

## September 2019 – ESIT Regional Provider Meetings Feedback Loops

### Will regional provider meetings replace Statewide Local Lead Agency meetings?

Yes – the regional provider meetings meet the contract requirement and will replace the two mandatory statewide local lead agency meetings.

### Will ESIT share information from regional provider meetings with other regions?

Yes – ESIT will share information from regional provider meetings through an online statewide video conference.

### Can ESIT program consultants inform providers about legislative actions?

ESIT is crafting a fact sheet with talking points on the Detailed Funding Report which clearly emphasizes the core nature of service coordination and the value of Family Resources Coordinators (FRC).

### In the past, Part C funds were used just for FRCs. Should our program rethink Part C funds for director, professional development, quality improvement, mileage or infrastructure? Should school district funds pay for all FRC costs?

There are no limitations regarding what Part C or school district funds are used for beyond the Part C requirement that federal dollars must be the payor of last resort.

### Will ESIT reimburse providers for assessment, evaluation and Individualized Family Service Plan prep? Can providers back bill for this prep work?

No – funding for services is not distributed on a ‘per service’ basis for specific activities at this time. Providers can use any of their funding sources for these pre-enrollment activities. Note the payor of last resort restriction above. We intend to add a referral factor to account for referrals that do not lead to enrollment in the federal funding formula. **This will make it imperative that early intervention providers enter referral data into the Data Management System (DMS).**

### When will the new DMS be available? Should agencies train new staff on the current system?

The **work plan** for the new data management system, SPROUT, is set to be ready January 2020. We are meeting with our IT department to determine timelines and a clear process for rolling out the new system. Yes, agency staff should train new staff on the current system.

### Will we move away from the Basic Education Allocation (BEA) rate?

No. The BEA will remain the basis for the funding distribution methodology being proposed.

### Will the Request for Qualifications require information about county served or school district?

We will likely ask about both.



**Who should attend the Home Visit Rating Scales (HOVRS) training? HOVRS pairs nicely with Promoting First Relationships (PFR). Will the PFR training be provided at the same rate so we can provide good success on the HOVRS?**

Staff with a supervisory or team lead role (regardless of discipline) should be encouraged to attend the training. We are considering ways to create sustainability for PFR statewide and this first round of HOVRS training and data will provide a great baseline.

**Does it make the HOVRS tool invalid if you pull it apart?**

No.

**Will we be reporting that we *did* HOVRS or do we need to send in the scores? We want to use it with those who are newer, but don't want the ratings to reflect poorly on our agency's performance.**

ESIT has not yet determined the mechanism for collecting data but required data will likely include verification of completion and scores. Our intent is not to be punitive. This important data will support more effective technical assistance and training.

**How does HOVRS promote equity? Does it support providers in non-English speaking homes?**

The tool is focused on the interaction between the provider and family within the context of the unique family culture. It supports effective communication with families and ongoing dialogue regarding ways the provider supports services that reflect the chosen cultural practices and language of the family.

**Communities of practice are very important, especially when roles change from peer to supervisor. Will it be included in HOVRS implementation plan?**

Good idea! ESIT will consider ways to support a community of practice.

**There's a need for more training on coaching. Will there be more opportunities?**

ESIT is exploring ways to support more training on effective coaching. We welcome any suggestions or insights from those who received coaching training that was effective in improving practice.

**It would be helpful to have a presentation from a provider who received PFR training, is using HOVRS and engaged in reflective practice. It would support us in planning for the big picture impact on our agency and allow us to move forward in a way that reduces the chance of being overwhelmed by the process. Is this something ESIT can provide?**

Great suggestion. ESIT will reach out to an agency who meets the criteria referenced above to request a presentation on how they managed the implementation of these activities.

