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To: All Early Intervention Stakeholders

From: Ann Freiburg, Chief *AmF*
Bureau of Early Intervention

Date: July 2, 2020

Re: Early Intervention Weekly Update

For the week ending July 3, 2020, we finished our sixth week of meeting as a workgroup to establish a clear plan for moving forward during the remaining Phases of Restore Illinois. The workgroup has completed guidance on resuming in-person service delivery that includes certain limitations and adheres to recommended safety guidelines.

With this week's update, we continue to promote the use of all policies and procedures previously developed for service delivery in Early Intervention (EI) during COVID19, including Phone Consultation and Live Video Visits and required medical/clinic-based in-person services, until further notice. Our partners continue to develop additional [resources](#) to support this work. We also are appreciative of Executive Order 2020-44 which extended Executive Order 2020-09 for reimbursement for Live Video Visits (telehealth) through July 27, 2020!

The Phased Plan to Re-Open Early Intervention workgroup met on June 30, 2020 and received updates from the sub-workgroups. The guidance for resuming in-person services has been submitted and is awaiting a final review by external infectious disease experts to ensure compliance with recommended practices for mitigating risk.

The guidance to re-open Illinois Early Intervention includes an outline for delivering EI services through a hybrid of continued Phone Consultation, Live Video Visits and in-person interactions for a period of time until the data and science allow for full re-opening across all regions of the State. The workgroup recognized the need to provide flexibility for delivery of EI services even with in-person services about to resume!

The workgroup will meet to establish the implementation date while all necessary partners approve the guidance. The sub-workgroups will continue to meet, as needed, to finalize any recommendations that could not be part of the guidance at this time. We recognize that the guidance may change as additional information is obtained and as our state continues to move forward with the Restore Illinois Phases. Our finalized guidance will be released as soon as all final approvals are received. The workgroup also will announce the implementation date as quickly as possible. The implementation date will allow families, providers and service coordinators time to plan and determine the comfort level and needs of individual children/families. The workgroup appreciates the support and cooperation of the EI community as we approach adding in-person services as another option for service delivery!