



FAMILY HANDBOOK

**Birth to Three
Early Intervention Program**



Child Developmental Services of Fremont County

"Serving young children and their families in Fremont County"

P.O. Box 593 Lander, Wyoming 82520

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CONTACT LIST

Title

Name

Telephone #

Family Service Coordinator:

IFSP Team Members:

Other Contacts:

Notes:



About Your Family Handbook

Why is your Family Handbook important?

Your Family Handbook will be a guide to the Wyoming Early Intervention Program (Part C) and the early intervention system. The Family Handbook will help you put the pieces of the early intervention puzzle together; pieces that can at first seem confusing. You will learn about how services and support can meet your child's and family's needs and about your rights within the Wyoming Part C Program.

How should you use your Family Handbook?

We understand that people are giving you a lot of new information and it may be hard to take it all in. It also may seem like there is a whole new language to learn. Your Family Service Coordinator will go over your Family Handbook with you but we hope you and your family will sit down and go through it also - perhaps when things are not so hectic. You will need different information at different times. You will be able to refer to your Family Handbook to get information or clarification so you may want to keep it in a three-ring binder along with other important information and documents that you will be receiving. The Family Handbook has a number of tips to help you think about questions to ask or guide you in making decisions for your child and family.

What is in your Family Handbook?

1. The Wyoming Part C Program

An introduction to the Part C Program and an overview of early intervention services in Wyoming.

2. Getting Started

What you can expect from the evaluation and eligibility process.

3. Your Individualized Family Service Plan

How you and your team will plan for services and support for your child and family.

4. ABC's of Early Identification

A list of definitions that may be helpful.

5. Family Resources

A list of Wyoming and national organizations that might help your family.

Welcome to the Child Development Services Part C Program

With each new birth, families begin to hope and dream for their child's future. You may be receiving new and difficult information concerning your baby that you never expected you would hear. You may have been worrying about your child's development for some time and are just now having your suspicions confirmed. Maybe your family has been told that your child may be at-risk for developmental delays.

This family handbook has been developed especially for your family. We hope that it will be helpful to you as you begin learning about how early intervention services can support you in enhancing your child's learning and development. Child Development Services can help your family explore options and resources available to you in your community and assist you in setting new directions for this unfamiliar and sometimes confusing journey.

Child Development Services understands that this is "your" child. Therefore, you will be making the decisions about what's best for you and your child. Your observations and thoughts are important to share with the caring professionals who will be part of your team.

We know that it can be a difficult time right now. You may be feeling overwhelmed or wonder what the future may hold. Child Development Services can help link you with other families who have "been there" and understand some of the emotions you may be experiencing. They have no magic answers but are willing to listen and share their own experiences.

We encourage you to find and follow the dreams, hopes and wishes you have for your family. There will be many opportunities for learning and growth on the road ahead. We hope that this handbook will be of help to you and your family on your journey through early intervention.

Sincerely,

Lori Morrow, Director

Child Development Services of Fremont County

The Part C Infant & Toddler Early Intervention Program

What is the Part C Program?

The Wyoming Part C Program is a combination of your regional Child Development Center working together with the Wyoming Department of Health's Part C Program within the Division of Behavioral Health to provide early intervention services for children ages birth to three who have special needs and their families. The Part C Program is responsible for making sure that the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) are carried out in Wyoming. Part 'C' of this act applies to children birth to three.



Early intervention is a term that often is used to describe specific agencies, programs, services, and resources. In Wyoming, early intervention refers to the system of services provided by Regional Developmental Center programs for children birth to five and their families. There are two parts to Wyoming's Early Intervention Program; the Part C Program for children birth to three and the Preschool Special Education Program known as Part B for children ages three to five.

How do Part C early intervention services work?

Early intervention supports a child's learning and development during the important time from birth to three years of age. Staff from your local early intervention Part C Program will support your family in meeting the developmental needs of your child. Professionals provide ideas on how to best help promote your child's development and how to use their suggestions for intervention throughout their day. There are opportunities for your child to learn and develop throughout their day, both when the service providers are with you and when they are not.

