

STATE SYSTEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SSIP)
REGIONAL CENTER LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT (RCLIA)

COHORT #1



The California Early Start SSIP

The SSIP is a federally required multi-year plan states must develop to improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities. States must identify a measurable child result as the focus of their SSIP and report annually to the federal government on its progress in the measurable result through 2020.

Based upon input from Early Start stakeholders, California selected to focus on increasing the percentage of infants and toddlers with disabilities in California who substantially increase their rate of growth in positive social-emotional skills by the time they exit the early intervention program. Three different improvement strategies were identified to accomplish this task:

- parent and provider education
- professional development
- interagency collaboration

The Regional Center Local Implementation Assessment (RCLIA)

The RCLIA template has been created to assist regional centers (RCs) and their local implementation team members with planning and documenting how they will implement the SSIP at their local level.

Intended Goal

The RCLIA's intended goal is to help the regional center and local implementation team understand minimal implementation requirements and recommend additional implementation activities that the local team may want to consider.

Stakeholders and Partnerships in Early Start Services

Local implementation teams are not limited to the activities associated with this template and are encouraged to utilize their existing resources and partnerships to implement the SSIP. It is recommended that as many local implementation team members participate in developing the RCLIA or that the plan be shared with local implementation team members to ensure that a systemic approach is used in implementing the plan.

Resources and Support

DDS liaisons and WestEd professionals will aid teams in completing the form or be available to provide guidance and answer questions. Each regional center is requested to submit a RCLIA to DDS prior to implementation of their plan.

SECTION I: REGIONAL CENTER INFORMATION

Far Northern Regional Center/Local Implementation Team

SSIP Local Implementation Team Leader(s): Robin Larson and Doreen Albaugh

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- 1. What processes and tools are currently used by regional center and provider personnel to evaluate and assess the social/emotional development of infants and toddlers referred to Early Start?** All children coming through intake are accessed in all areas of development including S/E. We use and accept a variety of developmental tools to establish eligibility and track ongoing progress. We have chosen the Hawaii Early Learning Profile to use as our data base going into and exiting the program so that there is consistency in our data. The reason that we chose this is because most of our providers and service coordinators are trained in the tool and we have found it to be very reliable in showing where children are at in their social emotional development. All assessments are done in a natural environment with parents present. We strive to make sure that outside influences are at a minimum, such as if the child is ill, we will often reschedule the appointment, knowing that we will not get an accurate sample of the child’s abilities.
- 2. Please briefly describe how your regional center currently supports children and families in the provision of services that promote social/emotional development.** Far Northern Regional Center provides individualized and in home services with a focus on parent-child relationships. We use community resources. Providers meet where other children are to help show parents how to implement social connections. Our belief is that social emotional is foundation of all development and we are striving to incorporate this understanding in all the services that we provide to eligible Early Start children.

SECTION II: LOCAL SSIP IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

Please describe how the regional center will recruit local partner agencies and organizations to become part of the RC’s local implementation team? Invitation to Kick off campaign/training on 9/8/16 and 9/9/16. Continued quarterly meetings for updates, maybe in person, via phone or polycom.

Please list possible local implementation team members. (Recommended partners include vendors, representatives from the local Family Resource Center, educational agencies, Head Start, First 5, parents, and others).

We will provide a complete list of our local implementation team after 9/9/16

Proposed/Established Team Member	Organization Represented	Email Address
Robin Larson	FNRC	rlarson@farnorthern.org
Doreen Albaugh	FNRC	dalbaugh@farnorthern.org
Patricia Roth	FNRC	proth@farnorthern.org
Kat Lowrance	FRC	sklowrance@aol.com
Kathy Thomas	Shasta Co. Office of Ed.	
Carla Clark	Early Head Start	
Matt Chestnut	Parent Infant Program (IDP)	
James Hayton	Butte Co. Office of Ed.	

SECTION III: INTEGRATION OF EARLY START SSIP RESOURCES & ACTIVITIES

How will your RC integrate the following five Early Start SSIP resources to enhance your Local Implementation Team’s success?

1. Early Start Recommended Practices for Assessment of Social-Emotional Development

Local implementation teams will be provided with an evidence based best practice document on recommended assessment practices.

