



Outreach Program

Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Tony Evers, PhD, State Superintendent

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Alex H. Slappey, Director WESPDHH

Marcy Dicker, Director Outreach Program

WESP-DHH Western Region Birth to Six Redesign Pilot

POSITION DESCRIPTION

BIRTH TO SIX WESTERN REGIONAL SERVICES COORDINATOR FOR CHILDREN WITH HEARING LOSS AND THEIR FAMILIES

This project position provides regional leadership, consultative services, and service coordination to families, Birth to 3 programs, LEAs and CESAs concerning the development, evaluation, coordination, transition and improvement of programming and services for children with hearing loss, birth to six year of age, and their families. The overarching goal of the pilot project associated with this position is to improve access to specialized services for young children with hearing loss and their families in the Western region. In preparation for service coordination, this individual will be responsible for identification of regional resources and areas of strengths and needs for and provision of training amongst regional service providers, development of collaborative partnership agreements, and establishment and implementation of a regional team. The position requires a high level of collaboration with consultants at the Department of Public Instruction, Department of Health Services (Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program and Wisconsin Sound Beginnings), programs of WESPDHH Outreach and other state, regional and local organizations (Head Start, childcare programs, social service agencies, medical providers and family/parent organizations) that serve the needs of young children with hearing loss and their families.

- A. Provide service coordination within the Western region for children with hearing loss and their families to identify family strengths and needs, set goals and priorities and identify appropriate and qualified service providers.
- B. Identify service providers and develop a comprehensive regional service delivery team, with expertise and experience in working with children who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafblind and their families.
- C. In conjunction with the WESP-DHH Outreach Birth to 6 Services Coordinator, facilitate creative collaborative agreements between agencies, counties, CESAs and LEAs.
- D. Ensure a "team" of regional services providers with a common foundation of information, and areas of "expertise" that can be made available to families.

This pilot project has been funded largely by the Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program (a program of the Department of Health Services) ARRA dollars.

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- E. Assist county Birth to 3 Programs in identifying regional service providers with appropriate expertise to meet the identified needs related to hearing loss (per the IFSP) of each child and family.
- F. Provide coordination and assistance in the transition of children with hearing loss from Birth-to-3 programs to early childhood/special education services.

KNOWLEDGES AND ABILITIES

1. Knowledge of early developmental milestones and the impact of hearing loss on these developmental milestones.
2. Knowledge of language developmental milestones and unique characteristics of those language milestones in deaf/hard of hearing/deafblind children.
3. Knowledge of Wisconsin's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) system, including newborn hearing screening, follow up data and tracking systems, and statewide resources related to EHDI.
4. Knowledge of the available technology (including hearing aids, fm systems and cochlear implants) for young children with hearing loss, and the implications of this technology on the child, service provision and family support.
5. Knowledge of the impact of hearing loss on the family system.
6. Knowledge of the resources available statewide and nationally that can support young children who are d/hh/db and their families
7. Knowledge of communication options and educational philosophies prevalent in the field of deafness, including sign language and listening and spoken language educational practices and resources, (American Sign Language, Bilingual-Bicultural approach, English Sign Systems, Listening and Spoken Language Techniques and Auditory Verbal Integration Therapy)
8. Knowledge of federal (Part C and Part B) and state regulations regarding Birth to 3 services and early childhood educational services.
9. Knowledge of the service delivery system for young children who are d/hh in the state of Wisconsin.
10. Knowledge of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and the Individualized Education Program (IEP) processes.
11. Knowledge of the needs of young children who are deaf and hard of hearing with additional disabilities (including combined vision and hearing loss) and services available to address their needs.
12. Ability to communicate with and facilitate interactions amongst a variety of team members, including Birth to 3 personnel, educational staff, administrators, medical providers and families.
13. Demonstrated initiative and leadership skills in a related field.
14. Ability to develop and implement data keeping systems and to create meaningful reports regarding activities of the region.



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Regional Service Coordinator Professional Development Ideas

1. Wisconsin Sound Beginnings EHDI (Early Hearing Detection and Intervention):
Waisman Center Connections:
Wisconsin Medical Home Webcast Series:

<http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/connections/webcast.php>

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI): A Sound Beginning for Wisconsin's Babies (15 min)

Sharon Fleischfresser, MD, MPH

Medical Director, Wisconsin CYSHCN Program

2. Wisconsin Birth to 3 Orientation/Overview:
Waisman Center Connections:
Wisconsin Medical Home Webcast Series:

<http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/connections/webcast.php>

Wisconsin Birth to 3 Early Intervention Program (25 min)

Linda Tuchman-Ginsberg, Ph.D.

Program Director, Waisman Center Early Intervention Program

3. Early Childhood Special Education:
<http://www.dpi.wi.gov/ec/ecspedhm.html>

4. Department Of Public Instruction (DPI)
WI State Performance Plan (SPP), Indicator #12, Transition from Part C to Part B

<http://www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/spp-tran-presch.html>

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5. SKI-HI Program Training:
<http://www.skihi.org/Training.html>
6. WESP - DHH Annual Professional Conference:
http://www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov/pro/event_view.cfm?memberid=85&eventid=354787