

STATE SYSTEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN **LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT**



The California Early Start State Systemic Improvement Plan (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; and,
- Interagency collaboration.

The Local Implementation Assessment (LIA)

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

Intended Goal

The LIA'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 local implementation team members participate in

developing the LIA 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 an LIA to DDS prior to implementation of their plan.

SECTION I: REGIONAL CENTER INFORMATION

Local Implementation Team

SSIP Local Implementation Team Leader(s): Elisa Hill

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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?** Developmental tools conducted by service providers such as the Bayley III, DAY-C 2, Battelle Developmental Inventory-2, Revised Gesell, and HELP checklist, as well as parent report and provider observations.

2. **Please briefly describe how your regional center currently supports children and families in the provision of services that promote social/emotional development.** Social emotional development is discussed at every IFSP and every parent is strongly encouraged to have a social emotional goal on each IFSP held. Service providers support that goal by discussing relationships and every day social routines with parents and incorporating them into the therapeutic process. Additionally, NLACRC works closely with the FRC team as they support families through the parent perspective.

SECTION II: LOCAL SSIP IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

Please describe how the regional center will recruit local partner agencies and organizations to become part of the regional center’s local implementation team. SSIP updates will be shared at a variety of regional center and community and inter-agency meetings, such as Vendor Advisory Committee meetings, Interagency Agency Committee meetings in all offices. Outreach to the medical community to distribute Take a Minute Parent Flyer to families will be distributed to encourage community collaboration with SSIP.

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).

Proposed/Established Team Member	Organization Represented	Email Address
Arevik Aleksanian	NLACRC	aaleksanian@nlacrc.org
Paula Leonesio	NLACRC	pleonesio@nlacrc.org

Rachel Lovers	NLACRC	rlovers@nlacrc.org
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Cara Gelfand	Los Angeles USD	Carolyn.gelfand@lausd.net
Shayna Simpson	LA County Library	ssimpson@library.lacounty.gov
Leena Waller	Stevenson Ranch LA County Library	lwaller@library.lacounty.gov
Cindy Kozlowski	Santa Clarita Valley SELPA/Early Start	ckozlowski@saugusd.org
Valerie Louthian	Las Virgines USD	vlouthian@lvusd.org
Victoria Berry	Family Focus Resource Center	Victoria.berry@csun.edu
Theresa Quarry	Family Focus Resource Center	Theresa.quarry@csun.edu
Dana Kalek	Child Development Institute	dkalek@cdikids.org
Potential Partners:		
	DCFS	
	First 5 LA	
	Early Head Start	
	Additional Service Providers	
	Medical Community	

SECTION III: INTEGRATION OF EARLY START SSIP RESOURCES & ACTIVITIES

How will your regional center 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

This resource is 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; and,
 - Using the same assessment tool to assess social-emotional development.
- Other. Please describe:

INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION

2. Resource Guide to State Initiatives

This resource guide contains 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.
- Teams will identify an evidence-based initiative that focuses on social-emotional development and facilitate active implementation of the initiative with partners.
- Teams will host events or trainings to facilitate local implementation of evidence-based practices to reinforce or build capacity in supporting social and emotional development.
- Other. Please describe:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

3. Training

Online training on social-emotional development is available to teams and the Early Start community. 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.

Other. Please describe: NLACRC will require all Early Start service coordinators to participate in the online social-emotional group training provided by WestEd.

PARENT AND PROVIDER EDUCATION

4. The SSIP Provider Checklist (Provider Tips for Supporting Social-Emotional Development)

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 emphasize the importance of the parent-child relationship and provide practical tips to promote social-emotional development. A video is also available to 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.
- Teams will host a local training on the use of the Take a Minute Campaign.
- Other. Please describe:

Please answer the following additional questions:

**How and how often will the regional center and its local implementation team members meet to share information on the progress of its implementation?
We will meet quarterly.**

How will the regional center 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 online Community of Practice and other SSIP resources? (i.e. newsletters, regular e-mail communications, personal contacts, regular interagency meetings, health and information fairs, other)

NLACRC will host regular meetings with SSIP updates, Early Start Neighborhood resources, and networking opportunities. Take a Minute Video is in the Early Start Orientation for new and current Early Start families.

What evidence-based initiative(s) will the regional center and local implementation team choose to focus on?

Strengthening Families and the 5 protective Factors

Please describe how your regional center and local implementation team may be able to provide or gather data related to their implementation.

NLACRC will provide social emotional data through the Early Start Report (ESR) and NLACRC will complete the Acquisition of Knowledge Survey and Application of Content Survey.