



Department  
of Health

# Early Intervention (EI) and Health Homes Serving Children (HHSC)

Early Intervention Coordinating  
Council Meeting

December 3, 2020

1

2

**Early Intervention  
and Health Homes  
Serving Children –  
Updates**



2

# Agenda

- Background
  - Data
- Current Status
  - 2020 Guidance
  - Stakeholder Concerns
- Going Forward
  - Focus on Families
  - EI Provider Approval Process



3

## EI and HHSC

### Background

- EI and HHSC teams have worked together and in conjunction with stakeholders to coordinate care management services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays and their families for the past several years
- Work also included coordination of provider approval processes
- Prior to launch of HHSC, EI intersected with the Care at Home Programs to ensure that children and families received care management services



4

5

# Health Home Serving Children

- In December 2016, the HHSC program was implemented
- The 1915c Children's Waiver of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS), which would include the Care at Home waiver, was delayed for 2 years
- Previous Care at Home providers delayed moving into Health Home care management (HHCM) due to the Waiver delay
- EI and HHSC teams implemented in 2017-2018 the dually approved HHCM/EIOSC collaborative care coordination model
- However, the new Children's Waiver was not launched until April 1, 2019; and the number of dually approved coordination agencies was a slow development



5

6

## EIP and HHSC Data

### EIP

EIP MDE on Child Age 3 and Under		
Field	Definition	Value
Grand Total	Count of children who were evaluated by at least one Multidisciplinary Evaluation (MDE) to determine EIP eligibility in July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020.	43,701
Total Yes, Eligible	Count of children who were found eligible for EIP.	26,200
Total No, Not Eligible	Count of children who were never found eligible for EIP.	17,501

### HHSC

HCBS Assessments on Child Age 3 and Under		
Field	Definition	Value
Grand Total (Total Children Age 3 and Under)	Count of children who meet the criteria of being age 3 or under at the time of any HCBS assessment.	389
Total Yes, Eligible	Count of children who meet the criteria of being age 3 or under at the time of any HCBS assessment who have at least 1 Yes, Eligible Determination.	376
Total No, Not Eligible	Count of children who meet the criteria of being age 3 or under at the time of any HCBS assessment who have a determination of "No, Not Eligible" and have never had a determination of "Yes, Eligible".	13



6

7

# Stakeholder Feedback

NYSDOH Health Home and Early Intervention programs have had various meetings with stakeholders regarding the dually coordinated care model

- Agencies/providers are unable to build capacity or sustain the model due to the low number of children
- The process to become a dually HHCM/OSC is time consuming, confusing, and lacks consistency depending on county and HH
- Duplication of work and documentation is not supported by the rates
- When there is a lack of a HHCM/OSC in the family's area/county, there is a delay in accessing services and families are confused
- Difficulty of the State oversight to ensure consistency of the model and implementation of the HH and EI regulations



7

8

## HHSC and EI – 2020 Guidance

BEI and HH teams collaborated earlier in the year to develop the guidance at these links on OHIP's Health Homes webpage:

- [Coordination of Children's Health Home Care Management Services, Home and Community Based Services, and Early Intervention Services](#) – (PDF)  
May 2020
- [Overview of Services to Utilize with Families](#) – (PDF)  
July 2020



8

## 2020 Guidance Documents

- Coordinating Children's Health Home Care Management Services and Early Intervention Services
  - Describes eligibility criteria for each program
  - Notes that both programs require the eligible participant to have a designated case manager
  - In the absence of a dually enrolled EI/HHSC care management agency, families of eligible children must make an informed choice to select the program that best meets their needs
  - Also provides a crosswalk of the services



## 2020 Guidance Documents

- Overview of Services Available in the Children's Waiver Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) within Health Home and in the Early Intervention Program
  - Side by side overview of the HHSC and EI Programs to assist families of infants and toddlers with developmental delays in decision making based on assessments and identified needs



11

## 2020 Guidance Documents

In development

- Points in Time for Discussion Regarding Available Programs and Services, including:
  - At referral
  - Upon an eligibility determination
  - During service planning
  - At transition from EI or HHSC Programs



11

12

## 2020 Guidance Documents

- Communication and Billing requirements between the two programs to ensure easy transition from one program to another
- Concluding Dually Approved HHCM/OSC application and designation
- Verification of families being educated and informed about the two programs by signing an attestation form



12

13

## Going Forward

HHSC and EI will

- Develop additional guidance focused on helping families of infants and toddlers select the program that best suits their needs

EI will

- Require all EI service coordination providers, including those who also provide HH care management, to complete the standard EI provider approval process to ensure program integrity



13

14

## Going Forward

- An agency can be approved separately to deliver service coordination for EI by BEI and for HH care management by OHIP
- Families will choose the program most appropriate for them based on their needs and on information about services available through the EI and HHSC programs



14

## Resources

- For more information on HHSC, please use the following link:  
[https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/program/medicaid\\_health\\_homes/hh\\_children/index.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/medicaid_health_homes/hh_children/index.htm)
- For more information on the EIP, please use the following link:  
[https://www.health.ny.gov/community/infants\\_children/early\\_intervention/](https://www.health.ny.gov/community/infants_children/early_intervention/)
- For an overview of services available in the Children's Waiver (Home and Community Based Services or HCBS) within Health Home and services available in the Early Intervention Program to share with families, please use the following link:  
[https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/program/medicaid\\_health\\_homes/hh\\_children/docs/overview\\_services\\_available\\_hcbs\\_and\\_ei.pdf](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/medicaid_health_homes/hh_children/docs/overview_services_available_hcbs_and_ei.pdf)



## Contact Information

HHSC Program

[HHSC@health.ny.gov](mailto:HHSC@health.ny.gov)

EI Program

[beipub@health.ny.gov](mailto:beipub@health.ny.gov) or

by telephone at 518.473.7016

