**Early Intervention/Early Childhood Collaborative Partner**

One of the unique functions and as a mandate of the Ohio Family and Children First Cabinet Council and County Family and Children First Councils is to coordinate child and family serving partners to identify and address the needs of children and families through ongoing planning, implementing effective strategies, monitoring & reporting, and evaluating progress toward achieving desired outcomes.

**Why you are here.**

* To promote early intervention and connection to services
* To increase childcare and pre-k slots in county
* To make sure families are aware of services available and how to get involved.
* To provide common assessments among all providers for data consistency.
* To support families of children with early developmental needs to mitigate early risks and support improved developmental trajectories at a time when intervention is most impactful and cost effective.
* To advocate for early childhood policies and programming specific to low-income families, leverage resources.
* To advocate for individuals with special needs, early intervention, and transition services.

**How you can support the system of care efforts in our community.**

* Share data regarding outcomes for youth in EI.
* Share the # of kids in EI and their needs; help with recruitment of providers and youth for EI.
* Identify the number of families that do and potentially could qualify; working with system, medical and government partners to increase the capacity to support eligible families and children earlier in development when there is increased potential for return on investment.
* Share Early Intervention data, service usage, caregiver support and inclusion/accessibility considerations.
* Share your needs assessments and strategic plans. Information on successful programs. Provide indicators for the [shared plan](https://fcf.ohio.gov/fcfc-resources/shared-plan-and-updates/shared-plans-and-shared-plan-update).
* Provide representation for Clinical Committees and other council committees.
* Lead efforts to improve kindergarten readiness and provide your expertise on the needs and trends with young children and families with young children.
* Complete referrals to FCFC for service coordination, especially as children transition from EI services when the children/families are still struggling.  Be a champion for us. Encourage coordinated efforts. Provide information and updates on your system of care, best practices and the projects you are working on that others can assist with or simply need to be aware of.
* Provide in-kind supports with technology, payroll, office space, and/or supplies.