

Alex Haartz, MPH
Administrator



Contact Name: Martha Framsted
Phone Number: 775-684-4014
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State Health Officer

NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION NEWS RELEASE

Bureau of Early Intervention Services Reaches Milestone

Carson City –The Nevada State Health Division’s Bureau of Early Intervention Services (BEIS) has made significant progress in meeting the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) compliance requirement for establishing an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) within 45 days of receipt of a referral. Under IDEA, all referred children under the age of three with disabilities must have a comprehensive evaluation and an IFSP within the 45 day timeline.

Early Intervention Services identifies infants and toddlers who are at-risk for, or who have developmental delays; provides services and supports to families to meet the individualized developmental needs of their child; and facilitate the child’s learning and participation in family and community life through the establishment of family, caregiver and service provider partnerships. Currently, there are three providers of early intervention services in the state of Nevada: BEIS, which offers services statewide, Easter Seals of southern Nevada and REM Nevada, which also serves southern Nevada.

Parents and Early Intervention staff create an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), a written developmental plan based on the child’s individual needs. The IFSP is designed to guide the child’s team and define what is going to happen, who is going to be involved, and when and where the services will take place and for how long. The plan is modified to meet the changing needs of the child and family.

Alex Haartz, Administrator, Nevada State Health Division said, “The 2003 Nevada Legislature approved the creation of a new Bureau of Early Intervention Services, effective July 1, 2003. With the establishment of the new bureau, all early intervention programs, including the Special Children’s Clinics, and the Part C, IDEA Office were consolidated within the Health Division and became Nevada Early Intervention Services. While the process was challenging, the staff are to be commended for their dedication and overall improved services to the children and families in Nevada.”

During the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007 (April 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007), statewide, a total of 518 children were referred to one of the three service providers. Of those children, 96.3% received their IFSP’s within the 45 day requirement. The total number of children referred during the entire



Alex Haartz, Administrator

4150 Technology Way, Suite 300, Carson City, Nevada 89706-2009
Phone (775) 684-4200, Fax (775) 684-4211
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2007 fiscal year was 1,725. Of those children, 92.5% received their IFSP's within the 45 day requirement.

Following are the statistics for FY07 4th quarter and FY07 Year End regarding the 45 day timeline

	FY07 4th Qtr Count	Percentage	FY07 Unduplicated Total Count	Percentage
Total Number of New IFSPs over/under the 45 day timeline adjusting for exceptions				
Statewide <45 Days	499	96.3%	1596	92.5%
Statewide >45 Days	19	3.7%	129	7.5%
Total	518		1725	
Southern Region <45 Days	276	99.3%	903	91.5%
Southern Region >45 Days	2	0.7%	84	8.5%
Total	278		987	
Northwestern Region <45 Days	145	91.8%	511	94.5%
Northwestern Region >45 Days	13	8.2%	30	5.5%
Total	158		541	
Northeastern Region <45 Days	26	100.0%	85	92.4%
Northeastern Region >45 Days	0	0.0%	7	7.6%
Total	26		92	
ESSN <45 Days	15	78.9%	56	87.5%
ESSN >45 Days	4	21.1%	8	12.5%
Total	19		64	
REM <45 Days	37	100.0%	41	100.0%
REM >45 Days	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	37		41	

Janelle Mulvenon, Bureau Chief, Early Intervention Services, said, "I'm proud of the BEIS staff and the work they have accomplished in order to progress in meeting the federal requirement. BEIS continues to see a significant increase in receiving referrals and I am confident that we will continue to make significant strides towards meeting the federal requirement, and, more importantly, meeting the needs of the children and families residing in Nevada."

Additional information can be obtained by contacting the Bureau of Early Intervention Services at 1.800.522.0066.

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