

Memo #13 - 18

From: DODD & ODH

To: Early Intervention Providers

Re: Early Intervention Services

Date: October 2, 2013

We recognize that there has been guidance and statements around “early intervention services” including how many and what kind a child must be receiving to be considered “enrolled” in HMG/Early Intervention which has resulted in some confusion. The important and accurate message is that the child and family assessment information is key to developing IFSP outcomes and identifying necessary services to meet those outcomes. When there is no IFSP outcome related to supporting the family to enhance a child’s development and participation within the family and community routines, then the family should be linked with other community resources where applicable, and the child should be exited from HMG. This should be consistent with the guidance that ODH has provided since the implementation of the new rules in September 2012.

Federal Register 303.34 specifies that the Service Coordinator’s role is to coordinate all aspects of services (evaluations, gaining access, provision, making referrals, follow-up activities, etc.). Therefore, when a need is identified and an IFSP outcome is written, then it is the team’s job to recommend an appropriate service which will help the family meet the outcome. More specifically, the Service Coordinator must work on behalf of the family and with the family to identify a service which will get them to outcome achievement and support the family in their natural environment. If there is an identified service need and the Service Coordinator is working with the family to gain access or locate the service, then the child is allowed and entitled to stay active in HMG EI. On the other hand, when there is no IFSP outcome which needs an EI service, the family should be exited from HMG EI.

All services must meet and be provided within the framework of all the federal regulations, including Part C evaluation and assessment process, multidisciplinary team, qualified personnel, and IFSP development (including development of outcomes).

If you have further questions about EI service provision, please call Kim Hauck at DODD.