To: All Early Intervention Stakeholders

From: Ann Freiburg, Chief
Bureau of Early Intervention

Date: November 25, 2020

Re: Early Intervention (EI) Weekly Update

The Illinois Interagency Council on Early Intervention’s Reopen Illinois EI Workgroup met again this week. The workgroup discussed several communications that were received in response to the temporary suspension of in-person services effective the same day as the Governor’s Office Tier 3 Mitigation plan was enacted.

After careful deliberation and input from stakeholders representing a variety of perspectives including families, EI Providers, therapy associations and other state agencies, we have developed updated in-person guidance that can allow in-person services to resume immediately and are rescinding the guidance posted Friday, November 20, 2020.

EI Providers and families can work together to resume in-person services following the updated guidance posted on September 19, 2020 until the guidelines created from the workgroup meeting on November 24, 2020 can be vetted through the appropriate channels. The updated guidelines will provide information about considerations for in-person service delivery to ensure both EI Providers and families are making an informed consent and are aware of the risks and ramifications based on current, localized data available from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

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

We are very thankful for the continued input from stakeholders and the dedication of everyone in the EI community! Please continue to monitor the changing conditions in your region. Awareness is a critical step in stopping the spread. Stay Safe and have a very Happy Thanksgiving! We are stronger together!