



# Lancaster County *Birth to Three* Early Intervention Services during COVID-19

***We believe that every family can use a hand when it comes to their child's development.***

COVID-19 has altered the delivery of services for families involved in the Early Intervention Birth to Three Program. Overnight we pivoted from providing in-person supports to using tele-intervention to conduct evaluations and provide ongoing supports.

### **Here's What You Need to Know About Evaluations:**

We continue to complete tele-evaluations to assess a child's development to determine eligibility for services through video conferencing or phone conferencing. When necessary, an in-person developmental assessment can also be completed while adhering to CDC, PA Department of Health and Governor Wolf's Targeted Mitigation Efforts.

### **When a Child is found Eligible for Early Intervention Services:**

Currently, we continue to use tele-intervention through video conferencing and phone conferencing for Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) services. In-person supports can be considered when there are barriers to implementing tele-intervention to include access issues, lack of progress, or an intermittent need to address an outcome. The decision of how services will be provided is a team discussion where the family and caregivers are a part of the decision-making process.

Services provided include: Support Coordination, Social Work, Speech Therapy, Special Instruction, Physical Therapy, and Occupational Therapy. We also assist with making referrals to other programs and share information about local resources.

*\*Providing any type of in-person services depends on the family's ability to follow the required guidelines and the COVID testing/cases in our County. At any time, we may be required to cease any in person assessments and services.*

### **Making a Referral:**

Our referral process is fast and easy for your family. A referral to Early Intervention can be completed by anyone who has contact with the child including parents, relatives, childcare staff, and medical professionals, etc. Once the family/caregiver agrees, we will proceed with the referral.

#### **If your child is between the ages of birth to three years old:**

Referrals can be made by contacting the **Lancaster County Early Intervention office at (717) 399-7323** or by sending a fax to **(717) 399-7396**.

Early Intervention referrals can also be made to the **CONNECT helpline at 1-800-692-7288**.

**If your child is between the ages of three to five years old** and they reside in Lancaster or Lebanon County, please contact the **Intermediate Unit #13 Preschool Early Intervention Program** to make a referral at **(717) 606-1601** or **(888) 745-0771**.

**Lancaster County Early Intervention's trained professionals coach and provide families with developmental knowledge, strategies, and resources that they can use in their everyday lives that encourage their child to *think, learn, move, talk, and become more independent.***

**The only requirements are that the child be between the ages of birth to three years old, the family have a concern for development, and the child reside in Lancaster County, PA.**



**For more information please visit:** <https://www.lancastercountybhds.org/35/Early-Intervention>