



Prince George's County Infants and Toddlers Program

The Infant and Toddler Times

*Community News and Local Resources
With a Focus on Developmental Delays and Disabilities
In Children Birth to 5 Years of Age*

Volume 7, Number 1

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**Important News
from
MSDE
(see page 3)**

Your Child's Development and the Child Outcome Summary

Did you know that parent input is critically important to the IFSP process? Early Childhood Intervention recognizes that parents and other key caregivers are the primary teachers of young children.

For children to be active participants at home, in the community, and in places like child care or preschool programs, they need to develop skills in three areas: 1) developing positive social-emotional skills; 2) acquiring and using knowledge and skills; and 3) taking appropriate action to meet needs.

As part of the IFSP process, information is gathered about your child's development in the areas listed above. Evaluation tools will be used to determine how your child's development compares to other children his or her age. The results are known as the Child Outcome Summary (COS).

As you assist the early intervention team in determining your child's needs in each of the three areas of development listed above, it is important to share what you have observed with your child. Consider the skills your child currently has, and the skills you feel are necessary for your child to learn. Remember that the outcomes should be functional, or meaningful, to your child in the context of everyday living.

Your input is important. The Child Outcome Summary should document how your child uses skills in action across settings and situations to accomplish something meaningful to him or her. This is not just your child's ability to show a skill in a specific or isolated situation. These outcome results will be reported to MSDE and the U.S. Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) to help understand how young children and families benefit from these supports and services.

Marie Brayman, PGCITP Family Support Network Coordinator,
FSNCoordinator@co.pg.md.us or 301-883-7428
www.pgkitp.net <http://pgcitp.ning.com>

The Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC) - join a group of people from a wide variety of backgrounds who come together to network and enhance the PGCITP:

*** March 20, May 15: 11:30-2:30pm, Rm. 308, 1400 McCormick Dr., Largo
Lunch is served! RSVP to FSNCoordinator@co.pg.md.us or 301-883-7428**

Family Holiday Celebration

December 3, 2011

The Family Holiday Celebration was held on December 3, 2011. Over 300 people attended, enjoying music, storytime, and light refreshments. Photos with Santa (Bill Hyre) were taken by Keith O'Daniel of Keith O'Daniel Photography. Mrs. Clause (Linda Wiskochil) and her cast (Lynn Thweatt, Joan Adelo, LaShawn Lewis, Eileen Heil and John Stasiuk) entertained the crowd along with a festive Frosty the Snowman (James Tallon). A special thank you to Marsha and Jim Hansen, and Rev. Joe Jenkins and Holy Family Catholic Church!



*****IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM MSDE*****

Dear Families,

On December 1, 2011 the Maryland State Department of Education made changes to the Infants & Toddlers Program statewide. (Please see MSDE press release for details below.)

Families will have a choice to continue Early Intervention Services through the Extended IFSP Option **only until their child's 4th birthday**. For your child's services to continue, an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) must be in place by your child's 4th birthday. ***This is a change from the previous MSDE policy which continued the Option to kindergarten age.***

Your child's team will provide details and assistance during this transition period. Any time prior to your child's 4th birthday, families may request IEP development. Otherwise, as your child's 4th birthday approaches, an IEP Team will initiate the development of an IEP with you.

Please contact your child's service coordinator or provider(s) with questions. Refer to the Maryland State Department of Education website for further information at www.MarylandPublicSchools.org. Go to Division of Special Education and Early Intervention to view a copy of *MSDE Extended IFSP Option for Children Age 3 to 4 Policies and Procedures*.



Bernard J. Sadusky, Ed.D.
Interim State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • MarylandPublicSchools.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Margaret Cellucci, 410-767-0502
William Reinhard, 410-767-0486

**MARYLAND MAKES CHANGES TO
THE INFANTS AND TODDLERS PROGRAM**

*Program continues to make early intervention for young children with disabilities
and their families a priority in Maryland*

BALTIMORE (November 2011) - Since February 1, 2010, Maryland has offered families the choice to continue to receive infants and toddlers services through an Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP) beyond age three until their child is eligible to enter kindergarten. This Extended IFSP Option opportunity was made possible for Maryland's families through an awarded federal incentive grant. With the closing of this stimulus grant on November 30, 2011, Maryland is required to revise the age of eligibility for participation.

