

SSIP Advisory Group Meeting

August 19, 2026



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from [Disabled and Here](#)

ZOOM TIPS FOR PARTICIPANTS

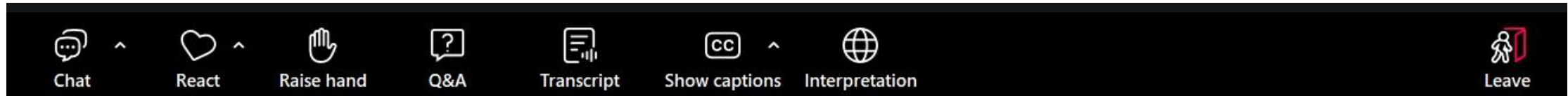
Participants: Please use the “Q & A” function on your toolbar to ask questions or comment.



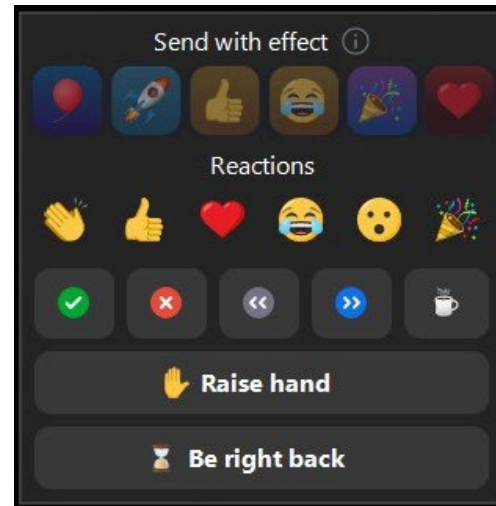
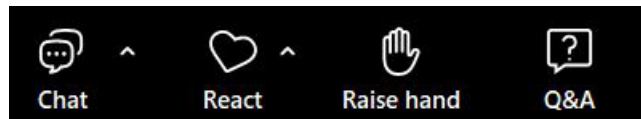
- Your video and microphone will not be available unless you are called on
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PROVIDING COMMENTS – PARTICIPANTS

Participants: Please use “Chat” or “Raise Hand” to comment



You may need to click on “React” and a new window will open where you can “Raise Hand”



Team Introductions

DDS – Early Childhood and Youth Services Division

Latonya Harris, Manager, Children & Youth Services Branch

Reyna Ambriz, Manager, Early Start Branch

Anne De Medeiros, Section Chief, Policy & Community Engagement Section

Shannen Cheng, Section Chief, Data Research and Reporting Section

Ryan Digman, Assistant Section Chief, Policy & Community Engagement Section

Kahea Rucker, Supervisor I, Data Research & Reporting Section

Janelle Fong, Analyst II, Data Research & Reporting Section

SRI International

Sally Shepherd, Senior Technical Assistance Specialist

Ginger Elliott-Teague, Senior Researcher and Technical Assistance Specialist

Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Updates and Recent Activities
- Family-Directed Assessments
- SSIP Pilot Sites
- Discussion
- Family Outcomes Survey Update



Part C SSIP Theory of Change

If Early Start...

Improves conditions and incentives for providing high quality EI, *and*

Builds its infrastructure to support high quality implementation and data analysis to:

- Standardize family-directed assessments, the IFSP, and goal expectations, and
- Provide TA, PD, and coaching to build the capacity of staff, families, and the community to understand and practice high quality EI,

Programs and staff will...

- 1) Uniformly conduct high quality family-directed assessments,
- 2) Develop high quality IFSPs,
- 3) Implement family coaching universally and consistent with recommended practice, and
- 4) Monitor progress validly and consistently.

Then...

More families receiving early intervention will help their children develop and learn.

Children will demonstrate better outcomes.

