

“Everything you always wanted to know about EHS ERESA and were afraid to ask!”

Session Agenda

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1:30 – 2:00	Welcome & Introductions	Paul Corrington
2:00 – 3:15	Responding to Grantee Questions RO - Program Specialist: TTA Providers:	Louise Gill & Glore Davis Debra Drake & Paul Corrington
3:15 – 3:45	Group Activity	“What works in my program”
3:45 – 4:15	Group reports	
4:15 – 4:30	Summary & Final Thoughts	Louise Gill & Glore Davis

Responding to Grantee Questions

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- **In a family where one parent working a traditional job and one parent who is self-employed and says they have no paperwork to prove their income, is it ok to verify income with the paperwork of the traditional worker while taking parent report from the self-employed parent?**

Eligibility

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- If a family is over income (OI) then dad gets hurt and can't work for a while, has to have surgery, but plans to return to work after full recovery. Do we review their OI status, especially since family has had to move in with the child's grandparents?
- Would moving in with Grandparents now mean they are, by definition, "homeless?"

Military income

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- What is and is not considered when we calculate income, such as considering veteran/disability pay?
- We had an applicant that received ONLY veteran disability benefits as income. Using only the income amount she was \$6 over income based on the income grid.
- The tip sheet seemed to reflect that we figured it accurately, however, SSI/SSDI are automatic qualifiers regardless of amount... is it allowable to consider ANY disability benefit as an automatic qualifier, as in this example of veteran's disability?

I – 010 Is Veterans Disability considered the same way that SSI or Social Security is when determining income?

OHS – PC – I – 010

Is Veterans Disability considered the same way that SSI or Social Security is when determining income?

In order to be eligible for Head Start, children must be from families with incomes below the poverty line or families receiving public assistance. Public assistance is defined as either SSI or TANF (See ACYF-PI-HS-99-06 for a further discussion of public assistance.) Veterans' disability payments are not, for Head Start purposes, considered to be public assistance and are generally considered as income, with the exception of certain disability payments made to the disabled children of Vietnam veterans, as prescribed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Disability Incomes

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- **Is veteran/disability pay treated like SSDI?**

Enrollment vs Entry Dates

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- Can we enroll a child even though they won't be attending for 5 more days, but we know they are going to come however we don't want that to affect the 45 day count?

Enrollment

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- **How do programs count race for Hispanic/Latino?**

Foster Children

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How do other programs work with foster children/families?

- **Our child welfare workers want/require the biological parents to enroll (sometimes the Foster parents enroll).**
- **As the State is the guardian, who should be signing enrollment, home visit reports, permissions, etc.?**
- **Sometimes the biological parent only has the child for 90 minutes a week**

Attendance with Variable Schedules

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Do programs use “not scheduled” vs. absent?

- We have children in EHS full day program that have subsidies for 3 or 4 days a week only on the other days we usually mark them as not scheduled so that it doesn't drop our attendance percentages for the week.
- Do other programs do this?

Home Bases Early Head Start

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- **How can we better serve homeless families in the EHS HB model?**

Recruitment

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- **What recruitment tips are programs using to increase waitlists?**

Procedures

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- *How do programs identify and address participation issues in both home visits and socializations for home base model?*
- *What procedures are used?*
 - *For example, our participation guidance says 2 visits cancelled and not made up—alert form; 3 visits cancelled and not made up—action plan; 4 visits cancelled and not made up—phone call Family Services Specialist. What expectations after all of these steps have been completed?*



Attendance

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- *What strategies are used to resolve absenteeism?*
 - *What about those families who regularly cancel/reschedule on a weekly basis?*
 - *Do home based programs have participation expectations for socializations? For example, we expect them to come but we have never closed a family for not participating in socializations even though it is the other half of the program.*
 - *Do programs start over with families from one PIR year to the next?*

Enrollment

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- **What do other programs do around designating the child's start date in the EHS home base program?**

Procedures

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What do other programs do about families that miss home visits?

