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# ECI LIBRARY MATTERS

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June 2007

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## Special Populations

*This month we are featuring library resources on special populations such as families who are homeless and are in crisis, including infants who are premature, exposed to drugs, may be HIV positive and caregivers who are substance abusers.*

*Check out the new additions to the collection on page 6-7!*

## Children Who are Affected by Drugs and Alcohol - Books

### **The Challenge of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: Overcoming Secondary Disabilities.** Ann Pytkowicz Streissguth, 1997. (201.4 Str83 ECI).

More than twenty experts from the fields of human services, education, and criminal justice describe their solutions to this disability that targets the brain and has lifelong consequences.

### **Children of Prenatal Substance Abuse.** Shirley N. Sparks, 1993. (201.4 Sp26 ECI).

Pioneers in the field of substance abuse share the results of their research. This book is aimed at service providers and school personnel.

### **Damaged Angels: An Adoptive Mother Discovers the Tragic Toll of Alcohol in Pregnancy.** Bonnie Buxton, 2005. (201.4 B991d 2005 ECI).

Part heartfelt memoir, part practical guide, this book recounts the author's struggles to raise an adopted daughter whom she did not realize was afflicted with fetal alcohol syndrome. The book offers guidance to parents who have children with fetal alcohol syndrome.

### **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: A Guide for Families and Communities.** Ann Pytkowicz Streissguth, 1997. (201.4 St84 1997 ECI).

A completely preventable disability, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) changes the life course of thousands of babies each year. This book, using case studies, photos, illustrations, and validated empirical research, will help physicians, psychologists, social workers, and families of children and adults with FAS work toward an educated community, a supportive network and better futures.

### **Identification and Care of Fetal Alcohol-Exposed Children: A Guide for Primary-Care Providers.** Michael Fleming, 1999. (201.4 F598i 1999 ECI).

This guide provides clinicians with office-based screening and intervention protocols for the detection of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, alcohol-related congenital disabilities, and alcohol-related neurodevelopmental disorder. The goal of this guide is to increase clinician recognition and appropriate care of children adversely affected by prenatal exposure to alcohol.

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## Children Who are Affected by Drugs and Alcohol - Books (continued)

### **Pregnancy and Exposure to Alcohol and Other Drug Use.** (227.7 C397 1993 ECI).

This technical report examines philosophies of perinatal addiction, prevention, early intervention, and treatment.

### **Reaching Out to Children with FAS/FAE : A Handbook for Teachers, Counselors, and Parents Who Work with Children Affected by Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Effects.** (201.4 D261 1994 ECI).

Readers will understand the physical and mental characteristics of FAS/FAE. Interventions designed to help children with FAS/FAE build self-esteem, change their behavior and deal with anger are explained.

### **Understanding the Occurrence of Secondary Disabilities in Clients with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) and Fetal Alcohol Effects (FAE).** Ann Pytkowicz Streissguth (201.4 S915 1996 ECI).

In this report, researchers examine the types and magnitude of secondary disabilities associated with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Effects.

## Children Who are Affected by Drugs and Alcohol - Videos

### **And Down Will Come Baby.** 16 min. 1994. (VC6649).

This video describes the effects of exposure to drugs, alcohol and tobacco on the fetus during pregnancy. It explains Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) and discusses Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). It emphasizes the dangerous mix of substance abuse and pregnancy.

### **Cocaine Kids: Their Problem Is Our Problem.** 28 min. 1991. (VT1202)

This video looks at the children of addicts. Hyperactivity, impulsiveness and learning disabilities are just a few of the problems attributed to a mother's substance abuse during pregnancy. This program offers advice for medical professionals, foster parents and teachers.

### **Drugs, Alcohol and Pregnancy: What You Should Know.** 25 min. 1992. (VC7253).

This video details the effects of alcohol, cocaine, nicotine, marijuana, and over-the-counter drugs on the fetus.

### **NEW! Fetal Alcohol Exposure: Changing the Future.** 31 min. 2006. (DD0087).

Viewers will learn how fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) are diagnosed. They will understand the primary and secondary disabilities associated with FASD and the human cost of these disorders. The in utero effects of alcohol are considered as well as the facial, neurological, cognitive, and behavioral characteristics of FASD.

### **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Other Drug Use During Pregnancy.** 19 min. 1994. (VT1196).

This program shows babies born to addicted mothers. It illustrates how cocaine and alcohol affect the fetus. It explains that babies whose mothers used cocaine are at risk for low birth weight, impaired brain development, and malformed kidneys and genitals.

