# Early Intervention



...helping families develop their child's potential.



#### What is Early Intervention?

Early Intervention consists of services and supports designed to help families with children who have developmental delays or disabilities. While all children grow and change at their own rate, some children can experience delays in their development. Sometimes this can be cause for concern. Early Intervention provides supports and services to young children and their families or caregivers to help the child grow and develop.

#### Who is eligible?

Infants, toddlers, and preschool children who have special needs due to developmental delays or disabilities are eligible to receive Early Intervention services.

#### What are Early Intervention services?

Early Intervention supports and services are provided at no cost to families. Early Intervention services can include: information on how children develop; parent and caregiver education, support services, and developmental instruction and therapies that assist in child development. Early Intervention provides ideas for how the family can help their child at home and in the community and is individualized to enhance

the child's growing and learning. When a child attends an early childhood education setting, Early Intervention can assist the early childhood educator with strategies to promote the child's development. Early Intervention can also assist families to link to a variety of community services and supports.

### Where do children and families receive supports and services?

Services and supports are embedded in the learning opportunities that exist in the child's typical routines and within the home and community and other early childhood education programs such as child care centers, nursery schools, prekindergarten programs or Head Start.

## Who should families contact to see if their child is eligible for Early Intervention?

A first step for any family with a concern about their child's development is to call CONNECT services. The CONNECT helpline staff will refer a family to the appropriate local Early Intervention agency. The Early Intervention agency will determine if the child is eligible for Early Intervention.

The toll free number is 1-800-692-7288.

# Questions about Early Intervention?

Call CONNECT 1-800-692-7288 (TTY Accessible)

CONNECT puts families in touch with the people who can help.

