

Research shows that children are more successful in school when their families are involved in their development and education.

For children with disabilities, the importance of parent involvement can be even greater.

Very often, parents are the only or best source of information about their child's strengths and the impact a disability has on their child's development or learning ability. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) mandates that parents be equal members on the team that evaluates their child's abilities and creates an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Program (IEP) to meet the unique needs of their child.

The Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services monitors and supports local Infants and Toddlers Programs and local school systems to ensure compliance with IDEA and supports the full participation of families in planning early intervention and special education.

## Family Support Services For Families of Children With Disabilities, Birth Through 21

Maryland has Family Support Services coordinators in each jurisdiction that assist families of children with disabilities ages birth through 21. A directory of local family support services may be found on the Web at [www.mdecgateway.org](http://www.mdecgateway.org). If you need further assistance or information about identifying children with disabilities, call us toll free: 1-800-535-0182.

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Parent involvement in planning your child's IFSP or IEP is essential!



- Would you like to have information about early intervention or special education?
- Would you like to have support and resources to help you assist your child with a disability or delay at home or in school?

Call us! 1-800-535-0182



MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services

## Maryland's Network of Family Support Services Coordinators

### The Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services

maintains a network of local Family Support Services Coordinators that assist parents of children with disabilities to fully participate in planning early intervention and special education services for their child.

- **Family Support Network** coordinators for families of children ages Birth to 3 years
- **Preschool Partners** coordinators for families of children ages 3 to 5 years
- **Partners for Success** coordinators for families of children ages 3 to 21 years

Family support services coordinators are available in each Maryland jurisdiction to:

Answer questions about early intervention and special education services • Help foster connections among families • Provide resources and lend library materials • Organize parent trainings • Facilitate parent support groups • Support families in planning for transitions • Informally assist parents in resolving concerns with local early intervention systems and local school systems • Provide information about Maryland's formal process for resolving disputes with local early intervention systems and local school systems.

Family support services coordinators are excited to assist families of children with disabilities. **Call us!**

Directory of Local Family Support Services Coordinators			
Jurisdiction	Family Support Network Ages Birth to 3	Preschool Partners Ages 3 through 5	Partners For Success Ages 3 to 21
Allegany County	240-920-6829	240-920-6829	240-920-6829
Anne Arundel County	443-510-4591	410-222-3805	410-222-3805
Baltimore City	410-396-1666	443-642-4218	443-642-4218
Baltimore County	410-887-2169	410-887-5443	410-887-5443
Calvert County	410-535-7387	410-535-7387	410-535-7387
Caroline County	410-479-3609	410-479-3609	410-479-3609
Carroll County	410-876-4437	410-751-3955	410-751-3955
Cecil County	410-996-5637	410-996-5637	410-996-5637
Charles County	301-934-7456	301-934-7456	301-934-7456
Dorchester County	410-901-6915	410-901-6915	410-901-6915
Frederick County	301-600-1617	301-600-1617	240-236-8744
Garrett County	301-334-8119	301-334-8119	301-533-0240
Harford County	410-638-3823	410-638-3823	410-273-5579
Howard County	410-313-7161	410-313-7161	410-313-7161
Kent County	410-778-5708	410-778-5708	410-778-5708
Montgomery County	240-777-4809	240-777-4809	301-279-3100
Prince George's County	301-883-7428	301-883-7428	301-431-5675
Queen Anne's County	410-827-4629, ext. 149	410-827-4629, ext. 149	410-758-3693
Somerset County	410-651-9413	410-651-9413	410-651-9413
St. Mary's County	301-231-4188	301-231-4188	301-863-4069
Talbot County	410-820-6904	410-820-6904	410-820-6904
Washington County	301-766-8221	301-766-8221	301-766-8221
Wicomico County	410-677-5250	410-677-5250	410-677-5250
Worcester County	410-632-5234	410-632-5234	410-632-5234
Statewide Family Support Services Coordinators			
Maryland School For the Blind			1-800-400-4519 ext. 489
Maryland School For the Deaf			443-277-8899
Maryland State Department of Education Family Support Services (including dedicated support for Maryland military families and families of detained and committed youth)			1-800-535-0182