



Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) Meeting

May 12, 2023



Welcome and Call to Order



Meeting Business

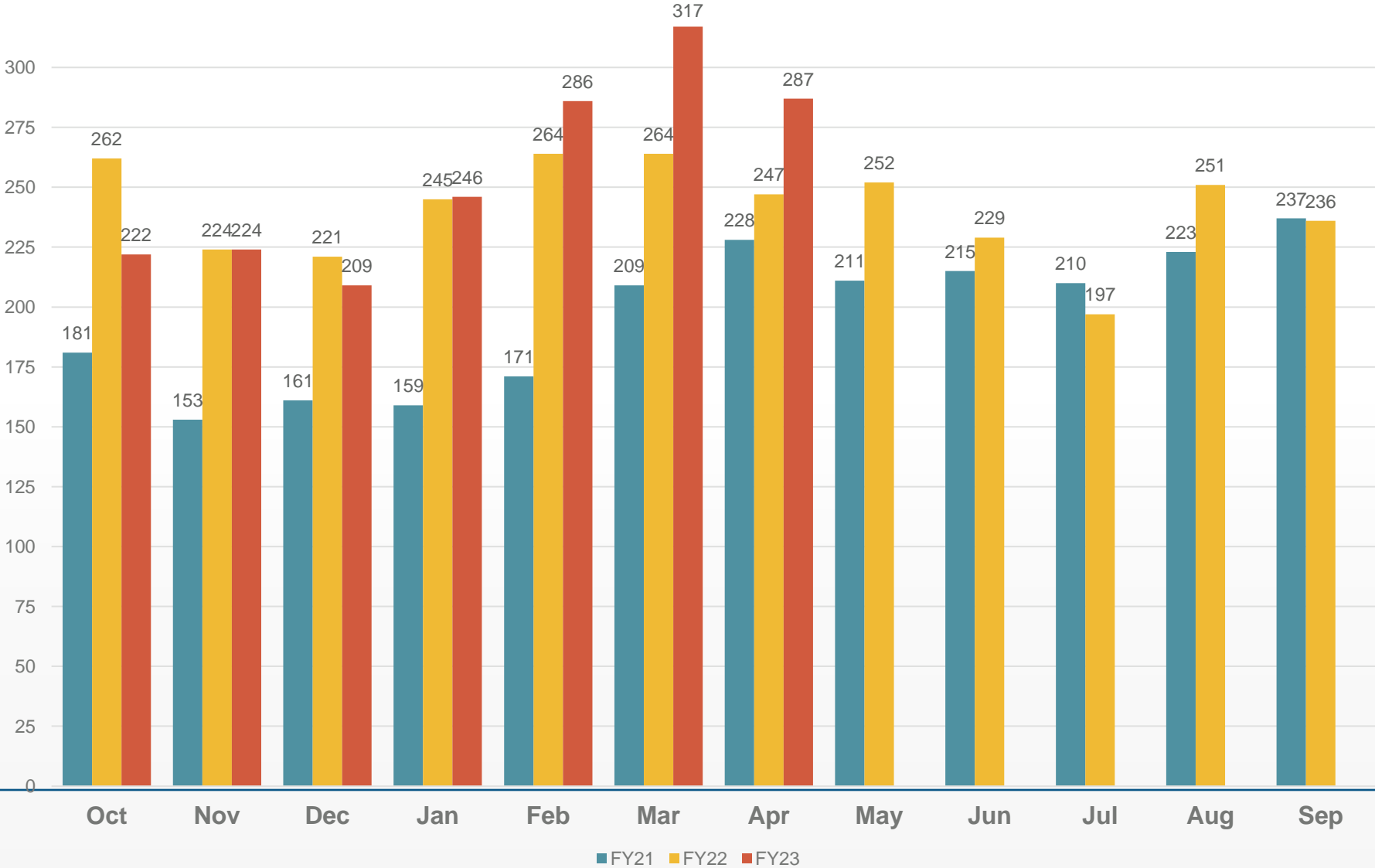


Strong Start DC Early Intervention Program (DC EIP)