You and the early intervention professionals will work as a team to develop a plan called the Individualized Family Service Plan, or IFSP. This plan is unique to your child and family. As a parent, you will work with the members of your team to decide:

- What developmental disabilities or delays require early intervention services;
- What would you like to see change for your child and family as a result of early intervention (these changes are referred to as "outcomes");
- What will need to happen to help make these changes occur — this will be a description of the people who will interact with your child and family and the activities that will be worked into your routines to help make these changes happen;
- What kinds of early intervention services will be provided to help you and others in your child's life make the identified changes happen.

Young children learn from interacting and playing with you, family members and others such as a childcare provider. Toddlers also learn through play with other children.



Where are early intervention services provided?

Early intervention is generally provided in the places where your child typically lives, learns and plays. The early intervention staff will help you identify the learning opportunities that can be found in your child's typical daily routines, such as play, bath and mealtimes.

How do I know if my child could benefit from early intervention?

Early intervention can help with the development of children who have delays. The next section of the handbook, "Getting Started", will look at the eligibility determination process in more detail. Based on what is learned from the evaluation, you and other members of the IFSP team will decide if your child is eligible for the Wyoming Part C Program, but it is up to your family to decide if you want to begin early intervention services. You have the right to accept some services and decline others.

STEPS THROUGH THE PART C PROGRAM

- Routine developmental screening at your local child developmental center;
- Referral to the Part C Program
- Family Service Coordinator is assigned and intake process begins;
- Evaluation and assessment process begins;
- A meeting will be scheduled to determine eligibility;
- If eligible an IFSP meeting is held;
- IFSP document is developed;
- Delivery of services and on-going assessment;
- IFSP is reviewed every six months and annually;
- Transition plan is developed up to 9 months before the anticipated date of transition, which is your child's third birthday. While the transition plan can be developed up to 9 months before your child's third birthday, it must be developed at least 90 days prior.





GETTING STARTED

Referral for early intervention

As the parent, or legal guardian, you may have concerns about your child's development or situations that might affect his or her development and have made contact with a local child development center yourself. A referral may have been made, with your permission, by your doctor, a childcare worker, other professional who knows your child, or through Child Find's, "One Before Two" routine developmental screening. The local Child Development Center will receive the referral and a Family Service Coordinator will meet with your family to discuss early intervention and your rights.

How can my Family Service Coordinator assist me?

Your Family Service Coordinator is available to:

- Help you understand information given to you;
- Inform you of your rights within the Wyoming Part C Program;
- Help you get the evaluations and assessments that your child needs;
- Let you know what services are available and how to get them;
- Coordinate and assist in the development and review of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP);
- Make sure that you receive the services that are on your IFSP;
- Help you access support services, such as parent groups;
- Assist in the development and implementation of a transition plan to the Part B Program, if necessary, after early intervention;
- Refer you to other services, such as child care, health or family support services; and
- Help you to become your child's advocate.

In addition to your Family Service Coordinator, the Child Development Center Director is available to discuss any concerns you may have.

An evaluation for your child

An evaluation involves professionals trained in different areas, such as an early childhood special education teacher and a therapist, who use assessment tools to look at your child's abilities and needs. This information can be used to determine eligibility for the Wyoming Part C Program as well as for recommending services and strategies.

An evaluation must be conducted by at least two professionals from two different fields of expertise and must involve assessment activities in the following areas of development:

- **Adaptive or self help skills** — such as bathing, feeding, dressing, toileting;
- **Cognitive skills** — such as thinking, learning, reasoning, and problem solving;
- **Communication skills** — such as understanding and using words or gestures;
- **Physical development** — such as vision, hearing, and movement; and
- **Social-emotional development** — such as feelings, getting along with others, relationships.

Your Family Service Coordinator will ask you to sign consent for the evaluation to take place. They may also ask for a "release of information" so that they can obtain a copy of your child's medical records and any other relevant documents.



Planning for your child's evaluation

The evaluation may take place where your child spends his or her day so that your child will feel more comfortable. When scheduling the evaluation think of the best time for you and your child. You might think about the times when he or she is most awake. The evaluation may be done on more than one day so that team members can get to know your child and your child can feel more comfortable with them. The evaluation must be completed within 45 days of your referral to the Part C Program.

You will play an important part in the evaluation. Evaluation team members will talk with you about your child's strengths and needs and will ask you to get involved in the assessment activities. Much of the evaluation will involve play with your child to see what he or she can do.

