



CENTENNIAL INFANT AND CHILD CENTRE

(for children with special needs)

1580 Yonge Street • Toronto, Ontario M4T 1Z8 • (416) 935-0200 • Fax: (416) 935-0300

Early Intervention Program

Description of Service

The purpose of our program is to support children from birth to five years old who have delays in two or more areas of development. We provide this service by visiting the child's family or caregiver in their home or community setting and offering suggestions and activities to support the child's development in all areas, ie: expressive and receptive communication, gross and fine motor skills, social/emotional, cognitive and self-help skills. There is no charge for this service. This program is funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. If French language services are required, please contact Centre francophone at 416-922-2672.

Our Early Childhood Interventionist (EI staff) starts by visiting the family or caregiver to talk about their concerns and to observe the child(ren). During those visits, we present information about infant and child development. Together with the family or caregiver, we monitor the child's development and create a family service plan that sets goals for each area of development. Once the plan is completed the EI staff visits every few weeks. The visit is usually about one hour long.

We show the family or caregiver how to play with their child, use developmentally appropriate toys and other everyday activities to encourage development. If needed, we may also consult with our Occupational Therapist or Speech/Language Pathologist for more suggestions. We can also lend toys and equipment that might be helpful. Depending on the family's needs and wants, we can also help to plan the child's entry into programs such as daycare, school or other programs.

This program is voluntary. The parents or caregiver always takes the lead in making decisions including whether to continue in the program. Our job is to work with the family to support the child. We depend on them to share their observations and to follow-up on the activities.

We can suggest or make referrals to other agencies or child development specialists. We also work with other professionals involved with the family, including scheduling joint visits together.

If you have any further questions, please contact, Kim Clarke, Manager of Community Programs, at 416-935-0200, ext. 246 or kclarke@cicc.on.ca