### **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: Life Sentence.** 24 min. 1998. (VT1197).

This program examines the early identification and treatment of infants with fetal alcohol syndrome.

### **Prenatal Effects of Alcohol.** 14 min. 1997. (VC7183).

This video describes the symptoms of fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) and fetal alcohol effect (FAE). It identifies typical behaviors and the development of the child afflicted with either condition. It also provides coping strategies for the caregiver.

### **Stop A.S.A.P.: Avoiding Substance Abuse During Pregnancy.** 12 min. 1995. (VC7444).

Viewers will get to know a young woman who was a substance abuser during her pregnancy. The effects of her substance abuse on her young son are shown.

### **Worth the Trip.** 57 min. 1996. (VC6462).

This program is designed for parents and teachers of children with fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS). It describes the health, development and learning styles of children affected by FAS. It also includes support group discussions as well as interactions between the caregiver and the child.

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## Infants Exposed to HIV - Books

**The Special Child: A Source Book for Parents of Children with Developmental Disabilities.** Siegfried M. Pueschel, 1995. (226.5 P961 ECI).

This book contains a section on HIV infection in infants.

## Infants Exposed to HIV - Videos

**Caring for Infants and Toddlers with HIV Infection.** 20 min. 1991. (VT0120).

Special skills and supports are necessary in caring for a child who has HIV infection. This video explains symptoms, multidisciplinary care, and home care of infants and toddlers who are HIV-positive.

**Don't Shut Me Out: HIV+ Parents Struggling with Disclosure.** 25 min. 1996. (VC6274).

This program describes the issues and decisions parents face before telling their families about their HIV positive status. It gives advice and models viewers can use to adapt to their own situation.

**If AIDS Is So Bad, How Come We Don't Know Anybody Who Has It? A Portrait of a Family with AIDS.** 23 min. 1990. (VC4812).

This documentary is about a young couple and their 6-month old son, all three of whom have AIDS.

## Families Who are Homeless - Books

**The Crisis Manual for Early Childhood Teachers.** Karen Miller, 1996. (284 M648 1996 ECI).

This manual provides advice and information for teachers of children who may be living in crisis situations. Homelessness, substance abuse and HIV/AIDS are some of the topics covered.

**Homeless Families: Failed Policies and Young Victims.** Lisa Klee Mihaly, 1991. (HV 4505 M636h 1991).

Medical and Research Library.

This brief by the Children's Defense Fund asserts that emergency shelter services are important but not enough for homeless children and their families. These children need adequate incomes, family supports and affordable housing.

**Homeless Families with Children: Programmatic Responses of Five Communities.** Lela Baughman, 1991. (HV 4505 B346h 1991). Medical and Research Library.

This study is an exploratory study to examine the ways in which existing programs or service delivery systems have adapted to meet the needs of homeless families with children. The study identified key issues, model approaches and visited five cities: Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Minneapolis and Oakland. The results of the study are presented in two volumes. The first volume is an overview of the homelessness problem and cross-site findings from the five site visits. The second volume includes each city's site visit report and profiles of the programs visited in each city.

**Homeless Families with Children: Research Perspectives.** Ellen L. Bassuk and Deborah Anne Cohen, 1992. (HV 4505 B323h 1992). Medical and Research Library.

This report synthesizes discussions from a three-day conference on homelessness sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Summaries of the papers commissioned for this conference are presented as well as a research agenda on homeless families in order to better understand and solve the problem of homelessness in American society.

**Young Children and Their Families Who Are Homeless: A University Affiliated Program's Response.**

Tawara D. Taylor, 1996. (320.6 T248 1996 ECI).

This monograph provides information about approaches to identifying, referring, and serving young children and their families who are homeless. Aside from providing current information about homelessness and its impact on the development of young children, this resource includes two vignettes that could be used for teaching or training.

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## Families Who are Homeless - Videos

**Health Care for the Homeless: You Can Never Give Up.** 33 min. 1991. (VC5406).

This video spotlights programs that health care workers have created to meet the needs of homeless families. It illuminates the issues which homelessness raises for doctors, nurses and providers in other settings such as the hospital emergency room or community clinic.