- **What does the procedure look like to follow up on this?**
- **Is there a point that you can't make-up the number of home visits that a family has missed?**

Procedures

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- **How do other programs work with foster children/families?**

Procedures

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How are other programs approaching the subject of attendance when parents don't seem to have the buy-in of Early Childhood Education and the importance of setting the bar at this age for the remainder of their child's education?

- Any magic words on talking with families about this?

Procedures

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When parents are divorced/separated and want to enroll but do visits separately:

- **How do we best serve these families such as alternate visits with each parent? (child is seen weekly, but each parent only every other week)**

If one parent enrolls with child and the estranged parent returns and now wants to participate, but first parent does not want to share visits as the child was enrolled before second parent re-entered the child's life. What do you do?

“What works in my program for”

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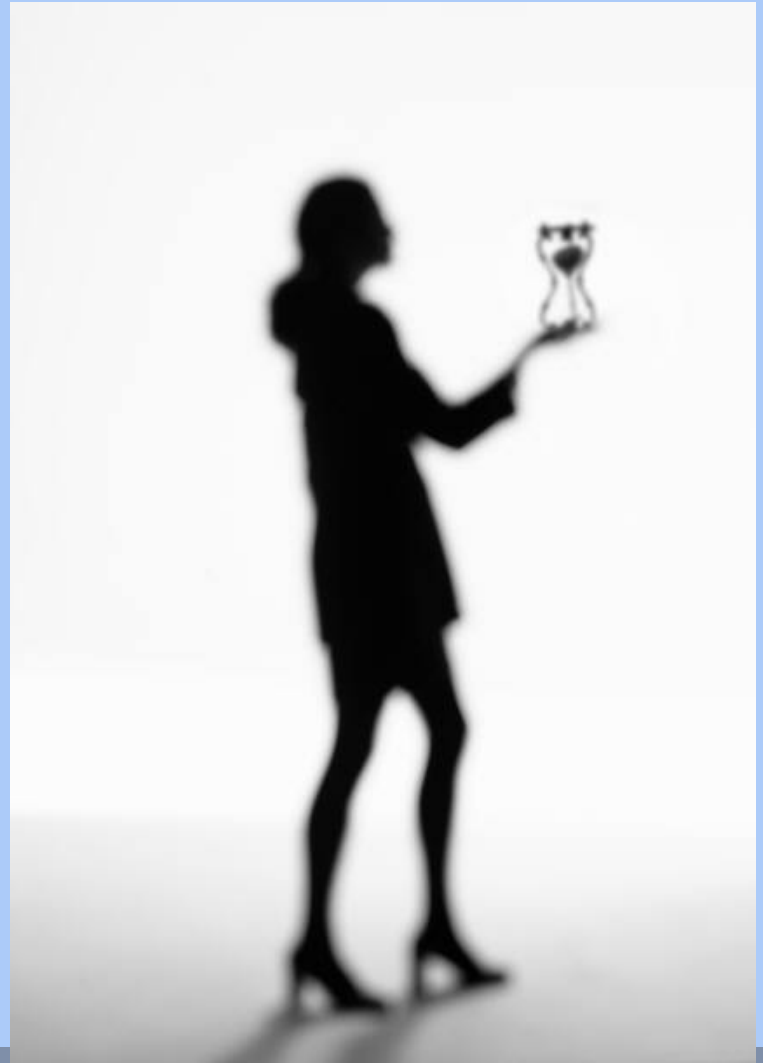
Group Instructions:

- **Break into 5 groups**
- **Select a scribe to record discussion and a spokesperson to report to large group**
- **Each group brainstorm effective strategies for one of the areas of ERSEA:**
 - (Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment & Attendance)
- **Each group has 30 minutes to complete the task**

Group Reports

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5 Minutes per group



Session Summary

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Final Thoughts:

Regional Office Program Specialist:

Glore Davis & Louise Gill

Thank you
for attending & participating!