Special Edition Webinar:

Resources and Strategies to Support Children with Disabilities and their Families During COVID-19

Presenters:

Dayana Garcia, Office of Head Start

Jani Kozlowski, NCECDTL

Susan Sandall, NCECDTL

July 2020

NATIONAL CENTER ON Early Childhood Development, Teaching and Learning

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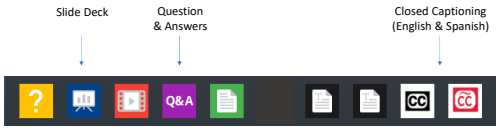
Webinar Features



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Welcome!

Jani Kozlowski, MA
NCECDTL

Dayana Garcia, M.Ed
OHS

Susan Sandall, Ph.D.
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Session Objectives

Here's what we'll do today:

- Discuss engagement of children with disabilities or suspected delays during COVID-19
- Consider strategies for working with special education and early intervention partners
- Explore summer learning considerations
- Explore questions from the MyPeers Inclusion Community and the ECLKC.

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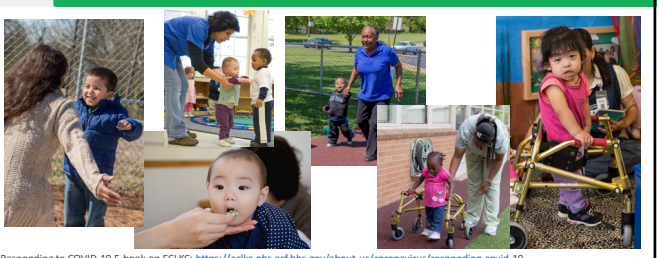
Thanks to all of you!



Responding to COVID-19 E-book on ECLKC: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/about-us/coronavirus/responding-covid-19
Teacher time special episode: https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2297474/5F6B37236346ABDCB421A9CC9D59C208?partnerref=MyPeers
Ask the Expert Series: Caring for Children with Special Health Care Needs During Covid-19
https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1317257&tp_key=d2e59e8f15&cid=e4eec95e36f0ca511a44ee9b1909390e

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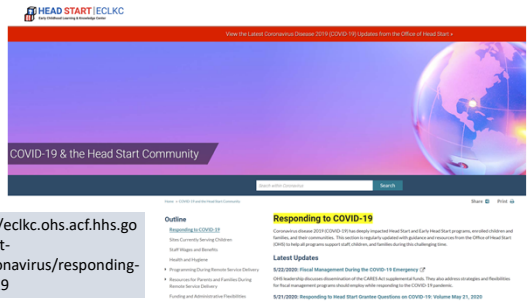
Responding to COVID-19 – Children with Disabilities



https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/about-us/coronavirus/responding-covid-19

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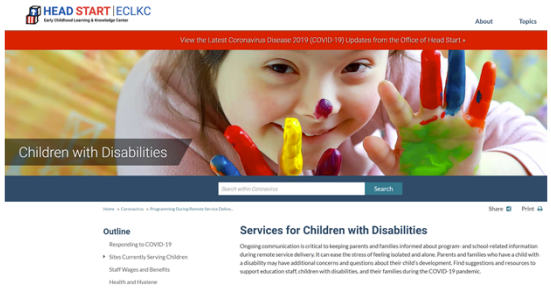
Responding to COVID-19 – Children with Disabilities



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Supporting Families

- Families know their children best!
- Need for support and encouragement
- Feeling concerned about progress toward IFSP/IEP goals

- ECTA families page: https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/coronavirus-talking.asp
- PFCE tip sheets:
- https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/tips-family-services-staff-working-remotely-families
- https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/tips-supervising-family-services-staff-who-are-working-remotely
- Parent Information Centers: https://www.parentcenterhub.org/
- Find your state parent information center: https://www.parentcenterhub.org/find-your-center/

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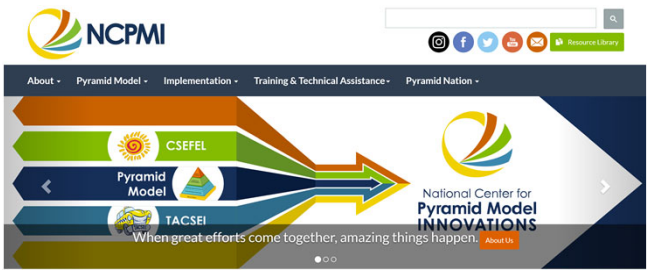
National Center on Pyramid Model Innovations



NCPMI: https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/emergency/index.html

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Helping Your Child During the Pandemic

Helping Your Child During the Pandemic: https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/Pandemic_family_infographic.pdf

Spanish version: https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/Pandemic_family_infographic_sp.pdf

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NCPMI: Connecting with Families

With children learning at home, our connections with families are so important. These tips will help you be focused and responsive during those calls or virtual meetings.

Opening	▶ "How is everyone?" "How are you?" ▶ Validate challenges "Sounds like it's been an exhausting week." ▶ Invite the family to share one high point and one low point since the last conversation.
Check In	▶ Ask about child and family progress since your last conversation. ▶ Celebrate child progress. ▶ Identify if there are new concerns to discuss.
Make a plan	▶ Share information and strategies related to learning at home. ▶ Ask family for ideas for embedding instruction in their routines. ▶ Identify a plan for next steps that includes family ideas and suggestions.
Problem solve	▶ Respond to any new concerns or questions. ▶ Provide suggestions or trouble-shooting.
Review	▶ Review and summarize ideas or activities for implementation. ▶ Confirm time for next conversation. ▶ Offer to share notes or a text to summarize the conversation.

