

Dauphin County Early Intervention



DAUPHIN COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
Mental Health - Intellectual Disabilities Program

Jill Nelson, Chris Trautwein

Early Intervention Supervisors

(717) 441-7034

jnelson@cmupa.org

ctrautwein@cmupa.org

www.cmupa.org

Tammy Shoff

Early Intervention Coordinator

(717) 780-7048

tshoff@dauphincounty.gov

www.dauphincounty.gov

What is Early Intervention?

While all children grow and develop in unique ways, some children experience delays in their development.

Early Intervention serves children with developmental delays or disabilities as well as children who are at risk for developmental delays.

Infant/Toddler



Birth - Age 2

Preschool



Age 3 - 5

Dauphin County Early Intervention

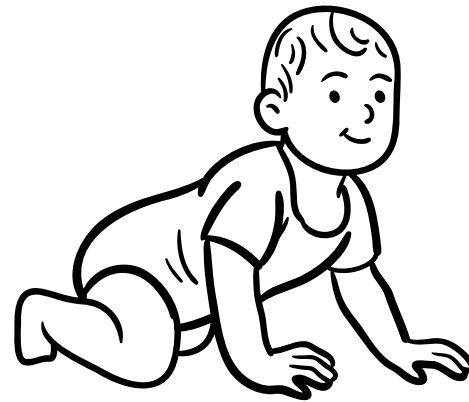
▶ Referrals

- ▶ Parental/Legally Responsible Person's Consent
- ▶ Voluntary Participation
- ▶ Families, Doctors, Hospitals/NICU's, Clinics
- ▶ Social Service Agencies
- ▶ You!



Intake Process

- ▶ Intakes are typically completed via telephone call with a parent/guardian and a CMU Service Coordinator.
- ▶ If the family chooses to have a quick developmental screening, it can be done via phone, virtually, or face to face.
- ▶ The intake takes about 45 minutes. The CMU Service Coordinator gathers information, completes paperwork and schedules the developmental evaluation.



The Developmental Evaluation

- ▶ The Developmental Evaluation is completed with at least one parent/guardian, the child, the Evaluator, and the EI Service Coordinator.
- ▶ All areas of development will be assessed and determined if the child is eligible for EI services or the monitoring program called tracking.
- ▶ The Evaluation can be held at the child's home/natural environment (e.g. Grandma's house, daycare) or virtually.
- ▶ Results will be given the day of the evaluation.



Service Plan



If the child is eligible...

- ▶ The Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) will be developed and driven by the concerns of the parents/guardians for the child.
- ▶ Early Intervention is a coaching, teaching program where therapies are held in the child's natural environment (home, daycare, playgrounds, libraries, etc) or virtually if parents choose.

Services & Supports



- ▶ Service Coordination
 - ▶ *This is the service CMU provides and all children will receive.*
- ▶ Special Instruction
 - ▶ Vision or Hearing Itinerant services
 - ▶ Music therapy
 - ▶ Behavior support
 - ▶ Nutritional Services
- ▶ Speech Therapy
- ▶ Physical Therapy
- ▶ Occupational Therapy
- ▶ Social Work



Early Experiences Last a Lifetime

Tracking Service

A high-risk child is eligible for tracking if:

Birth weight is under 3½ pounds (1,500 grams)

Cared for in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

Born to chemically dependent mother

Abused or neglected as substantiated under CPSL

Confirmed dangerous levels of lead poisoning

Experiencing homelessness

County follow-up is determined if a child is high risk but doesn't fall under any of the aforementioned criteria.

CMU SC will monitor the child's development with the family, offer suggestions and developmental guidance and recommend an evaluation when needed.

Transition to 3-5 program or Community

When the child is 30 months old, the family may choose to have a referral to the three to five year old Preschool-aged Early Intervention program. The CMU Service Coordinator will guide the transition process for the child to be assessed through the Capital Area Intermediate Unit.

If the child is being discharged or transferred to another county, the team will offer support, resource information, and/or referrals as needed.