Over the past five months, the Early Childhood Intervention and Education Branch at the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services collected stakeholder input regarding the age of eligibility for future participation in the Extended IFSP Option. Revised policies and procedures were posted on the MSDE web site for public comment from August 25, 2011 until October 25, 2011. A public hearing was held on October 4, 2011 at the Maryland State Department of Education. As a result, the decision was made to continue to offer the Extended IFSP Option until a child's fourth birthday. Beginning December 1, 2011, families will have the choice to continue early intervention services through an IFSP beyond age three **until their child's fourth birthday**. This Option is available for a family if a child has a current IFSP and is determined eligible for preschool special education and related services as a child with a disability. By a child's 4th birthday, they must transition to services through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

The Extended IFSP Option will continue to promote school readiness for young children with disabilities by fostering educational proficiency, while at the same time, providing families with the training and support they need to promote their children's development. "School readiness is the ultimate goal as we continue to expand the possibilities for children with disabilities and their families," said Dr. Sadusky. "Extending early intervention services provides the opportunity to incorporate the strength of our early childhood education system, along with the existing infants and toddlers family center service model."

For more information about the Extended Individualized Family Service Plan Option for children with disabilities age three to age four, visit the Maryland State Department of Education website at www.MarylandPublicSchools.org and click on the Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services and under **Branches** click on the Early Childhood Intervention Education Branch.

Prince George's County Infants and Toddlers Program Community Based Programs

Please Note: We follow the Prince George's County Public School (PGCPS) calendar, observing all PGCPS holidays and closings. We also follow PGCPS inclement weather procedures. In the event of no school or a delayed opening there will be no programs.

Check dates online at www.pgcitp.net or at <http://pgcitp.ning.com>

BOOKS AND TOYS

Contact: Paula Ogle, 301-805-2734

Location: Bowie Library
15210 Annapolis Road
Bowie, MD 20715

Description: It's an opportunity for children under three with special needs along with their families and friends to participate in story time, music and motor activities, and play. Meet other parents and check the latest resources!

Note: Appropriate for children 12 months and older. Group meets Mondays from 10:30-11:30 am

MORNING MOVERS

Contact: Camille Vaughan, 301-808-8108
Location: Sports and Learning Complex (lower level), 8001 Sheriff Road, Landover, MD 20785

Description: This motor group integrates movement, music, and language to facilitate age-appropriate gross motor and language skills. Parents and tots participate in fun movement activities and songs.

Note: Children who are not yet walking should be accompanied by their ITP providers the first few times to help the family with accommodations. Group meets on Fridays from 7:45 am to 8:30 am

NIGHTTIME PLAYGROUP

Contact: Paula Ogle, 301-805-2734
Location: Bowie Library
15210 Annapolis Road
Bowie, MD 20715

Description: Come join us for learning and fun at the Bowie Library. Families and children will participate in five stations to learn strategies and enhance the child's skills in all areas of development.

Note: Toys are available to borrow from the toy library. Appropriate for children 12 months and older. Group meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

SILVER STARS GYM GROUP

Contact: Paula Ogle, 301-805-2734
Location: Silver Stars Gym
14201 Woodcliff Ct., Bowie, MD 20720

Description: Meet with a physical therapist and teacher to work on motor and play skills.

Note: ONLY for children who are independently sitting up to beginning walkers. Children must be enrolled in the Prince George's County Infants and Toddlers Program to attend.

Group meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 11am to 12:00 pm

ENGLISH PLAY GROUP AT LAUREL

Contact: Janice Rub, 301-572-0606
Location: Open Arms Child Development Center
13611 Laurel Bowie Rd.
Laurel, MD 20708 (on bus route)

Description: Stretch the imagination through creative play with *parental involvement*. Purpose of group is to support symbolic play development, language development, feeding skills, and social interactions. Activities include circle time, free play activities, outside play and snack time. Parent training may include making and choosing nutritious snacks, creating mealtime routines and encouraging self feeding skills, and promoting expressive language. These activities are used to support healthy child development. A special educator and an occupational therapist guide the group.

Note: Group is appropriate for children ages 18 to 36 months. Please call to attend - space is limited. 301-572-0607

Group meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 10:00 am to 11:30 am





MONDAY MUSIC

Contact: Donna Lauherhahs 301-808-8108

Location: Wheatley Early Childhood Center
8801 Ritchie Road
Capitol Heights, MD 20743
OR

It's a Family Affair Childcare Center
Morgan Station Metro
310 Garrett A Morgan Blvd
Landover, MD 20785

Description: Enhance your child's development and love of music through song, dance, movement games, and instruments. With an array of styles, our music classes help children explore the power of rhythm, melody, tonality, and beat while nurturing key physical, social, and intellectual skills.