## Infants Who are Premature - Books

**Developmental and Therapeutic Interventions in the NICU.** Elsie R. Vergara, 2004. (242.2 V494 2004 ECI).

This book, which provides a foundation of clinical knowledge for Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) professionals that they will need to work with at-risk newborns, combines research and practical guidelines that clinicians will use to promote the well-being of infants in the NICU and involve and support their families.

**Homecoming for Babies after the Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery: A Guide for Parents in Supporting their Baby's Early Development.** Kathleen VandernBerg and Marci J. Hanson, 1993. (242.1 H198 1993 ECI).

This booklet is designed to support parents of newborn premature infants by helping them develop a relationship and routines with their baby.

**Living Miracles: Stories of Hope from Parents of Premature Babies.** Kimberly A. Powell and Kim Wilson, 2000. (800 P884 2000 ECI).

Parents of premature infants share their ordeals, their fears, their joys, and their triumphs.

**My Special Start: A Guide for Parents in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.** Bette Flushman, Gay Gale, and Sue Lackey, 1991. (242 F675 ECI).

This book, written for parents of premature infants, will show parents how to help their baby in the hospital.

**Newborn Intensive Care: What Every Parent Needs to Know.** Jeanette Zaichkin, 1996. (242 Z14 ECI).

This book provides the information parents of premature infants need to know to be able to participate as a vital part of their child's medical team.

**Understanding My Signals: Help for Parents of Premature Infants.** Brenda Hussey-Gardner, 1996. (242.1 H972 1996 ECI).

This booklet, written for parents of premature infants in a hospital's NICU, contains photographs of premature infants demonstrating when they are happy, when they need a change, and when they are unhappy. The Spanish version of this book, "Comprendiendo Mis Señales," is included along with a User's Guide that will be helpful for both booklets.

**Your Premature Baby and Child: Helpful Answers and Advice for Parents.** Amy E. Tracy and Diane I. Maroney, 1999. (242.1 T761 1999 ECI).

This illustrated guide, for parents of premature babies, was written by experienced mothers and medical professionals and gives practical advice on a wide-range of topics.

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## Infants Who are Premature - Videos

**Breastfeeding and Kangaroo Care for Your Baby.** 9 min. 1999. (VC7107).

This resource demonstrates the benefits of skin-to-skin care (kangaroo care) and breastfeeding for the premature infant even while in the hospital neonatal unit. It explains that breast milk helps premature infants develop more quickly.

**Caring for your NICU Baby.** 17 min. 1994. (VT1604).

Caring for a premature baby can be frustrating. The simple tasks of infant care may seem even more complicated to parents when their baby is in the NICU. As parents view this instructional video, they can master the essential nurturing skills they need to care for their infant and make a smooth transition when the time comes to bring their baby home. This resource demonstrates step-by-step techniques for feeding, fostering the sucking reflex, bathing, and taking an infant's temperature.

**Caring for Premature Babies.** 19 min. 1994. (VT1606).

This program focuses on the risks for pre-term labor, the possible steps to postpone it, and the health challenges faced by the premature infant.

**The Growing Preemie.** 12 min. 1996. (VT1607).

This video demonstrates techniques to promote sleep in the growing preemie; methods for encouraging alert times; ways to reduce fussiness; and techniques to facilitate optimal feeding.

**Introduction to the NICU.** 15 min. 1994. (VT1605).

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit can be an overwhelming, even frightening place for parents unfamiliar with these high-tech, special care nurseries. This video introduces parents to the equipment and procedures used in infant care and to the various people who staff the NICU. Parents will discover the importance of becoming involved in their baby's care and view techniques for safely touching, holding, and repositioning NICU infants.

**No Matter How Small: A Parent's Guide to Preterm Infant Development.** 39 min. 2006. (DD0051).

This DVD is based on current research and features a diverse cast of real parents and providers. It shows parents how to support the growth and development of their baby's brain.

**Positioning and Handling the High Risk Infant.** 15 min. 1996. (VT1612).

Positioning and handling techniques to be used with the premature infant are demonstrated in this video. Background information describes three major categories of risk factors that may contribute to an infant's movement outcome: biological risk, risks secondary to the biological factors, and environmental or social risks. Three motor profiles of the high risk infant are also demonstrated: the hypertonic, the hypotonic, and the typical preemie profile. Positioning and handling techniques appropriate for these profiles are illustrated. Three simple exercises that caregivers can use with older, medically stable infants are also demonstrated.