NCPMI – Connecting with Families Tip Sheet: https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/Connecting-with-Families_tipsheet.pdf

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Reflections….

As we think about supporting families, take time to reflect on these questions:

- Is my need to help in alignment with the level of support that the family wants or needs?
- Are my expectations for families realistic given all of the stress that they are under?

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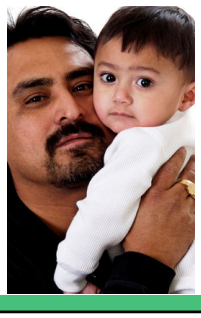
Mental Health

- Supporting mental health in children and families
- Remember that behavior is communication
- Use of social stories
- Education staff self care
- Taking care of YOU!



Head Start Heals: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/mental-health/article/head-start-heals-campaign
NCPMI: https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/emergency/index.html
Social stories from ECLKC: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/children-disabilities/article/social-stories
Head Start Center on Inclusion: Social Stories: http://headstartinclusion.org/social_stories
Links to English and Spanish social stories that you can download: http://headstartinclusion.org/downloads
I can wear a mask social story: https://www.autism.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/face-mask-social-story.pdf

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Tucker Turtle at Home

https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/TuckerTurtle_Story_Home.pdf

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Reflections….

As we think about supporting families, take time to reflect on these questions:

- How is my own mental health affecting the work that I do to support children and families?
- Am I building in time for my own self care?

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Partnerships with Local Agencies

- What is Part C?
- What is Part B?

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What is Part B? What is Part C? How are they different?

Part C:
The local Part C agency provides early intervention services for eligible infants and toddlers and their families. An Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) indicates the services and goals for the child and family.

Part B:
The local Part B agency provides special education services for eligible children ages 3 - 21. An Individualized Education Program (IEP) spells out the services and educational goals for the child.

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Partnerships with Local Agencies

- What is Part C?
- What is Part B?
- **Collaboration – more important now more than ever!**

Delivery of IDEA services during COVID (ECTA):
https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/coronavirus-faq.asp
https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/children-disabilities/article/high-quality-inclusion-federal-series

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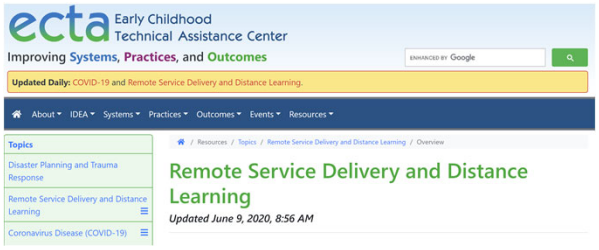
Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center



ECTA COVID-19 Landing Page: https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/coronavirus.asp

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Question about Screening…

- How are programs handling developmental screening?
- Is it even possible to do screenings or assessments from a distance?

https://protect2.fireeye.com/url?k=ebacfc20-b7f8e55c-ebaccd1f-0cc47adc5fa2-fa8f521bcb20a25b&u=https://ectacenter.org/topics/earlyid/screeneval.asp#remote

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Evaluations and Assessments

- What to do when families voice concerns
- What to do about evaluations or screenings that didn't take place or were in process prior to COVID
- Use of technology

- Remote service delivery resources from ECTA: https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/tele-intervention.asp#additional
- Assessment practice guides for families from ECTA: https://ectacenter.org/decrp/type-pgfamily.asp#pgfamily-assessment
- Provider use of technology from ECTA: https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/ti-service.asp

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Continuity of Services

- Routines and schedules
- Tips to share with families
- Need for predictability
- Simple, unstructured

- From COVID-19 E-book: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/children-disabilities/coronavirus/services-children-disabilities
- Remote service delivery from ECTA: https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/tele-intervention.asp
- State guidance from ECTA: https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/ti-state.asp
- Use of technology from ECTA: https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/ti-service.asp
- Schedules and routines: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/about-us/article/schedules-routines-home

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Continuity of Services

- Remote service delivery and alternatives
- Outside of the box options
- Family considerations

- From COVID-19 E-book: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/children-disabilities/coronavirus/services-children-disabilities
- Remote service delivery from ECTA: https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/tele-intervention.asp
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Summer Learning and Transitions

- Summer programming for children with IFSPs/IEPs
- Supports for families with children who are transitioning in Fall
- Considerations for (Re)Opening

- From COVID-19 E-book - Summer Learning for Children with IEPs and IFSPs: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/about-us/coronavirus/summer-learning-children-ieps-ifsps
- (Re)Opening ECTA: https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/coronavirus-faq.asp#servicedelivery
- CDC Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html

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Upcoming Webinar:

Inclusion Series
Inclusion Resources to Boost Professional Development

Tuesday, July 21, 2020
3–4 p.m. ET

Register Online Now!

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Save the Date!

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Head Start Disabilities Inclusion Community on MyPeers

MyPeers

A Collaborative Platform for the Early Care and Education Community

https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/about-us/article/mypeers-collaborative-platform-early-care-education-community

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Questions?

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Thank You!

We're in this together

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Thank You!

For more information, contact:
ecdtl@ecetta.info
or call (toll-free) 1-844-261-3752

Please complete your evaluation!

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