

TRUMBULL COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Policy

Section 8.37

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

Purpose:

This policy outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Trumbull County Board of Developmental Disabilities in the provision of Early Intervention services as part of Trumbull County's Help Me Grow Program (HMG).

The Trumbull County Board of Developmental Disabilities (TCBDD) Early Intervention Program is part of a comprehensive, collaborative, coordinated, and family-centered system. Early Intervention services are designed to meet the needs of the family related to enhancing the child's development and to meet the developmental needs of young children.

Description of Services:

The role of TCBDD in the Trumbull County's Help Me Grow Program (HMG) is that of a provider and Contract Manager, and the duties related to that role. TCBDD provides year-round Home-Based Early Intervention Services, including Service Coordination.

The TCBDD Early Intervention Program is an important service provider in Trumbull County providing specialized services for families whose children are eligible based upon diagnosed or established developmental delay or disability. The Early Intervention Specialist provides evaluation and ongoing assessment of children and participates in the process of the Individual Family Service Plan.

TCBDD is the larger system of services and supports for children birth through age three in the Help Me Grow Program. TCBDD's role in the provision of the HMG components is as follows:

TCBDD is available for consultation but does not take an active role in the provision of the following services:

- Prenatal visits
- Newborn home visits

TCBDD participates in following provisions of the Help Me Grow Program:

- a. TCBDD provides public awareness and child find activities by supplying information and materials to community stakeholders including pediatrician offices, children's hospitals, other child serving agencies, and the public, to support the early identification of needs.
- b. In conjunction with a TCBDD Service Coordinator, the TCBDD Early Intervention Team conducts the evaluation to determine eligibility for Part C services or a developmental assessment for program planning. Eligibility determination and/or program planning assessment shall be completed within 45 days of the initial program referral. For children receiving Early Intervention

services with TCBDD, the Early Intervention Team provides ongoing assessment until age three or exit from the program.

- c. TCBDD participates in the development, implementation, and review of the Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). Initial development of the IFSP shall occur within 45 days of initial referral and specialized services must begin within 30 days after signature. Reviews are conducted in accordance to current rule.
- d. The Early Intervention Team provides home-based and/or community-based services to families once the need for services has been determined. Acknowledging the everyday routines, activities, and places of the child, the program provides home-based developmental activities through visits to coach and assist parents and/or caregivers in supporting their child's developmental milestones.
- e. TCBDD provides service coordination (SC) to each of its enrolled families to assist with streamlining the child's/family's multiple services in order to meet their many needs. The SC is a single point of contact for the family when there are multiple professionals involved (Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, Speech Language Pathologist, Registered Nurse, Licensed Social Worker). The SC helps coordinate the many medical, financial, therapeutic and educational services that the family requires. The SC guides families through the many facets of evaluations, timelines, and availability of resources. The SC also administers the Vision, and Hearing Screenings to referred families as needed, as well as offering and administering a family directed assessment, if accepted by the family.
- f. TCBDD's Services Coordinators review the due process procedures as well as the Parent's Rights in the Help Me Grow program at TCBDD enrollment. Parents acknowledge receipt of these rights as well as their understanding of these rights. This is reviewed at each IFSP update and again at the annual review. They also review Ohio's System of Payments rule explaining how services are funded. These sources include local TCBDD funds and state and federal public funds at no cost to the parent.
- g. Transition will be addressed throughout the IFSP process and TCBDD will adhere to the timelines and mandated steps for transition for both Ohio Department of Health (Part C) and Ohio Department of Education (Part B - Preschool); in addition, information and support for transition at any age or for any reason from the HMG system will be provided.



Board President



Superintendent

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Applicability:

Board Policy Manual