Early Intervention:

The Early Intervention Department received 65 referrals in the month of September.

Special Instructor Gayle Nugent has recently reached “fidelity” in Coaching, which is the required method of service delivery of Early Intervention services to families and caregivers of infants and toddlers. She has been going through intensive training through Early Intervention Technical Assistance sponsored by the Office of Child Development and Early Learning along with various other EI Providers across the state. She will soon begin training other providers to bring them to “fidelity”.

Early Intervention Providers and Service Coordinators have recently been mandated by OCDEL to record and update their education, licenses, clearances, and trainings in the PA Professional Development Registry, a statewide database. This allows information about providers to be readily shared and monitored by county EI programs.

Developmental Services:

The Regional Collaborative is hosting a Virtual Sing-A-Long and Down Syndrome Awareness event in October. The Collaborative also located a virtual exercise program offered by the Spirit Club. This exercise program offers personal training, virtual exercise classes, and other wellness opportunities for people with disabilities. The department is in the process of entering a partnership so that the Spirit Club can be funded through our FSS program.

The Administrative Entity received an increase to our Community Living Waiver capacity. Thirty-two Community Living Waivers were provided to support individuals on the waiting list with an emergent need who do not currently have supports, as well as individuals who have consistently exhausted their PFDS budget cap.

Personnel:

Carbon County’s SC Supervisor Stephanie Zimmerman submitted a letter of resignation, effective October 5, 2021. Interviews are scheduled for early October to fill this vacancy. Monroe County continues to have one vacancy for a Supports Coordinator. Interviews are also scheduled for this vacancy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy Trautman

DS Deputy Administrator