Group meets Mondays from 10:00 am to 11:00 am

SPANISH PLAYGROUP AT JUDY CENTER

Contact: Wendy Oliver or Tina Auth; 301-572-0607

Location: Judy Center, Room 113
8908 Riggs Road, Adelphi, MD 20783

Description: This bilingual group will use songs, rhymes and play activities to promote development in all areas, including language and social skills. Information will be presented in both Spanish and English.

Note: For Spanish-speaking children 18 months to four years; siblings welcome, **Please call to attend - space is limited. 301-572-0607**

Group meets Tuesdays 10am until noon

ROCK, ROLL AND PLAY

Contact: Anna Lawrence or Tami Radov,
301-572-0607

Location: Judy Center, Room 113
8908 Riggs Road, Adelphi, MD 20783

Description: This motor group uses floor play activities to promote developmental gross motor skills. Parents and their little ones participate with other families to learn how to encourage rolling, sitting, and crawling skills.

Note: This program is most appropriate for infants and toddlers who are just learning to roll, sit, and crawl.

Please call to attend - space is limited. 301-572-0607

Group meets Fridays from 10-11 am

YMCA STORY/PLAYTIME

Contact: Paula Ogle, 301-805-2734

Location: 3501 Moylan Drive,
Bowie, MD 20715

Description: Come join us for learning and fun at the YMCA in Bowie on Wednesday morning. It's a great opportunity for children and their families to participate in story time, music, and motor activities. We will be working on skills like receptive and expressive language, articulation, social language, and imitation.

Note: For children ages 12 months and older.

Group meets Wednesdays from 10:30-11:30 am

SLEEPY TIME

Contact: Paula Ogle, 301-805-2734

Location: Bowie Library
15210 Annapolis Road
Bowie, MD 20715

Description: Here is an opportunity for children under three along with their families and friends to participate in story time, music, and motor activities. Meet other parents and check the latest resources!

Note: Toys are available to borrow from the toy library.

Group meets 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 pm

PLAY GROUP AT BOWIE GYM OR BUCKINGHAM PARK

Contact: 301-805-2734

Location: Bowie Gym
4100 North view Drive
Bowie, MD 20716
(Meets October through March)
Buckingham Park
2800 Bar Berry Lane
Bowie, MD 20715
(Meets April through September)

Description: Come join us for a morning of learning and fun! Parents and children will move to different stations and experience different learning activities

Note: if the group is meeting at the park and it is still raining at 9 am, the playgroup will be cancelled.

Group meets every Thursday from 10 - 11:30 am.

Prince George's County Infants and Toddlers Program Community Based Programs (con't)

WIGGLES AND GIGGLES GALORE

Contact: Linda Wiskochil, 301-808-8100
Location: Oakcrest Community Center
1300 Capitol Heights Blvd.
(attached to William Hall Academy)

Description: Toddlers (with a favorite adult) enjoy songs, movement activities, rhymes, books, and playtime. This action-packed program supports literacy, key social and emotional skills, and engages children in activities that require cooperation and self-awareness and that encourage communication with peers.

Note: *siblings and friends (up to age five) are also welcome!*

Group meets every Thursday from 10:00-11:15 am

PLAY AND LEARN GROUP (PALS)

Contact: Kate Van Dyck, 301-449-4885
Location: Henson Valley Christian Church
1900 Tucker Rd., Ft. Washington, MD
(Meets 2nd, 3rd, 4th Wednesdays 10:00 am)
and
Oxon Hill Library
6200 Oxon Hill Rd., Oxon Hill, MD
(Meets 1st Wednesday only 10:15 am)

Description: Come join this play group with a variety of activities and field trips for Infants and Toddlers and their families. Make new friends and develop social and play skills. Siblings and friends are welcome!
Group meets from 10:00-11:30 am

CHILDRENS DEVELOPMENTAL CLINIC

Contact: Susan Gagnon at 301-322-0519
Location: University of Maryland, College Park; and
Prince Georges County Community
College, 301 Largo Road,
Largo, MD 20774

Description: Specialized, individualized services are offered to children who are experiencing developmental difficulties. The program focuses on motor development, language development, and reading. A parent-education program runs in conjunction with children's services.

Note: *Please call for dates and times*

ENGLISH PLAY GROUP AT JUDY CENTER

Contact: Janice Rub, 301-572-0607
Location: Judy Center, Room 113
8908 Riggs Road, Adelphi, MD 20783

Description: Stretch the imagination through creative play with *parental involvement*. Purpose of group is to support symbolic play development, language development, feeding skills and social interactions. Activities include circle time, free play activities, outside play, and snack time. Parent training may include making and choosing nutritious snacks, creating mealtime routines and encouraging self feeding skills, and promoting expressive language. These activities are used to support healthy child development. A special educator and an occupational therapist guide the group.

