

Early Intervention in Minnesota



For Infants and Toddlers

help me



What is Part C of I.D.E.A.?

Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was established in 1986 to ensure that infants and toddlers with developmental delays and their families receive appropriate early intervention.

In Minnesota this program is called HELP ME GROW.....





Part C services of I.D.E.A are designed to:

- Enhance the development of infants and toddlers with disabilities.
- Reduce future educational costs by minimizing special education through early intervention.
- Minimize institutionalization and maximize independent living.
- Enhance the capacity of families to meet their child's needs.

IDEA 2004: Infant or Toddler with a Disability:

- (A) An individual under 3 years of age who needs early intervention services because the individual:
 - (i) Is experiencing developmental delays as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments in **1 or more** of the areas of development or
 - (i) Has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay

Children who are automatically_eligible for Part C Early Intervention in Minnesota...

A child with certain:

1. Chromosomal/Genetic Disorders
2. Neuro-developmental disorders
3. Prenatal/perinatal conditions **infants born weighing under <1500 grams**
4. Physical conditions
5. Sensory losses
6. Social-emotional conditions

Minnesota Children with Special Health Needs Website has further information:

www.health.state.mn.us/mcshn



If a child qualifies he/she may receive some of these services based on his/her need:

- Core services available at NO cost:
 - Determining eligibility:
 - Referral, Screening, Evaluation, Assessment
 - Specialized instruction
 - Parent Training
 - Related Services
 - Service Coordination



Prevalence of Developmental Delays: Participation in Early Intervention.

- A study by: Rosenberg, D., Robinson, C. (2008) *Pediatrics Vol. 121*, 1503-1509.
- Objective: to use a nationally representative longitudinal sample of children born in 2001 to estimate rates of access to Part C early intervention services.

What did the study reveal?

- The prevalence of developmental delays that make children eligible for Part C services is much higher than previously thought.
- The study indicated that as many as 13% of children at 9 and 24 months have developmental delays that are likely to make them eligible for Part C early intervention.
- **Many Part C-eligible children do not receive early intervention because they are not identified and referred.**



Part C of I.D.E.A 2004

Early Intervention for the youngest children

- Identifying children (birth to three) who maybe eligible for Part C services. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**
- Developing plans for eligible children.
- Providing Services to eligible children and their parents.
- The benefit to the child, family and community.

First Experiences with Early Intervention: PEDIATRICS No. 4 April 2004

- Designed to determine families' initial experiences and perceptions.
- Sample based on a national representation of families.
- Interviewed **3338** parents with children receiving Part C services.



Conclusions drawn from interviews with parents:

- 98% of families reported Early Intervention personnel helpful.
- Families reported the services were related to their perceived needs.
- Parents felt they had been given a key role in decisions.
- 98% of families rated the services they received as good or excellent!



Conclusion drawn by the authors of this article:

First Experiences – PEDIATRICS April 2004

“We conclude that the beginning of early intervention services generally is highly successful and responsive... a finding which should give pediatricians more confidence in referring families for early intervention services.”