The results of the evaluation

Someone from the evaluation team will go over the results of the evaluation with you. You will also get a typed copy of the reports. The reports should be written in easy-to-understand terms, but if there is anything that is unclear - make sure you ask! Your Family Service Coordinator can help get the answers to any questions that you may have.

Determining if your child is eligible

Your child's eligibility for the Wyoming Part C program will be determined by a team that includes you, your Family Service Coordinator and other professionals who were part of the evaluation. The team will consider information from medical and other records, assessment results and professional judgment in determining eligibility for the Wyoming Part C Program. Your child's eligibility will be documented in his or her record.



The Wyoming Part C Program eligibility criteria are:

1. Developmental delay of 25% or more in at least one of the following areas of development:

- a. Cognitive Development
- b. Physical development including vision and hearing
- c. Communication development
- d. Social and Emotional development
- e. Adaptive development



2. The child has a medical or mental condition that has a high probability of causing a developmental delay such as vision or hearing loss, Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, etc.
3. Informed clinical opinion by qualified staff shall be used for the purpose of determining eligibility for all children under Part C. Using clinical opinion is especially important in determining whether or not a child is eligible for the Wyoming Part C Program if it is not possible to establish eligibility using standardized measures.

What if your child is found not to be eligible?

If the team decides, based on the evaluation, that your child is not eligible for the Wyoming Part C Program, your Family Service Coordinator will help you explore other supports or resources in your community. If you have concerns in the future, your child may have another evaluation. If you disagree with the results of the evaluation, you can appeal by calling the Wyoming Department of Health Part C Program at 307-777-5246.

Your Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

Individualized...the plan will be written specifically for your child and family.

Family...the plan will focus on changes that you want to see for your child and family as a result of your participation in early intervention. These changes are referred to as 'outcomes'.

Service...the plan will include details of the early intervention services your child and family will participate in - including how, when, where, and how often services will be delivered.

Plan...the plan is a written document that can be changed as your child and family needs change.

Your initial IFSP

Your family's first IFSP meeting will be held within 45 days of the referral to the Part C Program. Your Family Service Coordinator will help you plan and prepare for your IFSP meeting. Child Development Services of Fremont County will coordinate the meeting with you and will invite the members of the IFSP team. If there is someone special you would like to invite (doctor, specialist, daycare provider, family, etc) please let your Family Services Coordinator or the staff member scheduling the meeting know.

Your IFSP team includes:

- you (one or both parents, guardians, foster or surrogate parents);
- your Family Service Coordinator;
- other professionals (teachers, therapists, public health nurse, doctor); and
other people you'd like to include (family, friends, childcare provider),

Preparing for your IFSP meeting

Your Family Service Coordinator will help you prepare for your IFSP meeting by helping you think about what's important for your child and family. They will sit down with you and ask you a number of questions about your concerns, priorities and resources. This "family assessment" can help your family think about what you want as a result of early intervention.

Your IFSP meeting

You are an important member of the IFSP team and your input and questions are extremely valuable. At the meeting a lot of information and ideas will be shared. Along with your fellow IFSP team members, you will:

- Review all the information that has been gathered about your child;
- Talk about your concerns and priorities as well as your family's strengths and resources (such as medical insurance, family support);
- Develop outcomes for your child and family, i.e., the changes you want for your child and family. For example "We want Sam to be able to play with his brother" or "We would like to meet other parents of children like Anna";
- Describe activities or strategies that will help you make progress toward the outcomes;
- Discuss which people in your child's life will best be able to participate in these activities and what they need to do;
- Decide on which services could help you to meet your child's and family's outcomes; and
- Discuss the way progress towards meeting outcomes will be reviewed.

Your IFSP should include:

- Family concerns or priorities;
- An explanation of how your child's progress will be observed;
- A description of the services to be provided to your child and family;
- Information about how often services will be provided, and how long each session will be;
- A description of the places where services will be provided;
- The name of your Family Service Coordinator;
- The names of persons and providers who will be providing services to you and your child;
- Starting dates and length of time the services will be provided; and
- A description of other services your child will receive, if appropriate.

The IFSP is a document that will change as your child and family needs change. It should always reflect the current services and supports that you are receiving.

Early Intervention Services

Early Intervention services are free and include the following:

- **Assistive Technology** - equipment, devices and/or products, including those acquired commercially, modified or customized, that increase the functional abilities of children with developmental delays (such as a communication device or seating chair).