**Preemie Development: An Overview.** 14 min. 1991. (VT0167).

Aimed at health professionals and parents, this video explains the development and care of the low birth weight infant.

**Preemies: The Fight for Life.** 53 min. 2000. (VT1616).

Premature babies present doctors with tough medical and ethical challenges as seen in this video which takes a personal look at the emotional odysseys of two families, as specialized medical teams do all they can to save their babies. For preemies, life is a minute-to-minute battle.

**Your Baby and You: Understanding Your Baby's Behavior.** 24 min. Eng, 25 min. Span. 1992. (VT0169).

Infants in neonatal care units can offer signals about how they are feeling. This video shows and explains some of those signals. The program is presented in English and then repeated in Spanish.



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## Special Populations - Selected Websites

The **National Center on Family Homelessness** is devoted to helping families who are homeless. They provide trainings and technical assistance to help shelters and providers address the day-to-day realities of the tragedy of homelessness. <http://www.familyhomelessness.org/> Two publications available on their website include:

Understanding Traumatic Stress in Children:

<http://www.familyhomelessness.org/pdf/Understanding%20Trauma.pdf>

Social Supports for Homeless Mothers

<http://www.familyhomelessness.org/pdf/socialsupports.pdf>

The **Child Welfare League of America** is an association of nearly 800 public and private nonprofit agencies that assist more than 3.5 million children who are abused and neglected and their families each year with a range of services. Their website is at <http://www.cwla.org/> Their many publications are available at <http://www.cwla.org/pubs/programpubs.htm>

The **Texas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children** was formed in an effort to protect Texas children living in volatile drug environments. They have developed inter-agency protocols that outline the appropriate process for handling children found in these dangerous environments. See <http://www.texasdec.org/>

For bibliographies on substance use in pregnancy and many other topics, see **The Maternal and Child Health Library: A Virtual Guide to MCH Information** at <http://www.mchlibrary.info/>

Many full-text links to information on **pregnancy and substance abuse** are also available from MedlinePlus, reliable information provided by the National Library of Medicine. See <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/pregnancyandsubstanceabuse.html>

An overview of **HIV Infection in Infants and Children** is provided by The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. See <http://www.niaid.nih.gov/factsheets/hivchildren.htm>

The **March of Dimes** discusses premature and low birthweight babies at [http://www.marchofdimes.com/professionals/14332\\_1153.asp](http://www.marchofdimes.com/professionals/14332_1153.asp) More information on babies who were born prematurely is available on Medline Plus See <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/prematurebabies.html>

## New Additions - Books

**The Boy Who Was Raised as a Dog: and Other Stories from a Child Psychiatrist's Notebook: What Traumatized Children Can Teach Us about Loss, Love and Healing.** Bruce Duncan Perry, 2006. Book. (130.5 P462b 2006 ECI)

Contents: Tina's world -- For your own good -- Stairway to heaven (David is God) -- Skin hunger -- The coldest heart -- The boy who was raised as a dog -- Satanic panic -- The raven -- "Mom is lying. Mom is hurting me. Please call the police" -- The kindness of children -- Healing communities.

**The Connected Child: Bring Hope and Healing to Your Adoptive Family.** Karyn Brand Purvis, David R. Cross and Wendy Lyons Sunshine, 2007. Book. (271.8 P986c 2007 ECI)

Contents: Beginning where your child began -- Solving the puzzle of difficult behavior -- Providing an atmosphere of "felt safety" -- Teaching life values -- You are the boss: handling aggression -- Nurturing at every opportunity -- Enhancing success through proactive strategies -- The magic of healthy brain chemistry and nutrition -- When all else fails: the home program -- Handling setbacks -- Healing yourself so you can heal your child.

**It's a New IDEA!: the Manual for Parents and Students about Special Education Services in Texas,** rev. ed. Advocacy, Inc., 2005. Book. (556 A244 2005 ECI)

This manual is designed to help parents become familiar with the requirements of the IDEA so that they may act as an equal partner in planning their child's education. Parents will learn, by using this manual and by working with school staff, how to plan an educational program that will lead to an ordinary life for the child and family.

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## New Additions - Videos

**Countering Violence Creating Safe Environments in Child Care Settings.** 12 min. 1996. (VT2522).

This videotape describes the Partnership to Address Violence through Education (PAVE) initiative at the University of Minnesota. The PAVE program prepares early childhood professionals to deal with the effects of violence on young children. Young early childhood professionals are shown teaching children about empathy.