Note: *Ages 18 months to 36 months. Please call to attend - space is limited. 301-572-0607*

Group meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:30 am

MEET AND PLAY AT CHICK-FIL-A

Contact: Marie Brayman, 301-883-7428
Location: Chick-fil-A at Steeplechase
9121 Alaking Court
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Description: Come meet other families and learn about resources while your children play. Monthly discussions focus on topics like assistive technology, potty training, early literacy, language development, respite care, and behavior. Lunch will be provided for the first 20 people who RSVP (children age 5 or under and one adult per child in the Infants and Toddlers Program). Please note Chick-fil-A uses peanut oil for cooking.

Note: *RSVP Required*

Call 301-883-7428 to make your reservation or RSVP online at <http://pgcctp.ning.com>

Group meets the 3rd Friday of the month from 10:00 to 11:30 am

Please Note: We follow the Prince George's County Public School (PGCPS) calendar, observing all PGCPS holidays and closings. We also follow PGCPS inclement weather procedures. In the event of no school or a delayed opening there will be no programs. Check dates online at www.pgcitp.net or at <http://pgcctp.ning.com>



Next Steps Workshops

Are you prepared for your child's transition at age three? Do you know how to help your child get ready for Kindergarten?

Workshops in English:

March 14th, 10 am at Henson Valley Christian Church

May 14th, 10:30 am at Bowie Library

June 7th, 10 am at Judy Hoyer Family Learning Center

Workshops in Spanish:

Feb. 16th, 10 am at Judy Hoyer Family Learning Center

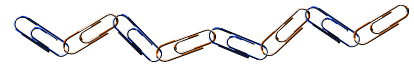
April 18th, 10 am at Wheatley Early Childhood Center

For more information: contact your Service Provider or Service Coordinator, or call 301-883-7428, or go online at <http://pgcitp.ning.com>

MARYLAND

LEARNING LINKS

New Website Offers Resources to Parents, Educators of Children and Students with Disabilities



MarylandLearningLinks.org

PROVIDES ONE-STOP PATH TO ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Families and educators interested in early intervention services and special education information and issues now have a user-friendly resource at their fingertips. MarylandLearningLinks.org is a unique, dynamic website providing information about the Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP) and Individualized Education Program (IEP) processes, family involvement and other topics and trends related to special education. The site features a number of interactive tools, blogs, and newsletters aimed at administrators, teachers, service providers, and parents. "We know that students thrive when their support system is equipped with the best information," said MSDE's Interim State Superintendent Bernard Sadusky. "MarylandLearningLinks.org provides users with critical ideas and resources, all free-of-charge and available just a click away." Developed through Maryland's State Improvement Grant (H323A070003), MarylandLearningLinks.org is a partnership of the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, and the Johns Hopkins University/School of Education/Center for Technology in Education.

SAVE THE DATE!

5th ANNUAL FAMILY DISCOVERY DAY

*Sponsored by: The Prince George's County
Infants & Toddlers Program*



Thursday, May 24, 2012

10am until 2 pm

Watkins Regional Park

RAIN DATE

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Come have fun exploring and discovering park activities !!
Lunch Provided!

More information coming soon!

For questions please contact
Marie Brayman @ (301) 883-7428
mbrayman@co.pg.md.us

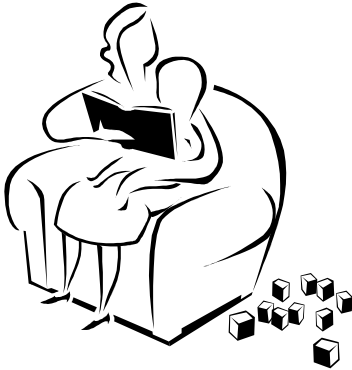


**Prince George's County
Infants and Toddlers
Program**

9201 Basil Court, Suite 440
Largo, MD 20774

Phone: 301-883-7428
Fax: 301-883-3907
Email: FSNCoordinator@co.pg.md.us

To the Parent/Guardian of:



**FREE Immunizations For Children
Ages One Month To 21 Years**

By Appointment Only

**In Clinton and Cheverly, Maryland
Call the Prince George's County Health
Department between 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
to schedule an appointment**

301-583-3300

**You must bring a copy of your child's
immunization (shot) record with you to the appointment.
You must bring proof of residency for Prince George's County.**

**If you do not have health insurance for your child,
call HealthLine at 1-888-561-4049.**