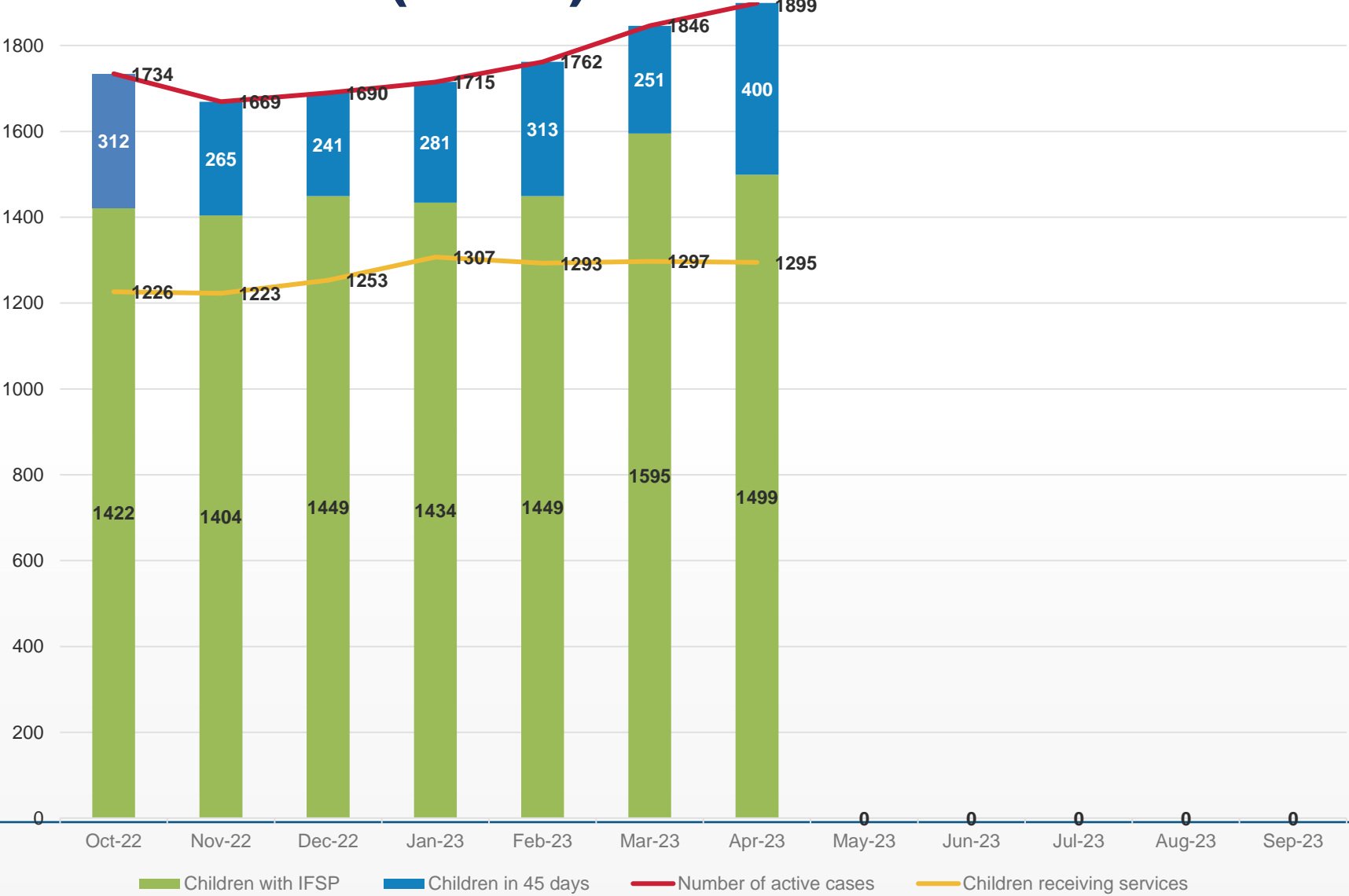


Program Data Trends and Updates

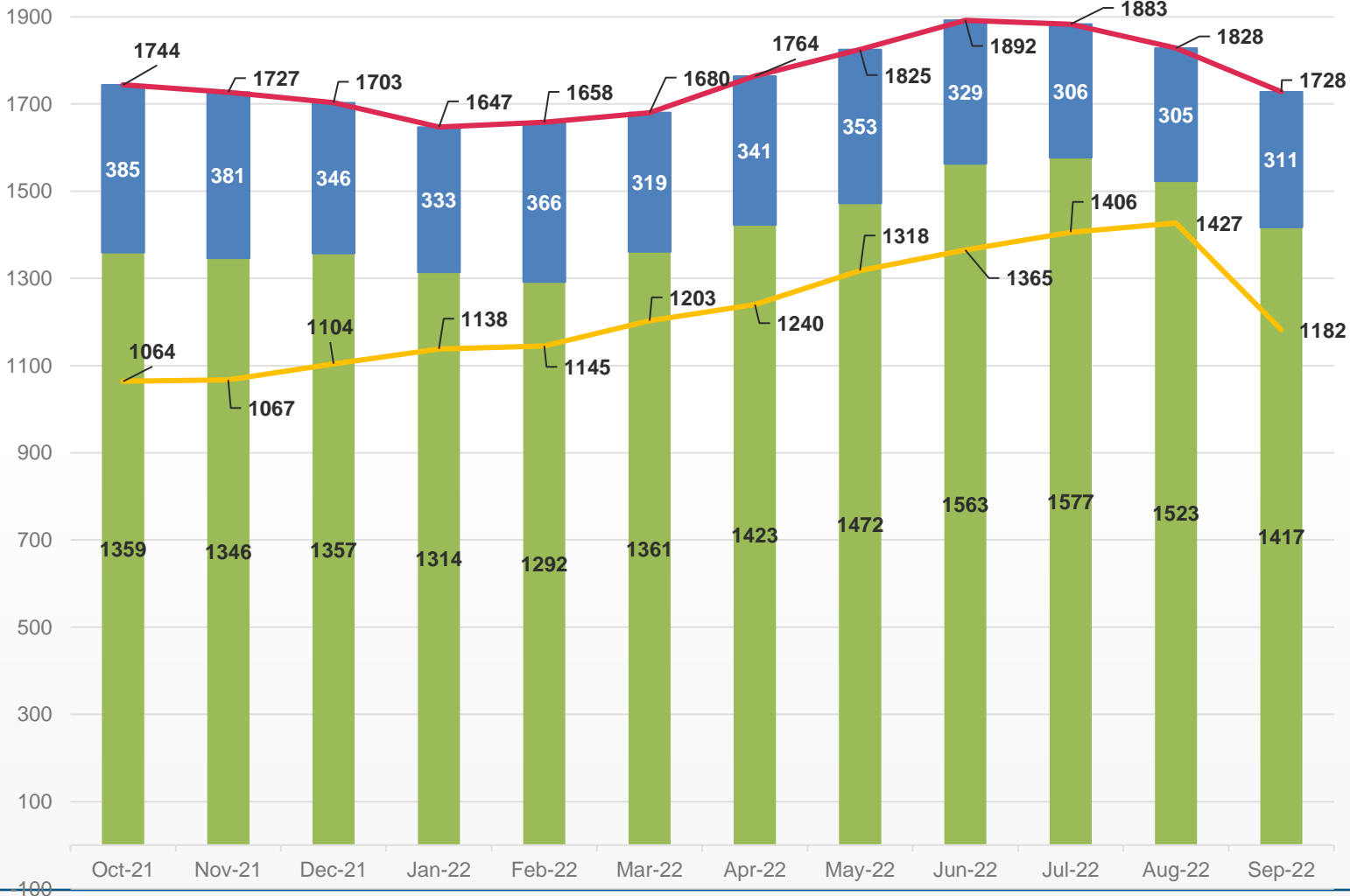
Number of Referrals Received



Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) Data



FY22 Data



■ Children with IFSP
 ■ Children in 45 days
 — Number of active cases
 — Children receiving services



Annual Grant Application

Annual State Application for Federal Fiscal Year 2023 (FFY 2023)

- Draft developed and posted online for public comment
- US Department of Education released Part C allocation table on May 4
- Grant application needs to be updated and final submission to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) by May 24

Description of Use of Federal IDEA Part C Funds for the State Lead Agency (LA) and the ICC

Positions Funded	Number of Positions	% of Time Spent on Part C	Salaries & Fringe Benefits	Description of Duties
100% funded with Part C Funds				
< 100% funded with Part C Funds	25	100%	\$2,587,723	All positions are lead agency roles.
Subtotal of amount under A:			\$2,587,723	

