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To: All Early Intervention Stakeholders

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

Date: February 5, 2021

Re: Early Intervention (EI) Weekly Update

As mentioned previously, EI providers, along with other early childhood personnel, are included in Priority Group 1B of Illinois' vaccination plan. We want to reiterate that vaccine distribution is very localized, so you will need information specific to your county/region of the State. To find out where you can get a vaccine, visit <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/>. You may also access information from your local county health department: <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/contact-us/idph-regional-health-departments>. If you live in the city of Chicago, visit <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid19-vaccine/home/latest-updates.html>.

The Frequently Asked Questions from the Vaccine Town Hall are now available. You can find them here:

- FAQ English – <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/OECD/Documents/IN24621.pdf>
- FAQ Spanish - https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/OECD/Documents/IN2462_SP.pdf

The vaccine is an important step in our return to a pre-pandemic normal. **Getting vaccinated affords a critical layer of protection against the virus but DOES NOT change the maximum of 10 EI families to whom you can provide in-person services.** For additional information about the safety and efficacy of the vaccine, you can visit <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>. Getting vaccinated provides a critical layer of protection for yourself, your family, your friends, and co-workers. Even after being vaccinated, you should continue **wearing a mask, washing your hands, and maintaining a minimum of six feet between you and other people whenever possible.**

The [Illinois Department of Public Health's](#) website continues to be the best source of information on [regional conditions](#) and the activities currently restricted and permitted within each region. All regions are now in Phase 4, with no additional mitigations being utilized. Staying informed about regional conditions and permitted activities outside of work improves our chances of mitigating risk and keeping all system stakeholders safe. For more details about approved activities within each tier, review the [updated plan](#).

Please continue to monitor the [Provider Connections](#) website often as all updates to policy and procedure will be posted here. The [EITP](#) website and [Facebook](#) page, and the [EI Clearinghouse](#) website should also be monitored for information and resources.

Stay safe and know that we appreciate all you do for infants, toddlers, and families!