**Designing Interventions Using Functional Behavioral Assessment.** 90 min. 2003. (VT2526).

One way to assess children's challenging behavior is to conduct functional behavioral assessments. This assessment process gathers information on the predictors and function of the challenging behavior and then this information is used to select positive and effective behavioral interventions. This DVD presentation (1) outlines the federal mandate on functional behavioral assessment, (2) defines functional behavioral assessment in the early childhood setting, (3) reviews the various procedures in how to conduct functional behavioral assessments, and (4) describes how to summarize functional behavioral assessment information. This presentation was made by Shelley Neilsen Gatti on October 24, 2003.

**ECI Teleconference: Child Unfolding Within the Family: Child Development Birth to 6 Months.** 120 min. 2006 (VT0626).

This presentation made by Sally Hamilton on April 26, 2006 covers how different theories of child development apply to ECI. She also explains the different stages of development for a baby. The first stage is about becoming attentive and interested in the world. The second stage is about the parent and child falling in love.

**ECI Teleconference: Child Unfolding Within the Family: Child Development 6-12 Months.** 113 min. 2006. (VT0627).

This presentation made by Sally Hamilton on June 28, 2006 covers how a baby typically develops between 6 and 12 months. The third stage of development is about becoming an intentional two way communicator. The fourth stage is about learning to interact to solve problems and discover a sense of self.

**ECI Teleconference: Introduction to the New ECI Screenings.** 115 min. 2006 (VT0625)

This ECI presentation was made on April 5, 2006 by Rachel Moyer Trimyer. She explains why newborns should be screened for deafness or hearing loss. She also tells of risk factors for hearing loss. A draft of the February 2006 screening packet is included.

**Foster Parents Working with Birth Parents.** 50 min. 2003. (DD0097)

Dr. Vera Fahlberg talks with a panel of experienced foster parents about the issues of increased drug and alcohol related placements, the importance of communication with birth parents, and the need for early permanency planning. While the discussion focuses primarily on infant and preschool placements, the information on this DVD can be applied to the care of foster children of all ages.

**Listening to Birth Families.** 80 min. 2003. (DD0098)

This DVD presents a model of foster care for creating kinship groups to support families in times of crisis. It's the story of a birth mother, her children (ranging from infant to teen), and two foster families who create a sense of belonging and support for children and adults alike. Dr. Vera Fahlberg speaks of the importance of positive solutions.

**Successful Kids.** 83 min. 2003. (VT2523)

This videotaped training session focuses on understanding the emotional needs of parents and their young children. It was presented by Julie Ribaudo on November 3, 2003. It is intended for members of preschool behavior technical assistance teams, early childhood educators, Head Start staff, social workers, home visitors, child care workers, and interested others who work with children birth to age five. Ms. Ribaudo talks about reflective supervision and practice.

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Early Childhood Report - May 2007

# Early CHILDHOOD Report

Children With Special Needs & Their Families

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 5

MAY 2007

## LEGAL SPOTLIGHT

### You Be the Judge

Must an LEA pay for a medically fragile 5-year-old's private school? **Page 2**

### Washington Watch

Learn about the Head Start bill recently passed by the House, including a breakdown of the significant changes, and expectations for an upcoming Senate debate; see why pre-K programs nationwide may soon see a huge boost in funding. **Page 3**

### Judicial Decision

Learn why parents' failure to share critical information bolsters a district's bid for attorney's fees. **Page 10**

### Decisions & Guidance

See why modifications to playground resolve accessibility concerns; learn why the termination of early intervention services defeats a request for stay-put; read how a therapist's written report on the need for OT won't fill expert testimony void; and discover why a vendor's failure to deliver ABA services makes LEA liable. **Pages 10-12**

## COVER STORY

### Proposed IDEA Part C regs allow extension of early intervention services to age 5

Experts are finding few surprises in the proposed IDEA Part C regulations, which the **Education Department** released to the public on May 4. Many, however, are applauding a provision that would offer states flexibility to extend Part C services for one, two or three years for a child, up to age 5. ED will hold regional meetings on the regs and allow you to comment on them until July 23. So which provisions should you read most closely in the 440-page document? Read about key clarifications regarding eligibility determinations, confidentiality and cochlear implants. **See full story, page 4.**

#### Eligibility

Find out how the proposed IDEA Part C regulations ease the eligibility determination process. **See page 4.**

