WHAT IS EARLY INTERVENTION?

- Early Intervention (EI) is a service available to children between birth and three years of age who have developmental delays or are at risk for developmental delays due to biological or environmental factors.
- Early Intervention staff members work as a team with parents, caregivers and medical professionals to help every child acquire the skills they need to reach their developmental potential. Services are provided in the places where children spend their time, such as family homes, childcare programs or community playgroups.
- Early Intervention offers families and care givers education, training, resources and support with respect for the beliefs, values, lifestyle and priorities of each family.

The program has sites in Lynn and Salem serving children in the following communities on the North Shore: Danvers, Lynn, Lynnfield, Marblehead, Middleton, Nahant, Peabody, Salem, Saugus and Swampscott.

Aspire Early Intervention

Lynn
103 Johnson Street
Lynn, MA 01902
781-593-2727
Fax: 781-593-2542

Salem
275 Lafayette Street
Salem, MA 01970
978-744-7037
Fax: 978-741-8175

www.aspiredevelopmental.org

Aspire does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, familial status, sexual orientation or disability. It is funded in part by the City of Salem, Dept. of Planning and Community development, US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, North Shore United Way, United Way of Mass. Bay and fundraising efforts of Aspire Developmental Services.

Developmental Services

Aspire

Aspire Early Intervention Program

A Program of Aspire Developmental Services, Inc.

www.aspiredevelopmental.org

Aspire Early Intervention Program

Who is Eligible for EI Services?

Any child from birth to three years of age may be eligible for EI services if the child:

- Is not reaching developmental milestones such as crawling, walking or talking as expected
- Has vision, hearing or feeding difficulties
- Is diagnosed with a physical, emotional, or cognitive condition that may result in a developmental delay
- Is at risk for developmental delay due to various biological and/or environmental factors

Who Can make a Referral for EI Services?

Anyone can refer a child for EI services. Parents, physicians, child care providers, social service providers or community providers can call, with parent's permission, if there are concerns about a child's development. Early Intervention services do not require a prescription or prior approval but concerns should always be discussed with the child's caregiver and medical provider.

What Happens After A Referral?

With parental consent, an EI team will conduct an evaluation with the child and family to determine eligibility. This evaluation will focus on specific areas of child development, including areas related to cognitive, language, motor, social, emotional, behavioral, and self-help skills. If a child is eligible, an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) is written based on the individual needs of the child and family.

Who Pays for EI?

Most health insurances pay for some or all of the cost of services if you give consent to have your insurance billed. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health pays for any costs not covered by insurance, including co-payments and deductibles.

Call: 1 (800) 454-2727 or (781) 593-2727

Who Provides EI Services?

EI services are provided by a professional and dedicated EI team. Depending on the child's needs, a team may include a developmental specialist, speech-language pathologist, social worker, nurse, occupational therapist, physical therapist or psychologist, nurse, or other specialty providers. The child's family and medical providers are important members of the EI team.

Each family will have an EI staff person who will be their service coordinator, their primary link to the supports and services of the program.

Who Can Attend EI Groups?

- Toddler Group is an opportunity for children who receive EI services to socialize with other children in a structured learning environment.
- Toddler Group is also offered to children in the community between the ages of 2 and 3.
- Parent-Child groups are open to families enrolled in EI as well as community members.