

EarlyON Newsletter



October 2018

Operational Updates

New Budget Templates and Operating Guidelines

Service providers received their 2019 Budget Templates and the 2019 Operating and Business Practice Guidelines for EarlyON Child and Family Centres on October 18, 2018. The 2019 Guidelines include:

- operational policy and procedure requirements
- operating information and service data reporting requirements
- business practice and budget guidelines

The guidelines come into effect on January 1, 2019 and should be used to support your 2019 budget submission.

TCS is hosting two information sessions on the Guidelines on October 24th and 26th. An invitation was sent out on October 3, please RSVP if you have not done so already.



Information Technology (IT) Grant

TCS has launched the Information Technology (IT) Grant to help EarlyON agencies update IT hardware and software. This is an exciting opportunity to improve program delivery and enhance data collection capacity throughout the sector. An email with more information and an application form was sent out on October 11, 2018. **The deadline to respond is Friday October 26, 2018.**

Agency Contacts

If you would like to have information sent to different or additional contacts please let us know and we will update our contacts for your agency.

We are also asking every agency to identify one main contact for information sharing on data related items in order to support the development of new data collection processes and practices for EarlyON Child and Family Centres .

Please email your contacts to EarlyON@toronto.ca as soon as possible.

Key EarlyON Dates

Oct 26

Deadline to respond for the EarlyON IT Grant

Oct 24 & 26

2019 EarlyON Operating and Business Practice Guidelines info sessions

Nov 5, 12, 15 & 21

Anti-bias professional learning sessions for EarlyON leaders

Nov 30

2019 Budget Submission Due Date



EarlyON Community Engagement and Collaboration

September 26th Collaboration Event

On Wednesday September 26th, over 125 participants from EarlyON Child and Family Centres, health and social service community partners and Toronto Children's Service staff gathered to collaboratively plan and build an integrated, accessible, equitable, and high-quality EarlyON Child and Family Centre system for Toronto. The presentation slide deck is attached with this newsletter.

EarlyON Action Plan

As was discussed at the Sector Collaboration Event on September 26th, TCS will be releasing the EarlyON Action Plan in Fall 2018. This plan was co-developed with the EarlyON Advisory and Working Tables and informed by consultation with the broader community. The intent of the Action Plan is to:

- demonstrate how EarlyON Child and Family Centres fit within the broader early years and care system;
- provide a collective mission statement for Toronto's EarlyON sector, and;
- offer specific steps that TCS and EarlyON operators will undertake to achieve the mission statement and better serve children, families and caregivers. Part of this work will include the development of Program Standards to support the implementation of the core service requirements.

Toronto's mission statement will align with the provincial vision and objectives laid out in the Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres Business Practices and Funding Guidelines for Service System Managers

(2019). We are excited to share the Action Plan with you in the coming weeks.

Anti-Bias Professional Learning Opportunity for EarlyON Leaders

In the month of November, Toronto Children's Services is hosting Anti-Bias Leadership workshops with facilitator Natalie Royer, from Saroy Group. The workshops are designed for anyone working in an EarlyON leadership capacity - managers, supervisors, executive directors, program directors and other program leaders are invited and encouraged to attend.

These workshops are the first step in responding to feedback about the need to support all EarlyON programs and staff with anti-bias practice. We are thrilled to provide this opportunity for sector leaders to come together, share their ideas and experiences and enhance our capacity to provide safe and welcoming EarlyON programs for children and families.

Registration information was sent out on October 12th, 2018 and registration will be on a first come first serve basis.

Registration with the College of ECEs

This is a friendly reminder that EarlyON staff who have a degree or diploma in Early Childhood Education are legally required to register with the College of ECEs as they are working within the scope of practice as outlined in the Early Childhood Educators Act, 2007. Staff with Early Childhood Education training must register regardless of their employment title or training requirements for their position. For more information on who is required to join and how to register you can visit the College of ECE website at www.college-ece.ca.

Professional Learning Needs Assessment Data

Thank you to everyone who completed the Professional Learning Needs Assessment surveys. The data summaries for the staff survey and the supervisor/manager survey will be posted on the website in the coming weeks.

Program Materials from Toronto Public Health Partners

Toronto Public Health has provided the EarlyON community with some materials to promote health programs and services to families and communities.

- A poster with information about accessing the flu vaccine is attached with this newsletter. Please print and share in your programs.

Toronto Public Health is reminding parents and caregivers of the importance of vision health and in particular ensuring children receive an annual comprehensive eye exam which is covered by OHIP for children and youth 19 years and under. Poster and postcards have been created to help raise awareness of this important health issue and will be sent directly to EarlyON Centres. We encourage you to display these materials in areas visible and accessible to parents.