Please check one or more boxes:

- Teams will review and share the recommended practices for assessment of social-emotional development with service providers/field staff.
- Teams will review and share the recommended practices and take steps to actively implement recommendations, such as:
 - Using the same assessment tool at both the child's entry into and exit from Early Start.
 - Using the same assessment tool to assess social/emotional development
(Yes to both of these, but I could not check the boxes)
- Other. Please describe:

2. Resource Guide to State Initiatives

Local Implementation Teams will be provided with a resource guide containing evidence-based initiatives and resources that focus on social and emotional development. Teams can then identify resources and strategies of an initiative to inform practices.

Please check one or more boxes:

- Teams will identify an evidence-based initiative that focuses on social-emotional development and make the principles and resources from their identified initiative(s) available to service providers, parents, and other local Early Start community partners that will inform their practice. See training above
- Teams will identify an evidence-based initiative that focuses on social-emotional development and facilitate active implementation of the initiative with partners. Train and Focus On Strengthening Families
- Other. Please describe: Provide Social/Emotional resource guide to all providers, available on Neighborhood.

3. Training

Online training on social-emotional development is available to Teams and the Early Start community from DDS and WestEd. Training grants are also available to support additional trainings to be hosted by the RC and its local SSIP implementation team. The online community of practice, made available by DDS and WestEd, will support the dissemination of information and resources and promote active discussion around implementation of evidence-based practices.

Please check one or more boxes:

- Teams will join and participate, and encourage their staff to join and participate, in the online community of practice to support the dissemination of information and resources and engage in active discussions around implementation of evidence-based practices.
- Teams will invite members of the broader Early Start community to participate in the online training developed by DDS and WestEd on social-emotional development.
- Teams will host events or trainings to reinforce or build capacity in supporting social-emotional development.
- Teams will host events or trainings to facilitate local implementation of evidence-based practices.
- Other. Please describe: We Will Connect Partners To The Neighborhood.

4. The SSIP Provider Checklist

This quick reference on best practices in family-centered service provision will include helpful reminders to providers while engaging families.

Please check one or more boxes:

- Teams will email the SSIP Provider Checklist to service providers/field personnel and/or make the checklist available on their website or direct them to the DDS website where it will be posted.
- Teams will make the checklist available to service providers during regularly scheduled meetings.
- Teams will host a local training on the use of the Provider Checklist.
- Other. Please describe:

5. Take a Minute Campaign

Brochures for parents will emphasize the importance of the parent-child relationship, and provide practical tips to promote social-emotional development. A video will explain the components of social-emotional development in a family friendly manner.

Please check one or more boxes:

- Teams will make their staff, service coordinators, vendors and families aware of the Take a Minute resources available on the Early Start Neighborhood and DDS websites.
- Teams will encourage their staff, service coordinators, and service providers to share and review the Take a Minute resources with families as often as possible, at a minimum at intake and at each annual IFSP meeting.
- Teams will ensure that providers and service coordinators are providing families with copies of the printed Take a Minute resources.
- Other. Please describe: We will present the Take A Minute brochure at every initial IFSP and annually thereafter. SC's will remind parents to utilize the brochure and video and answer any questions that they may have about their child's development. Further, there will be a "Take A Minute" sticker on each IFSP verifying receipt of the brochure and serving as a further reminder for parents to Take A Minute to connect with their children. A second sticker will be attached with a quick idea such as: Read a book to your child. There will be a variety of different ideas that will be randomly chosen to put on the IFSP.

Please complete the following additional questions:

1. **How and how often will the RC and its local implementation team members meet to share information on the progress of its implementation?** At least twice a year at this point, but we hope more often as we get into the process.
2. **How will the RC and its local implementation team provide outreach to vendors, allied health professionals, parents, and other members of the Early Start community in their local areas to inform them of the on-line Community of Practice and other SSIP resources?** All of the above except a newsletter. In addition, participation in Help Me Grow and local Strengthening Families local team. (i.e. newsletters, regular email communications, personal contacts, regular interagency meetings, health and information fairs, other).
3. **What evidence-based Initiative(s) will the RC and local implementation team choose to focus on?** **Strengthening families:** 5 Protective Factors using the 5 Protective Factors as a basis to write and include family outcomes focused on S/E in the IFSP. We are also investigating other EB practices and looking to our implementation team to provide us with ideas and support that they may need to be successful in this process.
4. **Please describe how your RC and local implementation team may be able to provide or gather data related to their implementation?** Evaluation of trainings, pre/post quiz for online training, quantify how many Take A Minute brochures and checklists are disseminated. Feedback from providers and SC's. Core Indicator #4, Annual family surveys, ESR, self-assessment tools in strengthening families.