- **Audiology** - testing a child's hearing and other auditory services (including specific training regarding amplification needs).
- **Early Identification, Screening and Assessment Services** - Free screenings are provided to the public to assist with the early identification of children who may benefit from early intervention services.
- **Assessments** are the ongoing procedures used by qualified personnel throughout the period of the child's eligibility under Part C to identify:
 - ◇ The child's unique strengths and needs;
 - ◇ The family's resources, priorities and concerns and the identification of the supports and services necessary to enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of the child; and
 - ◇ The nature and extent of early intervention services that are needed by the child and the child's family.
- **Evaluation** means the procedures used by qualified personnel to determine a child's initial and continuing eligibility under Part C.
- **Special Instruction** - the design of and consultation on developmentally appropriate activities that families and caregivers can include in the child's typical day and may include activities within all developmental areas.
- **Family Training, Counseling and Home Visiting** - by social workers, counselors, and other qualified personnel to assist a family in understanding their child's behavior and improve child and family interaction and other parenting skills.

- **Health Services** - helping a child benefit from other services, including clean and intermittent catheterization, tracheotomy care, tube feeding, changing dressings or colostomy collection bags, and consultation with service providers concerning special health care needs.
- **Medical Services** - diagnostic or evaluation services by a licensed physician used to determine a child's medical status and how it may affect development.
- **Nursing Services** - health assessments, nursing education to prevent health problems or improve functioning and administration of treatments.



- **Nutrition Services** - provided by a dietician/nutritionist who evaluates the child's nutritional needs.

- **Occupational therapy** - helping children gain skills needed for play and daily living activities, designing and providing adaptive and assistive devices, as well as addressing the sensory motor and fine motor needs of the child.





- **Physical Therapy** - helping families and caregivers to enhance the child's movement abilities (including crawling, standing, walking and balance) through therapeutic activities, appropriate positioning and with adaptive and assistive devices that can be incorporated into the child's typical day.

- **Social-emotional Development** - counseling, psychological and developmental testing and analysis and interpretation of a child's behavior.
- **Service Coordination** - assisting families through the intake, evaluation and eligibility determination process and facilitating the IFSP process. Family Service Coordinators also provide information about and make referrals to other community resources and coordinate and ensure the delivery of all services.
- **Social Work Services** - assessing a child within the family setting, counseling and developing social skill building activities for a child.
- **Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Services** - helping families and caregivers to enhance the child's understanding of language and develop communication skills, which may include speech, sign and gestures.
- **Transportation** - transportation and related costs that are necessary to enable an infant or toddler and the infant's or toddler's family to receive another early intervention service identified in this section.
- **Vision Services** - evaluation and assessment of vision, visual and mobility training, as well as referral to medical and other necessary professional services.

Reviewing your IFSP

Your IFSP must be reviewed at least every six months; however, you can meet whenever you think it would be helpful for your team to get together and review the plan. At your annual IFSP review, a new document will be developed. Some of the information may be carried forward from the previous plan. As with your initial IFSP, your Family Service Coordinator will coordinate the meeting with you and will invite the members of the IFSP team.

Where will services take place?

Services are generally provided in the places where your child typically lives, learns and plays. This can include your home, other family members' home, at childcare or other community settings. It is important for people who spend time with your child to be familiar with activities and opportunities to enhance your child's development. The early intervention staff will give you ideas of how to incorporate learning activities into your child's typical daily routines, such as playtimes, meals and bath time. You will decide which routines you can adjust to accommodate the interventions.



Hazardous Service Location

The CDS Executive Director requires that staff provide services in a safe location. CDS reserves the right to deliver services at an alternate location if the current service location is considered unsafe and staff feel their safety is in jeopardy. Unsafe conditions include, but are not limited to: aggressive pets, poor sanitation, hazardous road travel, fear of bodily injury.

Any unsafe conditions will be reported to the Executive Director immediately. While unsafe conditions persist, therapy will take place at an alternate location or at the CDS facility.

If parents have concerns with the hazardous service location policy, they should contact the Executive Director.



How can I meet other parents?

