

# System Transformation Update

April 16, 2009



**Infant & Toddler  
Connection of Virginia**

## A NOTE ABOUT THIS UPDATE:

This Update is prepared by the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia State Team at DMHMRSAS and is reviewed for accuracy and thoroughness by our partners at DMAS and VDH. Updates will be issued on or about the 1<sup>st</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## GENERAL:

- In the March 16<sup>th</sup> System Transformation Update, we announced that implementation of the Medicaid – EI Initiative had been postponed from July 1, 2009 to October 1, 2009. We want to clarify that the October 1, 2009 start date applies to all aspects of the system transformation, including implementation of revised family cost share practices, new personnel requirements, and the service pathway and practice manual.
- The Transformation section of the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia Website (<http://www.infantva.org/ovw-Transformation.htm>) has been updated to include revised documents as well as an archive section for documents that are no longer current. Meeting notes from the Early Intervention Transformation Implementation Task Force will be posted in this section of the website.
- DMHMRSAS is finalizing plans for the use of the \$10,265,580 in funds that are being allocated to Virginia for Part C under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) held a technical assistance call with state Part C representatives on April 2 to provide guidance on use of the stimulus money that is being allocated through the ARRA. Written guidance materials have been developed by the U.S. Department of Education and are available on the NECTAC website, [www.nectac.org](http://www.nectac.org).
  - The first half of the ARRA funds was allocated to states on April 1. Local lead agencies can expect to be notified in May about the amount of the first half of the ARRA funds, \$5,132,790, being allocated to local systems and how and when those funds will be allocated.
  - We will be announcing a statewide teleconference call to be held in conjunction with allocating ARRA funds to local systems. The purpose of this call will be to explain how these funds can be used, the time period during which they must be used, requirements associated with maintenance of effort and non-supplanting, and the detailed reporting requirements associated with expenditure of the ARRA funds. Supporting written materials will also be developed and disseminated to local lead agencies.

### IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE:

- The System Transformation Implementation Task Force met for the first time on April 13.
- Participants represented the following stakeholders: families, Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council, Virginia Office of Protection and Advocacy, System Managers, Intellectual Disabilities Council, Virginia Association of Community Services Boards, private and public providers, Virginia Department of Health, Virginia Department of Education, Department of Medical Assistance Services, and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services.
- Status reports were provided by DMHMRSAS and DMAS on various aspects of the transformation including personnel requirements, practitioner database, Service Pathway and the Medicaid Early Intervention Initiative. Participants identified implementation topics, including specific questions to be addressed through the task force. The remainder of the meeting was spent addressing family cost share issues.
- Notes from the meeting will be posted on the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia Website under Administration & Transformation (then click on Transformation). We strongly encourage you to read the meeting notes for more detailed information about the discussions that occur at each meeting of the task force.
- The next meeting is scheduled for April 29, 2009 from 10:00 – 3:00.

### DATA SYSTEM:

- Due to technical difficulties, testing of ITOTS version 1.5, which was scheduled to take place from March 31 through April 15, was put on hold. However, those issues have been resolved and users were able to resume testing as of April 14.
- Work continues on ITOTS version 1.6, which includes the practitioner database.

### MEDICAID-EI INITIATIVE:

- The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has reviewed draft language for emergency regulations related to personnel requirements. DMHMRSAS and DMAS are making minor revisions to the draft based on OAG input.
- Work continues in order to develop and produce the online training modules that practitioners will need to complete in order to obtain initial EI certification.
- DMAS, with input from DMHMRSAS, is working on revisions to the draft State Plan Amendment based on CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) review of and input on the initial draft.

### STATEWIDE TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION SERIES:

The second of two statewide teleconference calls has been scheduled to provide information on a variety of monitoring and supervision topics. Details will be forthcoming through an email to all local system managers. The date and time for that call is as follows:

- May 18, 2009, 1:00 – 2:30