



EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION AUSTRALIA

EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION SERVICE MAPPING: SOUTH AUSTRALIA

INFORMATION PAPER FOR ONLINE SURVEY
PARTICIPANTS

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HEALTH OUTCOMES INTERNATIONAL

5A Glynburn Road, Glynde, SA 5070 | P: 08 8363 3699 | F: 08 8365 3560
E: info@hoi.com.au | www.hoi.com.au



BACKGROUND

In September 2016, Early Childhood Intervention Australia (ECIA) appointed Health Outcomes International (HOI) to undertake a service mapping of Early Childhood Early Intervention services in South Australia. This involves the:

1. Documentation and mapping of all Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) services available to work with children with developmental delay and disability and their families and carers in SA.
2. Documentation of existing collaborative practices for early childhood and disability service provisions in regional, remote and rural areas and the identification of agencies that provide wrap around disability and community services.
3. Identification of opportunities to build on existing knowledge and experience in ECI in regional, rural and remote communities.

ECIA anticipates that the project will also provide an improved understanding of the collaborative relationships with the local area coordinators (LACs), specialists, allied health, commonwealth and state-government, disability organisations and Aboriginal organisations when implementing the Early Childhood Early Intervention Approach and NDIA access to planning.

A Reference Group comprising representatives from ECIA, NDIA, DECD, Flinders University and HOI has been established to provide project oversight and to further engage and develop the ECI sector in SA.

ONLINE SURVEY

An online survey has been developed to supplement information already collected through the ECIA Reference Group, publicly available data regarding ECI service providers, and information obtained through telephone consultations with selected stakeholders.

The purpose of the online survey is to provide data to develop a complete profile of ECI services in SA. It will provide ECIA with valuable information in relation to service coverage and capacity, identification of service gaps, detail service networks and inform regarding the adoption of ECI best practice.

Stakeholders involved in ECI services from the Disability, Health and Education sectors in South Australia are being targeted for the online survey, which will collect the following types of information:

- The name of the ECI service provider organisation.
- The locations of any service provider outlets
- The name of any program(s) delivering early childhood intervention services
- The size of the program or service as measured by the number of indicators.
- The primary sector(s) in which the early childhood intervention services are being delivered.
- The extent to which the service understands and adopts Best Practice principles in ECI
- Type of service delivery, service setting options, best practice model, workforce configuration, target cohort (including specified age range), etc.
- The catchment areas for the target cohort
- Common pathways providers use to guide children and families through the appropriate and available services and networks

- Linkages with other providers, activities and programs within or external to ECI sector (including mainstream services)
- The type of setting in which early childhood intervention activities are provided by a service provider
- The type of early childhood intervention or therapy service being delivered.

BENEFITS

The key benefits of the research for children and their families are expected to include:

- Improving navigation for families through the ECI journey.
- Improving access for hard-to-reach families.
- Building awareness of ECI best practice.
- Optimising use of technology to support increased service access.
- Addressing current workforce issues.
- Improving communication between the NDIA and stakeholders.
- Reducing waiting times for ECI therapy.
- Strengthening NDIS approach to clinical governance.
- Improving coordination of ECI services.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Only summary level data will appear in the final report generated for ECIA. An inventory of early childhood services in Excel format will also be produced for internal use by ECIA to support service planning and to identify opportunities to promote best practice. ECIA and HOI are bound by a code of confidentiality for obtaining, managing and disposing data.

PROJECT CONTACTS

Should you have any queries in relation to the survey or the consultative process in general please do not hesitate to contact:

Health Outcomes International

Andrew McAlindon

Senior Manager

(08) 8363 3699

andrew.mcalindon@hoi.com.au

ECIA

Margie O'Tarpey

National ECIA Chief Executive

(02) 9873 2593

motarpey@ecia-nsw.org.au

ECIA (SA Chapter)

Linda Williams

President, ECIA (SA Chapter)

(08) 8243 8310

Linda.Williams@novita.org.au