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Diffuse parents' fear about Part C to Part B transition

Learn how your district can make the transition from early intervention to preschool less abrupt for families. Also review the responsibilities of Part C providers. **Page 5**

### Emphasize continuing support in face of ineligibility

Find out how you can best deliver the news to concerned parents that their child does not qualify for special education services. **Page 6**

### Eye on Autism: Seek staff training from hospitals

Discover how partnering with a university hospital can provide your staffers with ongoing training on strategies for working with young children with autism. **Page 7**

### Learn how to deflect stay-put demands

See why parents failed to force a district to continue Part C services for their 3-year-old triplets with autism and how you can prevent similar lawsuits from occurring. **Page 8**

### Assess infant, toddler social-emotional health naturally

Learn why you should assess infants and toddlers in natural environments, such as at home, child care and the park to ensure objective data. **Page 9**

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# Early CHILDHOOD Report

Children With Special Needs & Their Families

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2007

## LEGAL SPOTLIGHT

### You Be the Judge

Must this 7-year-old's ESY program match her school year services? **Page 2**

### Washington Watch

Parents of children with disabilities will no longer have to hire attorneys to represent them in federal court. See what impact the Supreme Court's May 21 ruling will have; also find out about presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton's universal pre-K initiative. **Page 3**

### Decisions & Guidance

Find out about early childhood-related judicial and SEA cases. **Pages 10-12**

### Part C Primer

The proposed IDEA Part C regs exclude surgically implanted medical devices, including cochlear implants, from the definition of an assistive technology device. However, you could include some services needed by an infant or toddler with cochlear implants, including speech therapy. **See page 7** for more information on AT.

## COVER STORY

### Proposed IDEA Part C regs champion staff collaboration, parent preparation

One of the more contentious elements of the proposed IDEA Part C regulations, about which you can comment at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) until July 23, is the option for states to extend Part C services for children until age 5. While it may allow children with severe disabilities more time to receive intense in-home services, experts say, it also may allow overprotective parents to delay their children's exposure to nondisabled peers. So EIS providers and school districts have to collaborate to inform parents about the benefits of whichever services might be best for their children. Providing a network of seamless services for children is a common theme throughout the proposed regs. As an early childhood provider, you should know about key proposals regarding eligibility, evaluation, mediation and technology. **For full coverage, see pages 4-7.**

### Regs rundown

- Find out why parents may do themselves a disservice if they have the option to extend Part C services to age 5. **Page 4**
- See why screening may more quickly calm parents' concerns about possible disabilities. **Page 5**
- Learn how the regs emphasize mediation as a dispute-resolution option. **Page 6**
- Understand why many early childhood service providers are confused by the definition of assistive technology. **Page 7**

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Eye on Autism: Strengthen staff training in local centers

Find out why developing regional training centers can help your district maintain a stable of in-house autism experts and offer multifaceted, research-based programs for young children on the spectrum. **Page 8**

### Strike up partnership with mental health experts

Learn how you can reduce preschool expulsions and gain strategies for coping with challenging conduct by linking with early childhood mental health clinicians who work in the classroom and with parents. **Page 9**

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Exceptional Parent - May 2007

# E P C O N T E N T S

MAY 2007 • VOLUME 37, ISSUE 05 • ESTABLISHED 1971

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AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA, STEPHEN SUNDARRAO'S ENGINEERING STUDENTS CREATE, BUILD, AND PATENT NEW AND INNOVATIVE MOBILITY EQUIPMENT TO BENEFIT PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.  
BY JAN CARTER HOLLINGSWORTH

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### ACCESSIBILITY IS THE MOTHER OF INVENTION WHEN IT COMES TO AN INNOVATIVE HAND CONTROL SYSTEM

KEITH HOWELL, A MAN CHALLENGED WITH DISABILITIES, FIRST CREATED HIS UNIQUE HAND CONTROL SYSTEM FOR HIS OWN NEEDS AND QUICKLY REALIZED THIS WAS AN IDEA THAT HE MUST SHARE WITH THE WORLD.

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THE K9 BUDDIES PROGRAM MATCHES CHILDREN WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS WITH SPECIAL PETS IN AN EFFORT TO PREPARE THEM FOR ASSISTANCE ANIMALS IN THE FUTURE.  
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BY HEATHER M. HEBDON

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In June!**  
**The Annual  
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Mobility  
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Dealers**  
**Bonus Supplement!**

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