

**Arkansas Department of Education - Special Education Unit
Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities
Early Childhood, January 2019**

Current Activities of Early Childhood Program Advisor/619 Coordinator:

- Attends quarterly Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) and leading the membership drive initiative
- Presented Child Outcomes Summary process, for Arch Ford Educational Service Cooperative in October
- Continues building conversations related to itinerant early childhood special education services with other states that have established effective technical assistance for early childhood educators
- Will attend the Part C and 619 Think Tank: Developing Leadership Tools session in Avon, Connecticut
- Continues working to support districts and cooperatives regarding DDS policy changes
 - CHMS (Child Health Management Services) and DDTCS (Developmental Day Treatment Clinic Services) have been retired and replaced with (EIDT) Early Intervention Day Treatment programs. A developmental screening performed by DHS' Third Party Assessor is an additional eligibility criteria that has been added as of July 1, 2018. To receive EIDT services, the child must have a documented disability or delay, as shown on the newly required annual comprehensive developmental evaluation. In addition to having a developmental disability or delay, the child must now have a documented need for at least one therapy. (Physical, Occupational, Speech, or Nursing Services)

Statewide Collaboration Projects

- ELAN (Equity Leaders Action Network) led by Headstart
 - Inequities in preschool services for african american boys
- AAIMH (Arkansas Association of Infant Mental Health)
 - Mental health needs of infants through preschool and supports available
- Project LAUNCH
 - Developing state and local networks to improve the coordination of the early child-serving system, in particular behavioral health and primary care services, and enhance the practices, programs, and services for young children and their families
- IDEA Early Childhood Inclusion Community led by Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) Center
 - Enhance awareness and improve inclusive practices