

## LICC CHILD FIND PLAN 07-08

### 0-3:

239 children were referred; 167(70%) completed the evaluation process. Of that 167, 132 were found eligible with 125 IFSPs completed. 5 families chose to enroll in Tracking services and 2 families declined both aspects of the early intervention program. 35 children (15%) were determined to not be eligible for active early intervention services. 13 children in this group were found to be eligible for Tracking services - 7 families chose this option and 6 declined Tracking services.

Of the remaining 71 referrals, 1 family (.04%) chose to enroll their child into Tracking services having been offered an evaluation to determine eligibility for services and knowing that their child was already determined to have met criteria for Tracking services. 4 children moved out of county between the referral being made and the Service Coordinator contacting the family. 35 families did not respond to our attempts to contact them. 22 families responded to contact declining services. 10 families withdrew. The last three figures represent **28% of referrals**.

In comparing the above numbers to the 05-06 fiscal year, it is found that the numbers are similar overall with there being a decrease of 10 in the number referred. The number served also decreased by 10. The reason for the decrease is unclear. Referral source data cannot be compared to the 05-06 referral source data as data on the originating referral source was required beginning 06-07. One must remember that early intervention is voluntary and therefore the role of parent choice in choosing early intervention is significant.

According to projection figures compiled for each county by the PA Early Intervention System Demographic Study, the following numbers should have been served in fiscal year 06-07:

Columbia County - 95 (112)  
Montour County - 57 (18)  
Snyder County - 72 (55)  
Union County - 67 (58)

The numbers in ( ) are the numbers actually served during fiscal year 2006-2007.

For fiscal year 07-08, the projected number of children to be served in our counties:

Columbia - 102  
Montour - 66  
Snyder - 78  
Union - 70

According to the Department of Health's website, 2005 vital statistics, 660 infants were born in Columbia County, 209 in Montour County, 458 in Snyder County and 404 in Union County to women of all ages. These figures represent about 1% of each county's population. The majority of infants born are Caucasian. 22 infants born were black and 41 infants were of other races. 6 infants died at <28 days old and 2 died between 28 days and 364 days. There was no death statistics available on Montour County.

### 3-5:

In the PA Early Intervention Demographic Study, several questions were raised regarding those children referred to 3-5 who had not been involved who had not received services previously. As a beginning attempt to address some of the questions raised in the study, it has been determined to look more closely at the children being referred between 3- 4 years.

According to referral information, 116 children were referred in this age group where the referral did not come from 0-3. The chart below shows the referrals according to school district and referral source.

	Hospital	Physician	Parent	Child care	Early childhood environment	Local Ed Agency	Social Service
Benton			1		3		
Berwick			5	3	10		1
Bloomsburg	1	1	4	1	8		
Central		2	3	1	1		
Danville			2	2	8	1	
Lewisburg			3	1	3	1	
Midd West		1	3	3	3	1	3
Mifflinburg		2	4		4		
Millville					2		
Selinsgrove	1	1	3	2	10	1	1
Southern		1	3		1		

Some of the variables not known include: 1) the number of children transferring in with an IEP already in place; 2) number of families moving into the area whose children are in need of services; 3) referring reasons. It is known that there were a minimum of 33 potential referrals from 0-3. Children in this group include: 1) 13 children (2+) were not eligible for 0-3 services at the time of the evaluation; 2) 6 referrals (2+) that did not respond to contact; 3) 7 referrals (2+) that declined pursuing evaluation at time of 0-3 referral.

## DEPT OF HEALTH:

Concern has been expressed with the 2005 tested for lead statistics report issued recently. The report addressed those children from birth through 71 months (<6 yrs) who were tested for lead. According to data that the Dept of Health has collected, the number of children identified with a lead level of 10 or more is: Columbia County 48, Montour County 2, Snyder County 16 and Union County 15. Dept of Health staff believe that these numbers are not indicative of the population of children residing in the counties as the following percentages were reported as being tested (based on 2004 estimated population): Columbia County 13.33 %, Montour County 8.77 %, Snyder County 10.08 % and Union County 16.35 %. The report does not include information regarding the paying source for the testing (EPSDT vs. private insurance) or the criteria that was used in determining who should be tested. It is believed that two things are occurring. One, not all children in this age group are being tested. Two, not all children with a lead level of 10 or greater are being identified. It is estimated that 75% of homes in Columbia County and 70% of homes in Montour, Snyder and Union Counties were built prior to 1970 and therefore would have had lead paint used in them (based on 2000 Census data). There are many sources of lead exposure: paint, marine paint, shooting ranges, home reloading of bullets, shot, etc, certain hobbies such as stained glass window making, older toys, recently recalled toys, unglazed pottery or pottery from other countries prior to lead free paints being used, and so on.

## HEAD START:

Each Head Start office develops a plan to meet Head Start regulations for Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance (ERSEA). Each Head Start office will continue to collaborative with area agencies, medical groups and community networking as part of their recruitment efforts. Each Head Start office also serves as a referral source for CSIU as they provide developmental screenings and evaluations. Each Head Start office also bears in mind those families with younger siblings and provides information on 0-3 early intervention services when appropriate.

## PLAN:

- 1) While conducting CMSU child find activities, information is shared with agencies and other programs regarding LICC child find/public awareness. Therefore, part of this plan will include activities specified in CMSU's child find plan. Anyone desiring those specifics can contact, Becky Laubach, CMSU Early Intervention Supervisor. .
- 2) CSIU will continue to look at the needs of the children in any given area to determine the types of service delivery systems (itinerant or early care and education settings) required to meet their educational needs.
- 3) DOH would like to include in physician outreach information on lead including the AAP guidelines regarding testing.
- 4) DOH will also share information that can be shared with families and child care programs on lead. They are also willing to do trainings to help educate on lead.