Recent Activities

Accomplished

- Public Engagement Plan
 - 1st Regional Centers & Family Resource Centers collaboration meeting
 - ICC, FRCNCA, RC Early Start Supervisor Meetings
- Draft Family-Directed Assessment Guidance development

In Progress

- Planning upcoming partner meetings
- LEA Engagement
- SSIP Pilot Site selection
- Reviewing groups suggested by SSIP Advisory Group

RCs & FRCs Collaboration Meeting Highlights

- **Many RCs have similar practices for collecting resources/priorities/concerns.**
 - These are typically collected during intake or the initial IFSP meeting and are documented on page 2 of the IFSP, then reassessed.
- **Flow of information and division of labor varies across RCs.**
 - Some RCs use a single Service Coordinator starting at intake and throughout service coordination, while others have separate staff for these areas.
- **RC-FRC collaboration and information shared with FRCs during referrals varies quite a bit across the state.**
 - Some FRCs receive detailed information, while others receive minimal demographic information.

Family-Directed Assessment



The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C §303.321(c)(2): A **family-directed assessment must be conducted** by qualified personnel in order to identify the family's resources, priorities and concerns and the supports and services necessary to enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of the family's infant or toddler with a disability.

The family-directed assessment must:

- i. Be voluntary on the part of each family member participating in the assessment;
- ii. Be based on information obtained through an assessment tool and also through an interview with those family members who elect to participate in the assessment; and
- iii. Include the family's description of its **resources, priorities and concerns** related to enhancing the child's development.

Family-Directed Assessment Guidance

Timing	Personnel	Approach	Content	Documentation
- Beginning at intake - Continued by Service Coordinator during IFSP - Revisited at least twice annually and at transition points	- Started by intake staff to gather major concerns - Service Coordinators and Service Providers will conduct ongoing conversations	- Family-centered, conversational - Standardized process for documentation and information sharing	- Resources, priorities, and concerns identified as part of routines - Long-term goals should be considered	- Standardized documentation - History of family's resources, priorities, concerns should be maintained

FDA Discussion and Feedback

- How standardized should family-directed assessments be throughout the state?
 - Standardized questions?
 - Standardized form to pick and choose questions from?
 - Open-ended with standardized procedure and documentation?
- Are there specific questions that should be asked during the family-directed assessment process?

FDA Sample Questions

At Intake

- What concerns do you have right now for your child?
- What interests you about early intervention?
- What worries you about how your child is growing and developing?

At Subsequent Steps in the Process

- What resources do you need to make your day easier? Where do you struggle to care for your child?
- Possible routines-based interview questions:
 - How does your day begin? What's everyone else doing? What happens next? What is your child doing?
 - On a scale of 1-5, how well do you feel this time of day goes for you?
 - Who are the important people who participate in your child's life?
 - What routines/activities does your child enjoy doing?
 - What makes this routine/activity enjoyable? What does your child usually do during this routine/activity?
 - What would a successful day look like?
- When you lie awake at night, what do you worry about? If there's anything you'd like to change about your life, what is it?

SSIP Pilot Sites



Pilot Site Selection



First Phase - 2-3 RC pilot sites/regional centers

Selection by Fall 2026

Volunteers & Potential Application Process

Selection Criteria

Early Adaptors will shape FDA guidance and Tool for the State

Pilot Site Evaluation



Data

Child outcomes data completeness

FOS outcome satisfaction response

FOS response rate

Local program determination

Program size

Regional location

Local Program Processes

In-house intake vs. Contracting out

0-3 years program vs. 0-5 program

Caseload Ratio

Family-Directed Assessment Usage

Local program capacity

FAMILY OUTCOMES SURVEY UPDATE

Current Distribution

FY 25-26 Surveys was distributed to sample of families on August 7

RCs and FRCs EDs were formally notified end of July

New dedicated FOS webpage along with FAQs

Future Distribution

Review online survey validation process/sequence for potential redesign

Re-examine States current distribution process & sampling methodology

Contact

If you have any questions or comments,
please reach out to
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