



**Thank you to everyone who wrote letters
and contacted your legislators!**



The Joint committee on Ways and Means has recommended to pass House Bill 5016 which includes a \$3.5 Million Dollar increase in funding for Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education.

Unfortunately, we have more work to do because that won't adequately cover caseload increases and definitely can't increase services levels to recommended levels.

Are you looking for
WAYS TO GET INVOLVED ?



The **SICC**

needs **YOU!**

Opportunity

for parents and professionals

...to work together benefiting
Infants • Toddlers • Preschoolers
with

diverse-abilities!

For SICC meeting times and locations please contact:

Mindy Cordsen

ODE/SICC Support

mindy.cordsen@state.or.us

(503) 947-5731

Visit us on the web at:

<http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=1229>

As a member of the SICC you will:

- Gain a better understanding of the EI/ECSE programs
- Advise on the improvement of services
- Increase your awareness of concerns affecting statewide EI/ECSE programs
- Represent parents of young children in EI/ECSE programs
- Become advocates for all children with special needs throughout Oregon

Benefits of SICC:

- Networking with parents and representatives from the community
- Increasing opportunities for creative problem solving
- Connect with Local Interagency Coordinating Council

July 2015

Oregon AEI's letter from the Coordinator

Summer is here! Hope you had a great 4th of July with your families. Make sure to check out some of the fun summer activities that the family networks are putting on this summer.

Thank you to everyone who came and met us in Salem and those who wrote letters. Your time was well spent.

Like us on Facebook for up to date information and fun articles throughout the summer.

<http://www.facebook.com/OregonAEI>

Also find us on our website:

<http://www.oregonaei.org>

Read about one family's transition from EI/ECSE on page 2!



Have you tried VROOM yet?

How does Daily Vroom work?

You can sign up in seconds and get brain building activities based on your child's age, right in the palm of your hand. This can become a fun ritual to do with your little one as they get big!

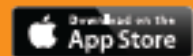
You have what it takes to be a brain builder!

Download the free -DailyVroom- mobile app to get bite sized activities that fit into your daily routine. So whether it's meal time, 🍴 bathtime 🛁 or anytime in between, you can turn everyday moments into brain **Building** moments!

Learn more about how to be a brain builder at www.joinvroom.org

download
-DailyVroom-

download our free app



One Family's Transition Story







My daughter transitioned into a school in the 4J school district in 2013. I was lucky enough to have a fantastic team! My daughter experiences autism and when we transitioned her the whole team showed up! That included her staff from her daycare, the autism consultant, her teacher, and all the staff involved from the school district (school psychologist, autism specialist, OT and special education teacher). They offered placement at her neighborhood school and at another school very close to us. The alternate school offered more supports for children that experience autism, so we chose that school. I also had contacted an advocate from Direction Services. They helped my family and I make a decision that best fit our needs.

Once children move from an IFSP to an IEP, the family piece drops out. You really feel that missing piece in the first year. Accessing resources is more challenging and her service coordinator only coordinates her needs in the classroom. I missed the home visits and all the parent education I received from EI/ECSE. My child's first year of kindergarten proved to be challenging, as some things I had requested (such as an augmentative communication evaluation) were not followed through on. I had to advocate for my child and access my resources at Direction Services. I also consulted with other parents that have been through the process. I found others' stories most helpful and encouraging.

My daughter is now in first grade and we have worked out many of the kinks. She is in a classroom with her peers with appropriate supports. I really feel that she is so successful because of the advocacy from my family, school teachers, specialists and Direction Services.

Kindergarten transitions can be most stressful for the family! I remember thinking "She's not ready!!!" When, indeed she was. It was me that was not ready. I recommend that you access your resources for advocacy (family, other families, Direction Services, EI/ECSE staff) and do regular check-ins at the school. I take my daughter to school every morning, which gives me an opportunity to make connections with teachers, school staff and other children in the classroom. I am very happy with her placement and feel that she is very well supported due to my diligence of being involved with the school and help from the community.

Family Network Events and Trainings

<p>CODSN http://www.codsn.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to AAC: Parts 1-3 Bend, OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - July 23rd 5:30-7:00pm Part 1 - July 28th 5:30-7:00pm Part 2 - July 30th 5:30-7:00pm Part 3 • Ladies who Lunch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - July 16th 11:30-1:00pm: Jackson Corner East 	<p>FACT http://factoregon.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Pool Party: Portland, OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - July 18th 5:30-7:30pm • Dream Builders Alliance: 3 sessions Portland, OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - July 7th 6-8:30 pm - July 21st 6-8:30 pm - Aug 4th 6-8:30 pm • Smart Start Kickoff to Kindergarten <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - July 7th Medford, OR 6:00-8:00 pm - July 21st Medford, OR 6:00-8:00 pm <p>Information/Registration 1 (888) 988-3228</p>
<p>ROCCOS http://roccosfamilynetwork.org/</p>  <p>For more information about upcoming events contact Dana at: dana@roccosfamilynetwork.org</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities http://www.creatingops.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Support Group : July 14th McMinnville, OR 5:30pm-7:30pm • Late Morning Coffee Meeting : July 10th Polk County: 10:00am • Ice Cream Social Meet and Greet Yamhill: July 2nd 1-3:00pm Marion: July 10th 1-3:00pm Polk: July 17th 1-3:00pm
<p>Families Connected http://www.arclane.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families Connected Summer Co-op Multiple dates throughout summer, fun family activities: Contact Laura for more information. Contact: Laura.dahill@arclane.org 	<p>Families for Community http://familiesforcommunity.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TGIF Bowling, Fridays at 4pm Lava Lanes, Medford • Social Skills and Interventions Training: July 2nd 4-6:00pm • Family BBQ Day: July 25th 1:30-3:30 Don Jones Memorial Park <p>Contact: http://familiesforcommunity.org</p>

Events and Trainings Around Oregon

Swindells Resource Center:

- For complete events list see: <http://oregon.providence.org/our-services/s/swindells-resource-center/events/>

Oregon Technical Assistance Commission

- For complete events list see: <https://otac.quickbase.com/db/bc7mmze9k?a=q&qid=129>

Autism Society of Oregon- ASO

- For complete events list see: <http://autismsocietyoregon.org/news-and-events/>