Infant/Toddler Early Intervention Services Helping Families Develop Their Child's Potential

What is Infant/Toddler Early Intervention?

While all children grow and develop in unique ways, some children experience delays in their development. Infant/Toddler Early Intervention (EI) in Pennsylvania consists of coaching supports designed to help families with children, ages birth to age 3 who have developmental delays or disabilities and screening and tracking services for children at risk for delays.

Early Intervention supports services and resources for children that enhance daily opportunities for learning in the child's natural environment. The services provided to children and their fmailies are based upon the individual needs and strengths of each child and the child's family. Services may be provided in the child's home, child care center or other settings familiar to the family. Services are provided within the daily routines and activities of the family, providing frequent, meaningful practice and skill-building opportunities.

The goal of early intervention is for your child to be able to participate in your family's daily activities.

Who is Eligible for Early Intervention Services?

Infants and toddlers who have:

- o A delay of at least 25% in one or more of the following areas:
 - o Communication ability to talk, understand and express needs
 - Social Emotional ability to relate, interact and play with others.
 - Physical (gross/fine motor) ability to move and use their hands.
 - Adaptive ability to eat, dress and take care of themselves.
 - Cognitive ability to think and learn.

OR

 A specialist determines that there is a delay even if not indicated on the evaluation (called informed clinical opinion).

OR

o Based on a disability, such as Down Syndrome.

Do you have a concern about an infant or toddler who might be at risk for a developmental delay?

Developmental screening and tracking services include a process to regularly assess the development of an infant or toddler who is at risk for developing a delay. An infant or toddler may be eligible for tracking services if they are at risk for a developmental delay based on one of the following categories:

- Low birth weight
- Cared for in a hospital's neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)
- o Prenatal substance exposure, including alcohol exposure
- Referred by a county children and youth agency
- Exposed to lead
- Experiencing homelessness

To schedule an evaluation, contact
Base Service Unit at:
Service Access Management
717-242-0351

Huntingdon County Pride, Inc provides the following early intervention services:

Speech Therapy
Special Instruction/Developmental Teaching

For more information about these services, contact

Devona Van Nest M.S. CCC/SLP Early Intervention Supervisor <u>dvannest@huntingdonpride.org</u> 814-643-5724, ext. 103

Early Intervention services are provided without charge to the family.