

## Early Intervention Family Resources

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The Bureau of Early Intervention Services and Family Supports, Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), supports families in meeting the developmental needs of their children. To enhance families' skills, the Bureau has a range of resources for families in Early Intervention.

### CONNECT Helpline

**Early Intervention Services (EI)** are provided for eligible children with delays or disabilities and their families. To learn more about EI, contact the CONNECT Helpline at 800-692-7288, [help@connectpa.net](mailto:help@connectpa.net)

### Professional Development

The Bureau of Early Intervention Services and Family Support provides professional development on a variety of topics. Family members are always welcome in these events. Professional development is provided statewide through Early Intervention Technical Assistance, part of the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network. To learn more about training in your area, contact your local Early Intervention program or go to <http://www.eita-pa.org> or [www.pattan.net](http://www.pattan.net).

## Linking With Other Families

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### Parent to Parent of Pennsylvania

Parent to Parent of Pennsylvania (P2P of PA) links families of children and adults with disabilities or special needs on a one-to-one basis with a Peer Supporter for support and information. P2P of PA can match for physical disabilities, developmental disabilities, special health care needs, behavioral/mental health concerns, foster care or adoption, and educational issues. Services are free and confidential. **Contact:** P2P of PA, 1-888-727-2706, [www.parenttoparent.org](http://www.parenttoparent.org)

### Family Connections for Language and Learning

Family Connections for Language and Learning serves families of children who are deaf/hard of hearing by matching them with a team of experienced parents of children who are deaf/hard of hearing and deaf/hard of hearing adults. They help families navigate the Early Intervention system and explore communication opportunities for their child. Services are free and confidential.

**Contact:** Anne Gaspich, 800-360-7282 (in PA only) or 717-580-0839, [agaspich@pattan.net](mailto:agaspich@pattan.net), <https://www.pattan.net/Publications/Guide-By-Your-Side-Rack-Card>

## Leadership Development

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### Competence and Confidence Partners in Policymaking Early Intervention (C2P2EI)

C2P2EI is a leadership training program for parents of children in Early Intervention. C2P2EI provides up-to-date information on best practices, resources, and policy issues.

**Contact:** 215-204-1772, <https://disabilities.temple.edu/c2p2>

### Parents as Partners in Professional Development (P3D)

P3D brings together families of children who have received Early Intervention services with opportunities to contribute to professional development. In certain instances, OCDEL is able to reimburse families for expenses and provide honorariums.

**Contact:** Mary Mikus, 800-441-3215 x 7277, [mmikus@pattan.net](mailto:mmikus@pattan.net), <https://tinyurl.com/padlet-P3D>

## Leadership Development *(cont.)*

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### Include Me Preschool

Include Me Preschool is an initiative developed to expand family engagement and leadership in Early Intervention and to increase inclusive opportunities for children birth to school age. Include Me provides support to families so that they can participate in an array of networking and informational opportunities. **Contact:** Lisa Snyder, [lsnyder@includemepa.org](mailto:lsnyder@includemepa.org)

## Advisory Groups

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### State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC)

The SICC is a governor appointed advisory board of parents, representatives from the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and other members to advise these departments on the Pennsylvania Early Intervention System. Family members are welcome and encouraged to attend virtually or in person to learn more about what's happening at the statewide level.

**Contact:** <https://www.eita-pa.org/state-interagency-coordinating-council/>

### Local Interagency Coordinating Councils (LICCs)

LICCs are local groups, generally one in each county, that work together to enhance Early Intervention supports and services. LICCs include families, county administration, Intermediate Units, school districts, Early Intervention providers, Head Start, service coordinators, health agencies, and other community organizations. For information about your local LICC contact Suzanne Pasquariello: [spasquariello@pattan.net](mailto:spasquariello@pattan.net)

## Pennsylvania Parent Centers

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Federally-funded Parent Centers are available to provide information, resources, and training opportunities to educate families about all aspects of Early Intervention and special education (from birth to age 21).

### Parent Education and Advocacy Leadership Center (PEAL)

The PEAL Center helps parents with individual information, technical assistance and training, including leadership training for families of children with disabilities and special health care needs. PEAL also helps families with access to health care, health insurance, and services at home and in the community through the PEAL Family to Family Health Information Center.

**Contact:** 1-866-950-1040, [www.pealcenter.org](http://www.pealcenter.org)

### Hispanos Unidos para Niños Excepcionales (HUNE)

HUNE serves, but is not limited to, Spanish-speaking families across the state.

**Contact:** 215-425-6203, [www.huneinc.org](http://www.huneinc.org)

### Mission Empower

Mission empower serves Erie County families who have children with the full range of disabilities, from birth to age 26 through individual assistance, advocacy, training and facilitation of parent involvement in their child's school. **Contact:** 855-825-0788, [advocate@missionempower.org](mailto:advocate@missionempower.org), [www.missionempower.org](http://www.missionempower.org)