There may be opportunities for you to meet other parents with children who have or who are at risk for developmental delays through your child development center. Your family service coordinator can help to coordinate these opportunities. Also, the Parent Information Center (PIC) is a parent-run organization that offers many ways for you to network with parents across Wyoming. You can reach the Parent Information Center at 1-800-660-9742.

What are Child and Family Outcomes?

Under the federal IDEA 2004, states are required to measure the effectiveness of early intervention services provided under the Part C Program.

Child Outcomes - Children will be measured in three categories when they begin receiving Part C early intervention services and when they exit or transition out of the Part C Program.



Family Outcomes - Are measured through the Part C Family Survey. This helps measure how well Wyoming Part C Programs have helped families:

- In their ability to effectively communicate their children's needs;
- Help their children develop and learn; and
- Know their rights under the Part C Program.

Why are Child and Family Outcomes Important?

The Child and Family Outcomes system is designed to improve programs and supports for all young children birth to three years of age served by the Wyoming Part C Program. The purpose of implementing this system is to:

- Achieve and maintain a quality statewide system of infants and toddlers and their families participating in the Wyoming Part C Program;
- Assist regional child development centers in identifying the effectiveness of program practices;
- Guide the development of local and state policies and procedures;
- Provide data to measure results and the overall effectiveness of the Wyoming Part C Program.



Your Family's Rights

Part C of the IDEA early intervention system in Wyoming, known as the Wyoming Part C Program, is designed to maximize family involvement and ensure parental consent in each step of the process from the determination of eligibility through service delivery. Safeguards or rights have been established to protect parents and children. Parents must be informed about these rights or safeguards so they can have a leadership role in the provision of services to their children. Participation in the Wyoming Infant-Toddler Program for infants and toddlers and your family is voluntary.

NOTICE OF INFANT/TODDLER AND FAMILY RIGHTS UNDER WYOMING PART C EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM



Wyoming Department of Health
Division of Behavioral Health

GLOSSARY

Assessment: The ongoing procedures used by appropriate, qualified personnel throughout the period of a child's eligibility under the Wyoming Part C Program to identify:

- The child's unique strengths and needs and the services appropriate to meet those needs;
- The family's resources, priorities, and concerns of the family, and the identification of the supports and services necessary to enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of the child; and
- The nature and extent of early intervention services that are needed by the child and the child's family.

Disclosure: To permit access to or the release, transfer, or other communication of early intervention records, or the personally identifiable information contained in those records, by any means, including oral, written or electronic.

Evaluation: The procedures used by appropriate, qualified personnel to determine an infant's or toddler's initial and continuing eligibility under the Wyoming Part C Program, consistent with the definition of infants and toddlers with disabilities, including determining the status of the child in each of the following developmental areas: cognitive development; physical development, including vision and hearing; communication development; social or emotional development; and adaptive development.

Family Assessment: Identification of the family's resources, priorities, and concerns, and the identification of the supports and services necessary to enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of the child.

Multidisciplinary: The involvement of two or more disciplines or professions in the provision of integrated and coordinated services, including evaluation and assessment activities and development of the IFSP.



Natural Environment: Settings, which are natural or normal for the child's age peers who have no disabilities.

Parent: "Parent" means a natural, adoptive, or foster parent of a child (unless a foster parent is prohibited by State law from serving as a parent), a guardian (but not the State if the child is a ward of the State), an individual acting in the place of a natural or adoptive parent (including a grandparent, stepparent or other relative) with whom the child lives, or an individual who is legally responsible for the child's welfare, or except as used in sections 615(b)(2) and 639 (a)(5), an individual assigned under either of those sections to be a surrogate parent.

State Lead Agency: Refers to the Wyoming Department of Health, Division of Behavioral Health as the appointed lead agency to implement Part C of IDEA in Wyoming.

Screening: A free quick check-up to make sure your child is developmentally on track. An example of a free screening is Child Find's "One Before Two" program which provides early identification of children who may benefit from early intervention services.