Totals

Row Number	Section	Amount
Enter the subtotal amounts for Sub Sections A-E found in Section III of this application.		
1.	III.A. Funds for the LA and the ICC	\$2,587,723.00
2.	III.B. Maintenance and Implementation Activities for the Lead Agency and the ICC	\$0
3.	III.C. Direct Services	\$0
4.	III.D. Activities by Other State Agencies	\$0
5.	III.E. Description of Optional Use of IDEA Part C Funds	\$0
Enter any Indirect Costs to be Charged (See Section IV.B of this application.)		
6.	IV.B	\$0
Total (Rows 1-6)	No entry	\$2,587,723.00



Progress on the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) for FFY 2022

Indicator 11: FFY 2022 Planning – Leadership Strand

Strategy	Activity	Timeline	Outcome	Measurement
Finalize plans and protocols for fidelity of practices and implements the plan for reaching and maintaining fidelity for early intervention providers and service coordinators	<p>Develop and implement coaching fidelity analysis training exercise for fidelity observers</p> <p>Develop teaming fidelity observation checklist tool for fidelity observers</p> <p>Review data from fidelity assessments to evaluate progress</p>	<p>February 2023</p> <p>April 2023</p> <p>October 2023</p>	Providers will provide services in a consistent manner using Evidence Based Practices (EBP)	Completion of fidelity assessment process
Develop and implements an infant mental health framework for Part C early intervention to address social and emotional development of infants and toddlers	<p>Develop an IMH framework and the structure to support the system during IFSP services, teaming meetings and capacity building</p> <p>Start implementation of IMH framework in Strong Start</p>	<p>August 2023</p> <p>December 2023</p>	Early interventionists will increase the infant mental health competencies and skills of staff to address and improve the social-emotional well-being of children	<p>Number of people who complete the certificate program</p> <p>Completion of IMH framework</p>

Indicator 11: FFY 2022 Planning – Data Strand

Strategy	Activity	Timeline	Outcome	Measurement
<p>Develop and implement a new B-21 data system to improve the collection, reporting and use of high- quality data</p>	<p>Test final functionality of the system and train all users</p> <p>Final migration and implementation of Special Education Data System (SEDS)</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>October 2023</p>	<p>Early interventionists and LEAs will have access to accurate and reliable data</p> <p>Parents will have access to their child’s record online</p> <p>Data will be available for the timely and smooth transition of children exiting Part C to Part B services</p>	<p>Number of staff trained on new data system</p>

Indicator 11: FFY 2022 Planning – Professional Development and Technical Assistance Strand

Strategy	Activity	Timeline	Outcome	Measurement
Support provider agencies in providing professional development that support their staff in building competencies to use EBP and maintaining federal and District compliance and improving competencies in the use of EBP	Develop and update content of Strong Start website	October 2023	Provider agency leaders will support their early interventionists through professional development, observations, supervision and feedback in the implementation of Natural Learning Environment Practices (NLEP)	Early intervention staff trained and attended professional development opportunities
	Organize professional development opportunities to build the capacity of early interventionists in the system professional development offerings	June 2023		
Continue to review and revise professional development offerings for early interventionists	Design, develop and implement new training modules for early interventionists	December 2024	Provider agency leaders will increase their ability to attract and retain qualified staff	Contract agencies will provide a plan for onboarding new hires
	Migration to updated evaluation tool to determine eligibility from Battelle Developmental Inventory, Second Edition (BDI-2) to the Third Edition (BDI-3) and the assessment for child outcomes tool Assessment, Evaluation, and Programming System for Infants and Children, Second Edition (AEPS-2) to the Third Edition (AEPS-3)	December 2023		
			Providers will increase their understanding and use of the NLEP framework understanding and consistent implementation	Number of fidelity observations of staff by vendor agency



Indicator 11: FFY 2022 Planning – Accountability Strand

Strategy	Activity	Timeline	Outcome	Measurement
<p>Develop and implement a monitoring system that provides an overall accountability system for early intervention focusing on compliance and quality improvement</p>	<p>Implement ongoing monitoring of the system and offer targeted technical assistance</p> <p>Develop a monitoring tool for overall fidelity compliance</p> <p>Review and update DC Part C Early Intervention general supervision system for fiscal; Integrated Monitoring, Sustaining Compliance and Results, Data and SPP/APR; and Dispute Resolution protocols in preparation for differentiated monitoring and support (DMS) from US Department of Education.</p>	<p>August 2023</p> <p>September 2023</p> <p>December 2024</p>	<p>Agencies and early interventionists will be held accountable for the administration and provision of services</p>	<p>Completion of a monitoring tool</p> <p>Utilize the monitoring tool to set a baseline</p>



