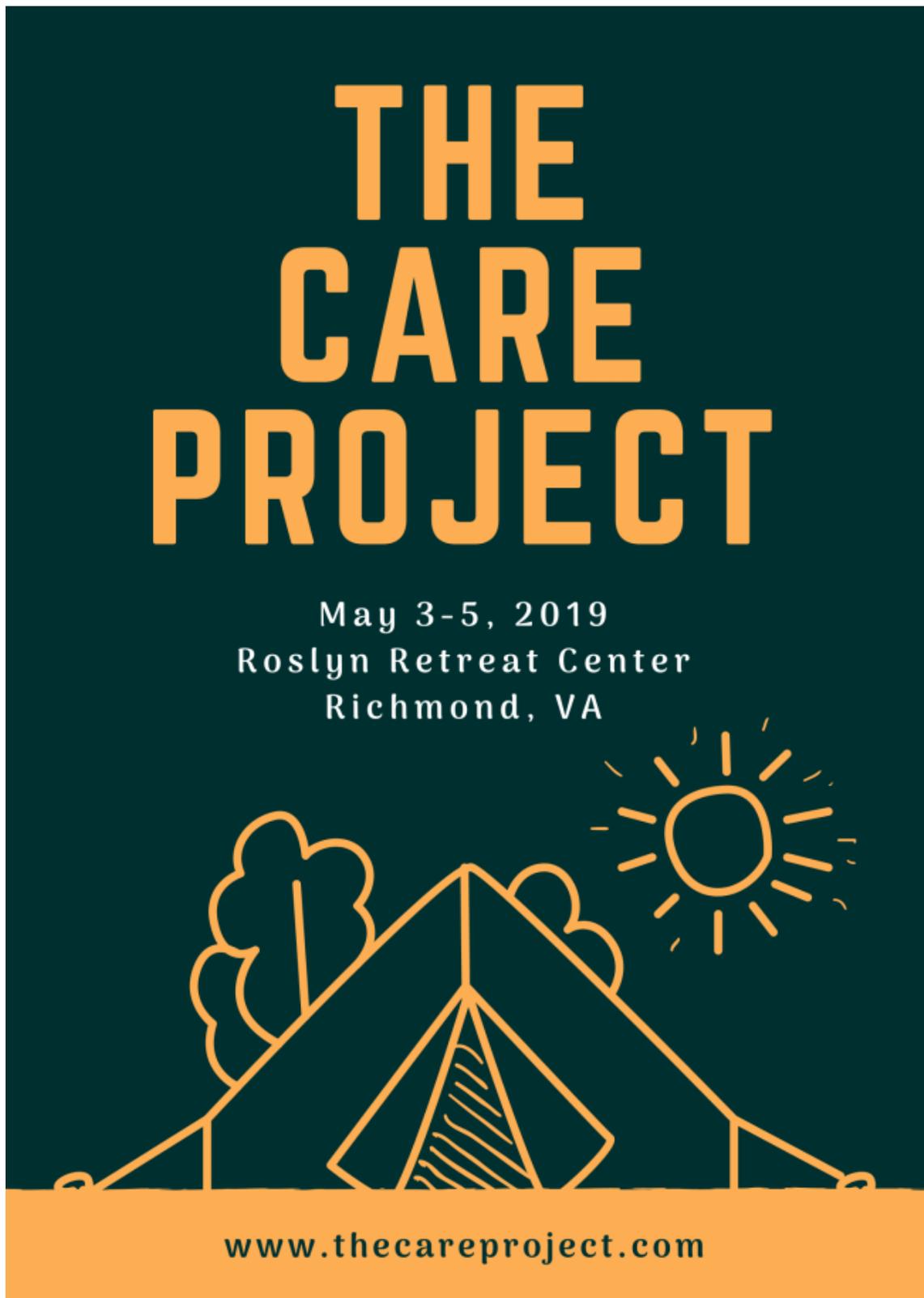
EI Providers & Parents are Invited to Join a Regional Learning Community to Help Enhance Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children

In September 2017, the Virginia Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (VA EHDI) Program collaborated with the Center for Family Involvement at VCU to launch the first regional EHDI Learning Community in Northern Virginia. The purpose of this community is to increase knowledge and engagement within the EHDI systems and to improve communication between parents and stakeholders involved in the life of deaf and hard-of-hearing children. As of December 2018, four EHDI Learning Communities were meeting regularly in Northern, Central, Southwest and Roanoke regions of Virginia. Learning communities in the Blue Ridge and Hampton Roads regions will be established in 2019.

The Learning Community members work together to enhance the lives of deaf and hard-of-hearing children, help them achieve their best linguistic and literacy abilities, and improve their chances for educational success. Early Intervention (EI) plays a critical role in this as well. A mother shared her experience with Early Intervention after the diagnosis of permanent hearing loss in her child: "Early intervention made a huge difference in our journey with childhood hearing loss. Even though our child was identified later at two years old, EI helped her acquire language through hard work and constant encouragement."

Each Learning Community is actively seeking early intervention providers, parents and other professionals to join their quarterly conversations. For more information, please contact Learning Community Coordinator - Valerie Abbott at vjabbott@vcu.edu.

WEEKEND RETREAT FOR FAMILIES OF YOUNG CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF/HARD OF HEARING



ITOTS USERS

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

dbhdsproductionsupport@dbhds.virginia.gov

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

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

[ITOTS Password Help](#)

The above link will also be available on our website just below the link to ITOTS.

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).

- **Irene Scott * 804-786-4868**

- **Sarah Moore** *804-371-5208
- **Telisha Woodfin** *804-786-1522

Early Intervention Certification

For questions about certification of practitioners, contact [Irene Scott](mailto:irene.scott@dbhds.virginia.gov) * 804-786-4868

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

Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia | (804) 786-3710 |
irene.scott@dbhds.virginia.gov | <http://infantva.org/>
1220 Bank Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Text | Optional Link

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