FAMILY RESOURCES

Wyoming Department of Health

Division of Behavioral Health

(307) 777-7115

Part C Coordinator

(307) 777- 5246

www.health.wyo.gov

Child Development Services of Wyoming

P.O. Box 62

Story, WY 82842

307-683-3281

www.cdswy.org

Parent Information Center

5 N. Lobban

Buffalo, WY 8283

(307) 684-2277 or toll free 1-800-660-9742

www.wpic.org

Wyoming Department of Health

Children's Special Health Program

1-800-438-5795

(307) 777-8225

www.health.wyo.gov

Wyoming Department of Education

Special Education (307) 857-9253

Services for Hearing Impaired (307) 777-6376

Services for Visually Impaired (307) 857-9268

www.k12.wy.us

WYOMING DEVELOPMENTAL PRESCHOOL REGIONS

Region 1—Children’s Resource Center

(serves Park, Hot Springs, Big Horn & Washakie Counties)
1302 Beck Avenue, Suite E.
Cody, WY 82414
307.587.1331
<http://www.crcregion1.org>

Region 2—Child Development Center

(Serves Sheridan and Johnson Counties)
345 South Linden Avenue
Sheridan, WY 82801
307.742.6374
<http://www.cdcregion2.org>

Region 3—Weston County Children’s Center

(serves Weston and Crook Counties)
2020 East 12th Street
Newcastle, WY 82701
307.746.4560
Westoncountychildrenscenter.com

Region 4—Children’s Learning Center

(serves Teton and Sublette Counties)
P.O. Box 4100
Jackson, WY 83001
307.733.1616
<http://learningcenterwy.org>

Region 5—Lincoln-Unita Child Development Association

(serves Lincoln and Unita Counties)
P.O. Box 570
Mountain View, WY 82939
307.782.6602
<http://www.lucds.org>

Region 6—Child Development Services of Fremont County

(serves Fremont County)
P.O. Box 593
Lander, WY 82520
307.332.5508
lmorrow@wyoming.com

Region 7—Sweetwater County Child Development Center

(serves Sweetwater County)
500 Wilkes, #14
Green River, WY 82935
307.875.0268
sweetwatercdwy.org

Region 8—Project Reach Developmental Preschool

(Serves Carbon County)
715 Shields Street
Laramie, WY 82072
307.672.9271
projectreach@hotmail.com

Region 9—Child Development Center of Natrona County

(Serves Natrona County)
104 Stampede
Casper, WY 82601
307.235.5097
<http://www.cdccasper.com>

Region 10—Wyoming Child and Family Development

(serves Converse, Niobrara, Platte and Goshen Counties)
P.O. Box 100
Guernsey, WY 82214
307.836.2751
wyomingchild.org

Region 11—The Developmental Preschool and Day Care Center

(serves Albany County)
715 Shields Street
Laramie, WY 82072
307.742.6374
projectreach@hotmail.com

Region 12—Stride Learning Center

(serves Laramie County)
326 Parsley
Cheyenne, WY 82007
307.632.2991
<http://www.stridekids.com>

Region 13—Children’s Developmental Services of Campbell County

(serves Campbell County)
1801 4-J Road
Gillette, WY 82718
307.682.2392
<http://www.ccgov.net/department/cds/>

Region 14—Shoshoni and Arapahoe Early Intervention Program

(services Wind River Reservation)
P.O. Box 610
Ft. Washakie, WY 82514
307.332.3516
saeip@qwestoffice.net

HELPFUL LINKS

- ★ **Center for Dispute Solutions, Inc.** www.c4dsi.org
Provides educational seminars around the state on issues relating to co-parenting due to divorce or separation.
- ★ **Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center** www.rffcnetwork.org/mprrc
A U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Program funded project that helps build the capacity of State Education Agencies and Lead Agencies in improving programs and services for infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities.
- ★ **Parents as Teachers** <http://www.parentsasteachers.org>
Develops curriculum, trains and certifies parent educators to work with parents to provide them with parenting support and information on their developing child.
- ★ **Protection and Advocacy** www.wypanda.com
Provides protection of the rights of persons with disabilities through legal based advocacy for special education and other civil rights.
- ★ **Regional Service Providers of Wyoming** www.rsp@wyoming.com
Provides services to adults with disabilities.
- ★ **UPLIFT** www.upliftwy.org
Provides information for families of children with emotional, behavioral and mental disorders on a statewide basis.
- ★ **Wyoming Advisory Panel for Students with Disabilities (WAPSD)** www.wpic.org/WAPSD/
Advises the Wyoming Department of Education in ways that promote services for children and youth with disabilities.
- ★ **Wyoming Children's Action Alliance** www.wykids.com
Provides education, advocacy and leadership that will improve and promote the well being of Wyoming's children and families.
- ★ **Wyoming Department of Education** edu.wyoming.gov
- ★ **Wyoming Department of Health, Children's Special Health Program**
health.wyo.gov/familyhealth/csh/index.html
A program for income-eligible families of children with special health care needs.
- ★ **Wyoming Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division** www.wyo.gov
Provides funding and guidance responsive to the needs of Wyoming people with developmental disabilities; children and adult community waiver programs, early intervention and educational services, and the Life Resource Center.
- ★ **Wyoming Downs Syndrome Association** www.wydsa.org
Provides education, information and networking opportunities to families and caregivers of people with Downs Syndrome.
- ★ **The Wyoming Healthy Marriage Initiative** www.WYOFAMs.org
WYHMI believes that strong and healthy marriages and families are our state's most important asset. They work to strengthen communities and families by offering marriage enrichment and parenting classes that teach skills necessary for strong relationships.
- ★ **Wyoming Registry of Interpreter for the Deaf** www.wyrid.org