Playgroups

Strong Start Community Playgroups

- Community Playgroup Locations
 - Francis Gregory Library – monthly on first Wednesday for children 0-12 months old
 - Mt. Pleasant Library – monthly on first Wednesday for children 12-24 months old

2023 Highlights

- Averaging 10.2 individual families per playgroup every month
- 91 total unique families having participated since January
- Mt. Pleasant set a new record for that location at 17 total families on May 3
- 103 followers on the Strong Start Eventbrite registration page
- Began inviting external stakeholders to table outside of playgroups and provide families with resources:
 - AmeriHealth Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) program attended the May 3 community playgroup to provide access to resources and information.
 - Georgetown/Ronald McDonald Kids Mobile Clinic attended the May 3 community playgroup to provide access to resources and health screenings.



Updated Brochure Feedback



All children learn and grow at their own pace, but sometimes they may need extra support.

WHEN TO CONTACT STRONG START

Families, caregivers or a member of the community, such as a pediatrician, may notice that a child is not developing at the same rate as other children. Anyone concerned about a child's early development from birth to age 3 should call Strong Start as soon as possible.

After a referral, a Strong Start specialist will collect basic information, explain more about early intervention and answer any questions.



Refer online at eip.osse.dc.gov or call (202) 727-3665.



Strong Start is the early intervention program in DC administered through the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), Division of Early Learning.

Strong Start works with DC families, child care providers and medical professionals to identify children younger than the age of 3 who have, or at the risk of having, developmental disabilities or delays.

CONTACT US

If you have questions or developmental concerns about a child who is 3 or younger, please contact the Strong Start Hotline.



Call (202) 727-3665 or visit www.osse.dc.gov



WE ARE THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR



DC's Early Intervention Program

Giving the District's Children a Strong Start

WHAT IS EARLY INTERVENTION?

Children learn best within their everyday activities and interests. Early intervention services support parents and caregivers to assist in their child's growth and development within daily activities, interests and routines.

Parents and caregivers are their child's best advocate.

Since parents spend the most time with their child, they are the best people to track and support their child's development.

Strong Start provides early intervention services and supports for children birth to 3 and their families who are District residents.

Families are not charged for early intervention services. Under DC law, all services delivered by Strong Start are provided at no cost regardless of the family's income, availability of insurance and legal or employment status.



STRONG START SERVICES

Strong Start provides year-round services that are voluntary, flexible and free.

- Strong Start early intervention services are provided in a child's natural environment, which includes home, early care and education settings, libraries and other community settings.
- Strong Start uses a coaching interaction style to build on the capacity of families and caregivers to help their child learn and develop. This approach is different from the in-clinic approach often used by hospitals, therapy centers and private therapists who accept prescriptions.
- The services take place during a family's daily activities and routines.
- One member of the team, serving as the Primary Service Provider (PSP), functions as the primary liaison between the family and other team members.

HOW STRONG START HELPS DC FAMILIES

After a referral is made, the family is assigned a service coordinator who is their main point of contact throughout the Strong Start program. The service coordinator is also the link between the family and other professionals who will work with the child.

The service coordinator is trained to help families understand the services available and connect them to community resources.

Together families and service coordinators will decide how often they may need support to help their child meet his/her Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) outcomes. Using a PSP approach to service delivery, a team of professionals works together to support children, families and caregivers.

Early intervention services are provided to eligible infants and toddlers and their families until a child's third birthday. Eligibility is based on the child's developmental needs. It is determined by conducting an evaluation of the child's communication, motor, adaptive, cognitive and social-emotional areas.

If eligible, the family and early intervention team will develop an IFSP that identifies the services, supports and goals that best address the concerns and priorities of the parents or caregivers.



Other Updates

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- Newsletter distributed in April. Next edition will be in July.
- DC was selected to join the Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) Center's Equity in Family Outcomes Cohort to participate in an intensive technical assistance (TA) opportunity focused on advancing equity in family outcomes. The purpose of this intensive TA is to support DC in their efforts to improve the quality of family data and to use these data to improve implementation of recommended practices with families and family engagement at multiple levels.



Member Updates



Public Comment



Adjourn Meeting
