

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):

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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?** Our SGPRC vendors administer the following standardized assessment tools to evaluate the areas of Social-Emotional Development: Bayley Scales of Infant Development, Third Edition (BSID-III) and the Developmental Assessment of Young Children (DAYC-2). SGPRC staff may utilize DP-3.
- 2. Please briefly describe how your regional center currently supports children and families in the provision of services that promote social/emotional development.**

SGPRC Early Start Services Coordinators work closely with their families in providing resources and assistance with referring to programs that include the following: Early Head/Head Start, Foothill Family Services/EHS, Library/Story-Time programs and other community resources available to families to support socialization, social-emotional skills and opportunities to engage in peer interaction. Additionally, SGPRC continue to work closely with referring families to the Parents Place Family Resource and Empowerment Center that provide support groups, workshops, community resources and other services for our families. Parents Place Family Resource and Empowerment Center host free play groups once a month for parents. Topics offered at the free play groups include topics related to child development and are presented by a clinician or a vendor provider.

SGPRC continues to hold monthly Local Interagency Coordination Area (LICA) meetings with vendor providers, Local Education Agencies (LEA's), Early Head Starts, SGPRC Early Start Staff and other community partners. During our LICA meetings, presentations and trainings are offered to our vendor community, providers and our Local Education Agencies on a variety of topics. Our most recent the LICA meeting held on September 13, 2018 included a presentation on "Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma Informed" by Jessica Bernal, MA LMFT with Foothill Family Services/ Early Head Start. Jessica Bernal, MA LMFT also presented another training opportunity in collaboration with Parents Place Family Resource & Empowerment Center on September 22, 2018 at Citrus Community College for parents, vendors and all community partners on the topic "How Secure Attachment Impacts the Physical, Social and Emotional Development of Children 0-5". Our future presentations to our parents, local education agencies, vendors and community will include a focus on inclusion support and how that relates to a child's social-emotional development.

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.

SGPRC has provided continuous updates on SSIP during our monthly Interagency Coordination Area Meetings (LICA) since April 2018 in effort to reach out to our vendor community, LEA's, generic resources and other community partners.

On August 8, 2018 SGPRC invited the members below on an event that was called "Coming of the Minds" in which our Early Start Managers, our associate director of Early Intervention/Intake Services and our Early Start Support/Compliance Specialist came together to review and discuss SSIP and our goals. Most members were able to attend this event as well as participate in a telephone conference with Shay Willis, DDS Liaison who called in to introduce herself and schedule the face to face orientation. Following this meeting, our prospective implementation team members attended the face to face orientation with DDS on 9/17/18. This meeting also included SGPRC Early Start Managers, SGPRC associate Director, SGPRC Resource Developer and the Early Start Support/Compliance Specialist. SGPRC held another meeting on 10/17/18 with the SSIP Implementation Team members. SGPRC will conduct a telephone conference in November and December. A face to face meeting will resume in January 2019.

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
	First 5 LA	
Jessica Bernal, MA LMFT Clinical Manager	Foothill Family Services	jbernal@foothillfamily.org
Cindy Sendor MA CCC SLP & Susan Strobel	Casa Colina Children Services	csendor@casacolina.org Sstrobel@casacolina.org
Nur Bandek, Ph.D	B and B Learn & Play	bandblandp@gmail.com
LuJuana Blackman, MA	Carousel Developmental Services	Lujuana.blackman@carouseldev.com
Elena Sanchez, Executive Director	Parents Place Family Resource Center and Empowerment Center	elena.sanchez@parentsplacefrc.com
Christine Bechel MS CCC SLP	SGPRC Consultant	cbechel@sgprc.org
Valerie Vega and Ricardo Rivera, Baldwin Park USD	Baldwin Park Early Head Start	Vvega492@bpusd.net Rjrivera624@bpusd.net
Karen Nutt and Edmund Flores, Braille Institute	Braille Institute	kmnutt@brailleinstitute.org ejflores@brailleinstitute.org
Megan Wilson & Marie Green, School Psychologists	Pomona USD	Megan.Wilson@pomona.k12.ca.us Marie.Greene@pomona.k12.ca.us
Maria Ramirez-Kroger, Executive Director	New Start Infant Program	newstartidp@gmail.com
Esmeralda Gomez, MBA	Enriched Learning Services	Elsinc07@sbsglobal

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: SGPRC will continue to advise providers to utilize and administer BSID-III, DAYC-2 and DP-3.