Acronyms and Terms You May Be Hearing

F.S.C.-Family Services Coordinator, Person that is assigned to your child. Your main point of contact. Person you need to contact with information, questions or concerns you have regarding your child or the services they are or will be receiving.

PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS (Rights)- As a parent of a child who may receive early intervention services, you have certain rights which are guaranteed by federal law. These are your rights, and should be explained and offered to you at every meeting and before any new evaluations.

I.F.S.P.-Individualized Family Service Plan, Your child's individual plan that lays out the services that he/she will receive and how, what, when and where they will be provided. For children birth to three years of age.

I.E.P. - Individualized Educational Plan, Plan your child goes on after they turn three years old. More educationally based than family based.

I.F.S.P. Team- Will always consist of parent/guardian and Family Services Coordinator. May also include teachers, therapists, counselors, waiver personnel, Public Health Nurses, Doctors, etc. anyone else that you or another member of the team feel are necessary to best serve your child.



I.F.S.P. Meeting-The meeting in which all team members (parents/ guardians are a part of this team) sit down and write the I.F.S.P. This meeting should happen annually, with another meeting happening on or before six months to review progress.

M.D.T.- Multidisciplinary Team, team members from all the areas that have evaluated your child.

L.R.E.-Least Restrictive Environment, Your child has the right to receive services in the least restrictive environment. The IFSP team (remember you are a part of that team) will make that decision at your child's IFSP meeting, this could be at home, day care, in center, at grandparent house, etc.

S.L.P.-Speech/Language Pathologist, works with your child's listening, speech and language skills, along with oral motor issues such as swallowing.

E.C.S.E. Teacher-Early Childhood Special Education Teacher works with your child's special education, cognitive, adaptive, and social emotional concerns.

P.T.-Physical Therapist, works with your child's gross motor (large muscles) skills along with sensory motor issues.

P.T.A.-Physical Therapist Assistant, provides gross motor services under the direction of the P.T.

O.T.-Occupational Therapist, works with your child's fine (small muscles) motor, visual perceptive and sensory motor skills.

C.O.T.A.-Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, provides fine motor services under the direction of the O.T.

COGNITIVE- How your child learns, solves problems and his/her thinking skills.

ADAPTIVE- How your child functions with daily living activities such as eating, toileting, dressing, etc.

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL-How your child understands his/her feelings, how he/she relates to other people in his environments and how he/she sees himself/herself in that world.

RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE-How well a child understands what is said to him/her.

EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE-How well a child can form sentences, use words or gestures and signs.

ARTICULATION-How the child uses speech sounds, how clearly he/she can pronounce words.

GROSS MOTOR-How your child uses his/her large muscle groups, such as hopping, jumping, skipping, etc.



PART C PROGRAM- The program under which we receive our funding to provide early intervention services for children birth to three years of age.

PART B PROGRAM- The program under which we receive our funding to provide special education services for children ages three to six years of age.

TRANSITION- The process that takes place when your child moves from the Part C program to the Part B program. You will start hearing a lot about this shortly after your child turns two.

TRANSITION PLANNING CONFERENCE- The plan that you, F.S.C. and service provider make to help your child transition from a family based program into an educational based program. A representative from the Part B program should be in attendance.

