



31st Annual Conference

Massachusetts Early Intervention Consortium

Tuesday & Wednesday, April 13 – 14, 2010
Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel
Marlborough, Massachusetts

September 2009

Dear Colleague,

The Massachusetts Early Intervention Consortium (MEIC), together with Human Services Management Corporation (PERCS), is proud to announce our **31st Annual Early Intervention Conference**.

MEIC would be honored to have you share your experience and success with the early childhood community at the conference and invite you to present with us. We are currently accepting proposals for two hour, four hour (half day), and six hour (full day) workshops. Proposals should incorporate families, providers and collaborating agencies. We also encourage each presentation include a care-giver for a child with past or current Early Intervention involvement as a co-presenter. Please complete the enclosed application and **submit your proposal by November 6, 2009** to join us in this exciting two-day forum.

Examples of relevant topics include:

- Environmental, educational, cultural, family, biological, and health/medical influences on development
- Behavior management
- Cultural responsiveness
- Supporting children with special health care needs in the community
- Programs and services for children with hearing and/or vision loss
- Supervision and staff development
- Community-based mental health supports for infants, toddlers and families
- Negotiation and conflict management techniques
- Natural learning opportunities for infants and toddlers
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Increasing family involvement

The goals of this conference are to:

- Expand knowledge of medical and health issues affecting the development of infants, toddlers and families
- Explore current perspectives, research and trends related to best practice in the field
- Promote interventions that support, challenge and celebrate individual differences
- Examine the current course of public policy and encourage participation in policy making
- Encourage connections among all early childhood professionals

Formed in 1978, the Massachusetts Early Intervention Consortium is a statewide non-profit educational and advocacy organization which represents the 58 Early Intervention programs throughout the Commonwealth. These comprehensive, family-centered programs serve over 40,000 infants and toddlers who are eligible to receive Early Intervention services in Massachusetts. For over 30 years, the Consortium has dedicated its efforts to provide the highest quality services and to improve quality of care for infants and toddlers either exhibiting or at risk for developmental delay, and their families. The Consortium has led the statewide advocacy efforts to enact and change public policies regarding the provision of Early Intervention services and to ensure adequate funding for the entire Early Intervention system and the more than 40,000 children and families who rely on these vital services.

MEIC's 31st Annual Conference will be held on April 13th and 14th, 2010 at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel in Marlborough, Massachusetts. MEIC programs employ more than 3000 staff members from a variety of disciplines. Over the past several years, attendance has remained consistently high. Continuing education credits are offered to the targeted disciplines of educators, speech-language pathologists, nurses, social workers, licensed mental health counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists, early intervention specialists, occupational therapists and psychologists.

Please contact Tara Cornell, our conference manager, at PERCS at 508-478-2631 x208 or by email at tcornell@percs.info with questions or comments regarding this invitation. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Young".

Jim Young
Chair, Conference Planning Committee
Massachusetts Early Intervention Consortium

Enclosure