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: SGPRC will Provide Social/Emotional resource guide to all providers that include vendors, LEA's and other community resources on Neighborhood during monthly LICA meetings as well as Interagency Agreement reviews with our (6) SELPA programs including those reviews with our (9) Early Head/Head Start Programs.

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: SGPRC Early Start Service coordinators including managers were required to attend the following trainings held at LICA meetings on 9/13/18 on the topic “Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma Informed”. On 7/11/18, Early Start Staff attended a training and presentation on “Helping Children with Behavior Challenges”. This presentation was done by Dr. Diane Cullinane with PCDA. On 7/20/18, SGPRC staff members attended a training as part of Department of Mental Health Birth to five Collaborative on the topic “Leveraging the Joy of Relationships: Developmentally Informed Tools and Techniques for Working with Families of Infants and Toddlers”. The presenter, Dr. Mona Delahooke, licensed clinical psychologist provided this training to Early Start Staff Members. This training was in collaboration with Department of Mental Health and Department of Children and Family Services.

In January 2019, a training will be held on the topic “Sensory Integration and Behavior Development”. Additionally, additional trainings will be offered to staff on the following topics: Inclusion Support which will be conducted by an inclusion specialist and Adverse Childhood Experiences will be conducted by Tri-City Mental Health Services.

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: SGPRC will provide copies of the Take a Minute Provider Checklist and parent handout of the Take a Minute flyers during the SGPRC monthly LICA meetings, Interagency Agreements Meetings with LEA's and meetings with Early Head/Head Start Programs. SGPRC Early Start Staff will provide copies to families during their IFSP meetings as well as Take a Minute Video. Additionally, monthly parent/child Play workshops are held at the Local Family Resource Center every 1st Wednesday of the month for parents and their child (ren) to attend. Take Minute Flyers and information will be provided to parents as well during these monthly events. Another training opportunity will be made available to parents in February 2019 to discuss a topic on Social-Emotional Development.

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: SGPRC will present Take a Minute flyers at every initial IFSP. Documentation on the IFSP will support that a discussion was held with parents at the initial IFSP meeting. Additionally, SGPRC Early Start Staff will show the Take a Minute Video in English or Spanish as part of the initial IFSP meeting. Providers will be encouraged to do the same as part of their initial IFSP meeting with the family. Documentation on provider's reports will support that families have been introduced or have reviewed Take a Minute literature.

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?

SGPRC local Implementation Team will meet monthly. Monthly meetings have been held since August 2018. Our next meeting is scheduled on October 17, 2018 followed by a telephone conference in November and December. Our next face to face meeting will resume in January 2019. Meetings may be altered as needed followed by minutes.

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). SGPRC will have copies readily available for families in the SGPRC lobby area. SGPRC will show the video in intervals in the SGPRC lobby waiting area. The Take a Minute videos will be shown to parents as part of the initial IFSP meeting by SGPRC staff or providers will show video as part of their initial meeting with the parents. Distribution of Take Minute Flyers will be provided to vendors during our Local Interagency Coordination Area (LICA) and made readily available. In addition, providers have been provided a guide to access resources on Early Start Neighborhood and will be reminded to continue accessing resources. SGPRC webmaster will assist with distributing literature to providers and families, community presentations and continued community meetings will assist with this process.

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

SGPRC will focus on Strengthening Families Framework: Protective Factors Framework along with training to parents, community partners and vendors.

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

SGPRC may develop a survey for families and staff to complete after attending trainings held at regional center as a means of some gathering data. The survey will be developed to focus on the trainings and feedback from the parents offered at SGPRC. In addition, providers will distribute information and collect data through the surveys by assisting the families in completing the surveys. SGPRC will continue provide opportunities to collect data through trainings in the community, parents place resource center, monthly Interagency Coordination Area Meetings, information fairs and other community collaborative meetings. Early Start Reports will continue to be monitored to validate that the following assessments tools: BSID-III, DAYC-2 or DP-3 are being utilized for entrance and exit levels in social-emotional development.

