

Early Intervention

What's it all about?



FAIRFIELDDD.COM
740-652-7230

Welcome to Early Intervention at The Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities!



One parent says:

“ Early intervention services were truly invaluable for our family. They not only helped my children reach milestones but also empowered me as a parent. Through their guidance, I learned to be a stronger advocate for my children’s care, gained confidence in using adaptive tools and techniques, and felt equipped to support my kids during their early years and beyond. Their support changed the trajectory of our journey in the best way possible.”

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The Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities:

MISSION

Our mission is to bring about a vibrant community where people lead lives of greater independence and make meaningful contributions.

VISION

We exist to build a community that recognizes the value of every person.

VALUES

At our core, we lead by modeling fiscal responsibility, collaboration and innovation.

We aspire to empower others and establish a brand of excellence and accountability.



What We Believe



Teamwork

We are committed to forming a team that includes family, ensuring that your child and family remain at the heart of the process. Feel free to involve extended family members and friends who play a vital role in your support network.

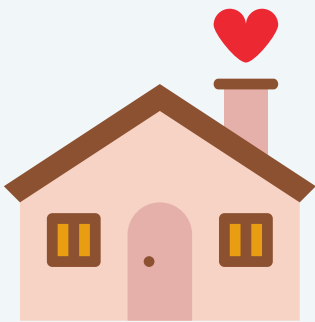
We are committed to valuing your time by organizing resources to ensure both efficiency and effectiveness for your family and child.



Coaching

We believe that involving the family and prioritizing your child's interests will enhance their learning experience.

We are committed to delivering services that are developmentally appropriate by guiding and empowering families to take an active role in implementation. Families are engaged participants in this process.



Natural environments

We believe in arranging visits to your home, a daycare environment, a park, or any other familiar space where you and your child can learn comfortably.

We also believe that incorporating skill-building into your daily routines fosters learning and practice that revolves around your existing family activities.

It's About Teamwork



How it works:

Once Fairfield DD receives your referral to begin Early Intervention services your service coordinator will assemble a team tailored to meet your family's needs, specifically for your child. This team may consist of a Developmental Specialist, along with Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapists, as well as specialists in hearing and vision.

One member of the team serves as the Primary Service Provider (Provider) and will take lead during visits. This person may consult with other team members as needed to provide additional recommendations.

The full team of providers meet weekly to check in on progress and develop additional ideas to support children and families receiving services. If you have a question or concerns you would like discussed at this meeting, share it with your provider. They can report back answers at your next visit.

Key Term

Primary Service Provider: Also called the Provider, is the person who meets regularly with you and receives consultation and assistance as needed from other team specialists

Individual Family Service Plan

A plan for the Early Intervention services your child and family receive and what you want the services to accomplish

Together with your input, your team will create a plan for your family.

The IFSP includes:

A description of your child's current levels of cognition (problem solving), physical and fine motor, communication, social-emotional and adaptive (self-help) development.

A statement of your current concerns, priorities and differences related to enhancing the development of your child.

A statement of the major outcomes for your child to achieve, including how to achieve the outcomes and how to determine progress, developed with your input.

A statement of the specific early intervention services necessary to meet the unique needs of the child and family to reach their outcomes.

The plans for transition at age 3.



It's About Coaching



How it works:

During a visit, team members will ask what you are already doing as your child learns. They will then offer new suggestions to enhance your child's development.

You will engage actively with your provider. They will demonstrate or guide you through an idea and then encourage you to apply it with your child.

Depending on your child's needs, other team members may also contribute suggestions. This could take place through consultations or scheduled visits.

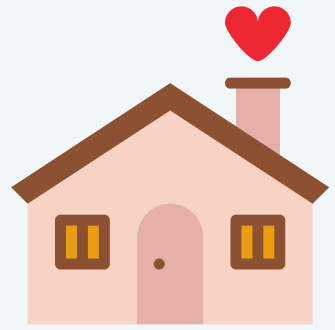
Your provider will ask questions about the effectiveness of the new ideas. Based on your feedback, they will collaborate with you to establish the next steps during each visit.

