



## Everyone should know about.... EARLY INTERVENTION

Who is Eligible for Early Intervention? Any Massachusetts child up to three years of age and his/her family may be eligible for EI services if the child:

- Is not reaching age-appropriate milestones in one or more areas of development.
- Is diagnosed with a physical, emotional, or cognitive condition that may result in a developmental delay.
- Is at risk for developmental delay due to various biological and/or environmental factors.

How can a child and family become involved with EI? The process is simple. Anyone (a parent, doctor, caregiver, teacher, or friend) can make a referral by calling 1-800-905-TIES and asking for a listing of certified Early Intervention Programs serving a particular city or town. (Certified Programs servicing SMOM families are listed below.) Early Intervention services do not require a prescription. Referrals are made directly to a certified program.

What happens after a referral? An EI team will conduct a developmental assessment with the child and family to determine eligibility. This assessment will focus on specific areas of child development, including areas related to cognitive, language, motor, social, emotional, behavioral and self-help skills. If the child is eligible, an Individualized Family Service Plan is written based on the individual needs of the child and family. EI begins working with the child and family within 45 days of referral.

Who provides EI services? Services are provided by a professional and dedicated EI team, which includes the child's family. Depending on the child's needs, an EI team may also include an educator, physical therapist, speech-language pathologist, psychologist, occupational therapist, social worker, nurse, and other specialty service providers. The child's medical provider is considered a valuable member of this team.

Where and how are services provided? An EI team serves the child and family in what are called "natural environments", for example, in family homes, childcare centers, community play groups, or libraries. Serving children in natural environments helps them to participate more easily in their everyday activities and with their peers.

Information regarding the annual fee system can be found at:  
[www.mass.gov/dph/fch/ei/feeinfo.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dph/fch/ei/feeinfo.htm)



## LIST OF LOCAL EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

If you live in Braintree, Cohasset, Hingham, Hull, Norwell, Scituate or Weymouth:

### **First Early Intervention Program**

Program Director: Rhonda Meisel (ssarc@erols.com)  
574 Main Street, So. Weymouth, MA 02190  
781-331-2533

If you live in Brockton, Abington, Avon, Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, Easton, Holbrook, Rockland, Stoughton, West Bridgewater or Whitman:

### **Brockton Early Childhood Intervention Program**

Program Director: Maureen Crossey (mcrossey@bamsi.org)  
801 Pleasant Street, Brockton, MA 02301  
508-586-9855

or

### **South Bay EIP: Brockton**

Program Director: Veronique Luzza (vluzza@southbaymentalhealth.com)  
19 Beaumont Ave., Brockton, MA 02302  
508-559-0473

If you live in Carver, Duxbury, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Kingston, Marshfield, Pembroke, Plymouth or Plympton:

### **Kennedy Donovan Center EIP: Plymouth**

Program Director: Colleen Anderson  
64 Industrial Park Road, Plymouth, MA 02360  
508-747-2012