

## **Some Web Based Resources on Outcomes Measurement and Results Based Accountability in Early Childhood**

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### **IDEA 2004 Accountability**

#### **The Early Childhood Outcomes Center (ECO) Web Site**

The ECO Center was funded by the Office of Special Education Programs to develop an approach for collecting data on child and family outcomes for the Part C early intervention and Part B preschool programs of IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act). The ECO Center seeks to promote the development and implementation of child and family outcome measures for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities that can be used in local, state, and national accountability systems. The ECO web site is an essential resource and includes articles, resources, presentations, and late-breaking news about outcomes measurements systems in early childhood.

<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/pages/overview.cfm>

<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/pages/whatsnew.cfm>

#### **The National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC) Web Site**

The NECTAC supports the implementation of the early childhood provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Their mission is to strengthen service systems to ensure that children with disabilities (birth through five) and their families receive and benefit from high quality, culturally appropriate, and family-centered supports and services. Their web site includes a treasure trove of useful information, announcements, publications, resources, and essential links related to early intervention and preschool special education.

<http://www.nectac.org/>

#### **Part C and Part B State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Review Resources:**

Part C SPP SPP/APR Web Site: <http://www.federalresourcecenter.org/frc/sppc.htm>

Part B SPP SPP/APR Web Site: <http://www.federalresourcecenter.org/frc/sppb.htm>

#### **SPP/APR Information and Materials**

This page of the Regional Resource and Federal Centers (RRFC) Network web site has links to current materials discussed on the SPP/APR TA Call on August 10th, 2006.

<http://www.rfcnetwork.org/content/view/248/358/>

#### **Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) Letters and Annual Performance Report (APR) Letters**

The Office of Special Education Programs' responses to the Lead Agency's SPP and APRs will be posted on this page as letters are issued.

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/data/report/idea/partcspap/index.html>

#### **Part B State Performance Plans (SPP) Letters and Annual Performance Report (APR) Letters**

The Office of Special Education Programs' responses to the States' SPP and APRs will be posted on this page as letters are issued.

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/data/report/idea/partbspap/index.html>

### **U.S. Department of Education FY 2007 Program Performance Plan**

This FY 2007 Program Performance Plan presents the individual program performance plans, which align to the individual program's provisions and the audience that it serves. In addition, selected measures from these plans have been identified as key measures at the strategic level: <http://www.ed.gov/about/reports/annual/2007plan/program.html>

These strategic-level measures are presented in the *FY 2007 Performance Plan* at: <http://www.ed.gov/about/reports/annual/2007plan/index.html>

### **OMB's Program Assessment Rating Tool**

#### **PART Summaries**

Both one-page summaries and more in-depth reports of the most recent PART assessments for both Part C (IDEA Grants for Infants and Families) and Preschool Special Education Section 619 of Part B (IDEA Preschool Grants) can be accessed in the PART Department of Education reports at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2005/part.html>.

#### **ExpectMore.gov**

The content on ExpectMore.gov is developed by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget and Federal agencies. On this site you will find ratings for all federal programs on the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART).

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/index.html>

**Performance Budgeting: PART Focuses Attention on Program Performance, but More Can Be Done to Engage Congress.** GAO-06-28, October 28. <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-28>

Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d0628high.pdf>

**Program Evaluation: OMB's PART Reviews Increased Agencies' Attention to Improving Evidence of Program Results.** GAO-06-67, October 28. <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-67>

Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d0667high.pdf>

### **Government Performance Results Act of 1993 (GPRA)**

#### **GPRA (Statute):**

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/mgmt-gpra/gplaw2m.html>

#### **Senate Committee on Government Affairs GPRA Report:**

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/mgmt-gpra/gprptm.html>

#### **GAO Reports on the Government Performance and Results Act:**

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/gpra/gpra.htm>

### **Interesting Documents**

#### **Considerations Related to Developing a System for Measuring Outcomes for Young Children with Disabilities and Their Families, Third Version**

April 2004, Produced by The Early Childhood Outcomes Center

This document presents a framework for thinking about the key considerations related to the development of a system for measuring outcomes. Examples of key decisions that must be made are presented. This document is a "living draft" and is being revised on a regular basis.

<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/pdfs/considerations.pdf>

### **Family and Child Outcomes for Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education**

April 2005, Produced by The Early Childhood Outcomes Center

The family and child outcomes in this document are the product of the initial step in developing an approach for collecting data on child and family outcomes for the Part C early intervention and Part B preschool programs of IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act). The outcomes were developed through a year-long consensus-building process that involved input from and review by numerous stakeholders, including federal, state, and local policy-makers and administrators, local providers, family members of children with disabilities, and researchers.

[http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/pdfs/eco\\_outcomes\\_4-13-05.pdf](http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/pdfs/eco_outcomes_4-13-05.pdf)

### **Family Outcomes of Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education: Issues and Considerations**

January 2005, Produced by The Early Childhood Outcomes Center

The ECO Center prepared this paper to provide a review of information relevant to developing family outcomes for Part C and Preschool Part B. It also contains a summary of various frameworks that have been developed for family outcomes including examples of outcomes.

[http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/pdfs/Family\\_Outcomes\\_Issues\\_01-17-05.pdf](http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/pdfs/Family_Outcomes_Issues_01-17-05.pdf)

### **Issues in Designing State Accountability Systems**

Harbin, G., Rous, B. & McLean, M. (2005), *Journal of Early Intervention*, 27(3), 137-164.

The purpose of this document is to provide a resource for state policy makers and researchers who are interested in collaboratively designing and implementing rigorous and systematic accountability models that yield accurate data.

[http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/pdfs/Issues\\_in\\_Accountability.pdf](http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/pdfs/Issues_in_Accountability.pdf)

### **Implementing Results-Based Decision Making: Advice from the Field**

1999 By Sara Watson

A joint publication of the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices and The Finance Project, this report is based on extensive interviews and discussion with more than 50 leaders in the field providing advice on measuring the success of their supports for children and families by the results or outcomes they achieve for individuals, families and communities. It covers various dimensions of results-based decision-making, including strategic planning which logically connects strategies to the outcomes.

<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/pdfs/1999WELFAREBARRIERS.pdf>

### **Child Outcomes Think Tank**

(August 2005) NECTAC hosted a discussion with a small group of individuals with various perspectives (OSEP, GSEG consultants, GSEG state staff, National TA providers) on the topic of measuring early childhood outcomes. The purpose of the discussion was to share experiences, and exchange information and ideas that could later be summarized and used to support other states working on developing an outcomes measurement system.

<http://www.nectac.org/~pdfs/topics/Quality/Agendaforweb.pdf>

### **Accountability in Early Childhood: No Easy Answers**

By Sam Meisels

An Occasional Paper published by the Herr Research Center for Children and Social Policy of the Erikson Institute.

<http://www.erikson.edu/files/nonimages/opmeisels2006.pdf>