Key Term

Coaching: An approach that recognizes what you are already doing to support your child's learning and offers new ideas



It's About Natural Environments



How it works:

Research indicates that children are more likely to master skills when they learn them in the environment where those skills will be applied. It also helps them learn and reinforce during their daily activities.

You and your provider discuss daily routines while exchanging questions and priorities to determine which skills to emphasize. They will help you find ways to fit new practices into your family's current routines. This will help your child practice the skill consistently.

Your provider organizes regular meetings with you and your child in a familiar environment, helping your child feel more comfortable and focused on developing new skills. This could mean scheduling a visit in your home, a daycare setting or even the grocery store.

Key Term

Natural environments:

The places where you and your child spend time and are most comfortable



Visits

We work to coordinate meeting times and locations that work for your schedule.



Scheduling and Confirming

Let your Provider know your preferred method of communicating — phone, text or email to make scheduling easier.

On the day of the visit, please confirm with your provider at least 2 hours prior to visit time.

Cancel or Reschedule

If you need to cancel or reschedule, please let your Primary Service Provider know as soon as possible, at least 24 hours before the scheduled time.

If you are unable to reach your Provider to reschedule, please contact the Early Intervention Supervisor at 740 - 652 - 7220.

If you or your child is experiencing a communicable illness or condition, kindly inform your Provider prior to your scheduled visit, so we can arrange a new time. This helps us prevent the spread of “bugs” between households and protects other children and family members from potential risks.

During Visits

To make our time together with you and your child the most meaningful and effective:



- ✓ Please do not permit smoking in the room where the visit is taking place.
- ✓ Please turn off the television at least 10 minutes before the start of each visit, so that your child does not associate visits with loss of a favorite show.
- ✓ Please turn off phone, computer or other device before the visit begins.
- ✓ Please keep pets in an area of your home that will allow us to focus attention on your child.

Family Events



The Fairfield DD team is dedicated to supporting you and your child in fostering relationships and engaging with your community.

Each year, we organize and participate in a diverse range of events that you can join, including:

- Monthly Community Playgroup at the Early Literacy Center
- Spring and Fall Themed Events
- Storytime and Painting at Art and Clay on Main
- United Way's Day of Action for Children in June
- Gift of Time Event in December

Your provider will let you know of upcoming events, or you can check the Fairfield DD website at www.fairfielddd.com. Events will also be posted on our socials via Facebook and Instagram.

Transition to School

Your local school district is responsible for preschool special education services for your child from 3 to 5 years of age.

Six months before your child's third birthday, your Service Coordinator will talk with you about transition to preschool services and will arrange, with your permission, a Transition Planning Conference with your local school district representative.

At the Transition Planning Conference, together you will review your child's records including developmental evaluations, ongoing assessments, your IFSP and pertinent medical/health documents. The goal of this meeting is to determine if a disability is suspected based on the information shared.

If a disability is suspected, your local school district will complete an evaluation.



If your child meets the eligibility criteria for preschool special education, the team will develop an Individual Education Plan (IEP), before the beginning of preschool.



If you want to continue receiving services from the Fairfield County Board of DD, we will work with you to determine eligibility and connect you with services.



If you do not want your child to receive preschool education services, or if your child does not meet preschool eligibility criteria, the transition plan will identify other programs or services that may be available at age 3.



Key Terms

Individual Education Plan (IEP)

A plan for special education services in preschool and beyond

HERE TO HELP

Fairfield DD is committed to supporting the needs of your family within the Early Intervention process. The records and information remain confidential. You will receive Fairfield DD's privacy practices.

If you have any concerns, please contact your Early Intervention Service Coordinator or their supervisor. You can reach their office at (740) 681-4881.

If you would rather not go through your local EI program, feel free to reach out to the Ohio Department of Children and Youth's EI staff at ei@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov.

Within the Early Intervention Program, parents have protected rights. You received these from your Service Coordinator, but you can also find them at ohioearlyintervention.org or let us know and we can get them for you.

Key Term

Confidentiality

All information in your child's records is considered confidential. You have the right to inspect and review anything in your child's Fairfield DD record. If you believe that information in your child's records is inaccurate or misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of your child, you may request that information in your child's record be amended.



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fairfielddd.com

Our mission is to bring about a vibrant community where people lead lives of greater independence and make meaningful contributions.