

WHAT IF MY CHILD NEEDS OTHER SERVICES?

If you and your EIP team feel it is necessary, consultation and assessment are also available for:

- Pediatric Dietitian
- Pediatric Psychologist
- Visual Impairment Consultant

HOW IS A CHILD REFERRED?

Referrals can be made directly by the child's guardians. Physicians and family service providers may also refer but intervention will not proceed without the family's consent. Telephone referrals are accepted by contacting:

INTAKE SERVICES

Phone: (250) 519-6763 or 519-6967

Fax: (250) 519-6918

Location: Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health, 2400 Arbutus Road, Victoria, BC.

Please note:

EIP will not accept referrals after **March 1st** of the year the child is eligible for Kindergarten.

WHEN TO REFER ELSEWHERE

- If speech/language development is the sole concern for a child 0-5, call your local health unit: www.viha.ca/locations/health_units.
- If challenging behaviours are the only concern, referrals are only accepted for supported child development consultation at the child's preschool or daycare.
- For mental health supports, contact your local Child & Youth Mental Health Office at www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/mental_health/contacts.

- We do not offer psychology services unless the child qualifies for our other therapy services. If the only service required is psychology, families may need to access private service providers.
- If nutrition is the sole concern, call HealthLink BC (811) and ask to speak to a dietitian.
- Families who identify as Aboriginal can access infant and supported child development services through the Early Childhood Program of the Victoria Native Friendship Centre. Services of OT, PT and SLP are provided by the Early Intervention Program. We work very closely with the Friendship Centre staff when we are both involved.

OUR FUNDERS

Our program is jointly funded by Island Health and the Ministry for Child and Family Development's Children and Youth with Special Needs branch.

We also receive generous support from Children's Health Foundation of Vancouver Island. Visit: www.childrenshealthvi.org.



Early Intervention Program

Call:
250-519-6763
or
250-519-6967

Early Intervention Program

*Our Vision:
Children, youth and families
actively participating in the
community.*





WHAT IS THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM (EIP)?

EIP provides services to children aged birth to five years of age, who live in Greater Victoria and the Southern Gulf Islands. Services are organized into four regional teams, each providing family-centered intervention services for children with a wide range of developmental needs.

Services are provided in the child's home, daycare, preschool, community program or at one of our four office locations:

- Queen Alexandra Centre
- Saanich Peninsula Health Unit
- Parkes Tillicum Recreation Centre
- Westshore Child, Youth & Family Centre

WHAT SERVICES DOES EIP OFFER?

Assessment, consultation, direct intervention and developmental monitoring are available. Ongoing education and information groups are also offered. The services required is determined in consultation with the family as part of the assessment process.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Infants and young children develop best in nurturing and responsive relationships, within supportive environments. Our staff work with your family to develop the skills needed to support your child's optimal development. What this looks like depends on your family's needs. At different times it can be any one of the following;

- Developmental monitoring via questionnaire and/or home visits
- Direct one-to-one supports for skill development
- Group Instruction with the child, parent(s) or both
- Consultation to your child's preschool/daycare staff
- Specialized assessment by our team or other consulting services
- Use of specialized equipment
- Family support/education groups

MEMBERS OF THE EIP TEAM:

The child and family is the core of every team. We also add the following disciplines to your child's team as needed:

Infant Development Consultant (IDC): provides support and information to your family to encourage all aspects of your child's early development. IDCs are knowledgeable in all domains of a child's life from birth to age three. Babies born with medical concerns, prematurity or those at risk for developmental challenges may be followed by one of our infant development consultants. This service is only for children 0-3 years of age.

Social Worker: provides parenting support, service coordination and short term counselling while working with families to obtain the resources and supports they need.

Occupational Therapist (OT): supports children with developmental concerns and their families to help maximize their child's participation in daily living activities. OTs focus on fine motor, sensory-motor, and functional play skills, specialized equipment, and environmental modification

Physiotherapist (PT): looks at a child's physical development and ability to move. PTs aim to prevent, assess and treat the impact that injury and medical conditions have on a child's movement and function. They work with children to help them move and play within their environment and assist with adapting the environment to support a child's specific needs.

Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP): supports the family's efforts to help their child communicate. This includes understanding other people or communicating through verbal speech, gestures, sign language or pictures. SLPs also address social communication, play and feeding.

Supported Child Development Consultant (SCD): works in partnership with preschool and daycare settings to ensure the inclusion of children with extra support needs.

