



**August 5, 2025**

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR**

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We have wrapped up another successful year of the Early Intervention (EI) Family Questionnaire, achieving a 29.35% response rate, which is only slightly lower than in 2024. With substantial increases in our response rate the past four years and amidst all of the ongoing transitions, I am thrilled with this response rate!

The data we receive on this annual questionnaire provides incredibly useful insight to the state EI team regarding program decisions and implementation. Further, this data is truly a reflection of all the work you do to help improve outcomes for our families day in and day out, and a great reminder of the positive impact we are making on children and families in Ohio. Thank you for all your efforts engaging families in this process!

Please feel free to reach out to me at [Taylor.Hammond@childrenand youth.ohio.gov](mailto:Taylor.Hammond@childrenand youth.ohio.gov) with ideas, questions, or suggestions any time.

## **PROGRAM UPDATES**

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### *2025 EI Family Questionnaire Quantitative Reports*

Quantitative analyses of the 2025 Family Questionnaire are complete. DCY sent a quantitative report, including the county's results for each item and the county's response rate, to each EI Contract Manager and FCFC Coordinator on August 1. A document including all county reports has been posted on the EI website (<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/county-data>) and each county report will be posted on the individual county report page in the coming weeks.

We are reviewing all responses to the open-ended questions, removing identifying information if the parent did not consent to share their comments exactly as written, and following up with any families as needed. Once the comment review is complete, we will send each county a file with all the responses to open-ended items from families in their counties. These files will not be posted publicly.

Please contact Brier Gallihugh ([Brier.Gallihugh@childrenand youth.ohio.gov](mailto:Brier.Gallihugh@childrenand youth.ohio.gov)) with any questions about the EI Family Questionnaire data.

### *SFY25 45-Day Baseline Analysis*

The SFY25 45-day analysis is complete. Results memos were sent to counties on July 24. Contact Erin Hale at [Erin.Hale@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov](mailto:Erin.Hale@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov) with any questions.

### *SFY26 Baseline Monitoring Calendar – Correction*

Please note that in the EI Program Update that went out with the July 22 Tuesday Times, we inadvertently referenced the SFY25 groups and indicators. The [SFY26 baseline calendar](#) on the EI website is correct, and this information was also corrected in the July EI Program Update posted on the EI website.

### *Sparkler and Referrals to EI*

Among children under age three who were screened using the ASQ-3 through the Sparkler app from mid-September 2024 through late June 2025, 27% (1,435 children) were flagged for a referral to EI. The most common areas of developmental concerns identified were:

- Personal-Social (Social-Emotional): 596 referrals
- Problem Solving: 565 referrals
- Communication: 561 referrals
- Fine Motor: 533 referrals
- Gross Motor: 517 referrals

With social-emotional development identified as the leading concern, these data underscore the critical need for early, relationship-based support during the first three years of life when the brain is most adaptable and early intervention can have the greatest impact. Learn more about the ASQ and Sparkler on the [Ohio Help Me Grow website](#).

### *Central Intake Southern Region Change*

As Bright Beginnings communicated, the Pike County Board of Developmental Disabilities (PCBDD) no longer serves as the Help Me Grow Central Intake & Referral (CIR) provider for the Southern region. As of July 17, the counties from the Southern region were redistributed into the Central, Southeastern, and Southwestern regions:

- Action for Children (AFC) in the Central Region is now covering 10 counties, adding Fairfield and Pickaway. Bright Beginnings will be processing referrals for these two counties through September 30. AFC began conducting outreach in these new counties July 17.

- Butler County Educational Service Center (BCESC) is now covering 13 counties, adding Lawrence, Pike, Ross, and Scioto. BCESC is processing referrals and conducting outreach in these new counties.
- Noble County Health Department (NCHD) is now covering 19 counties, adding Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Meigs, and Vinton. Bright Beginnings will be processing referrals for these new counties through September 30. NCHD began conducting outreach in these new counties July 17.

Bright Beginnings emailed EI and Home Visiting (HV) providers and referral sources this information on July 16, and the Help Me Grow website has been updated to reflect the new [map](#).

Please email [provider@helpmegrow.org](mailto:provider@helpmegrow.org) with any referral questions and [communications@helpmegrow.org](mailto:communications@helpmegrow.org) with any outreach questions.

## RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

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### *Donuts with Di*

The second Donuts with Di presentation of 2025, and the first in a five-part series focused on assessments in EI, took place on July 21 and covered enhancing observation skills for assessment in Early Intervention. A recording of this presentation will be available in the coming weeks, and CPDUs will be offered for viewing the recording. We will distribute a link to the recording when it is available. Register [here](#) for the remainder of the Donuts with Di assessment series presentations. The dates and topics for these presentations are as follows, all of which will be from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM:

- October 20, 2025: Effective Record Review in EI
- January 21, 2026: Interviewing Techniques for Comprehensive Assessment
- March 23, 2026: Using Assessment Tools and Standardized Measures
- June 15, 2026: Integrating Assessment Findings into Individualized Plans