

Current Opportunities in North Carolina to Tell Your Story, Use Your Voice and/or Participate in Leadership Activities:

Access Family Support Health Information Center – *My Child* is a monthly newsletter offering information and resources. It is published through the Access Family Support Health Information Center. The health information center is a collaboration between Family Support Network™ of the Greater Triangle, an affiliate of Family Support Network™ of North Carolina, and Family Resource Center South Atlantic Family to Family Health Information Center. *My Child* is currently seeking parents of children/youth with special health needs to share their stories of challenges, tears, and triumphs. Please send all inquiries to hic@frcsa.org. Put “Health Information Center” as the subject line.

<https://f2fsupport.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/November-2020-My-Child-Newsletter.pdf>

Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC) - Local Interagency Coordinating Councils (LICCs) are community-based advisory groups. Each county should have a LICC. Local service providers and parents work together to make sure that all families know about early intervention services. To find your LICC, Contact NC ICC Coordinator at 919-707-5528 for more information.

<https://beearly.nc.gov/index.php/icc/licc>

North Carolina Interagency Coordinating Council – The Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) brings policy makers, service providers, and parents together. It serves young children with disabilities and developmental delays, and their families. Its members work to ensure that the supports and services offered to families are in line with their needs. The ICC meets quarterly in Raleigh. **These meetings are currently being held virtually.** Contact NC ICC Coordinator at 919-707-5528 for more information.

<https://beearly.nc.gov/index.php/icc/icc>

NC Child Parent Advisory Board – Now accepting new members! NC Child’s Parent Advisory Council is an advocacy group of parents and caregivers from across the state whose children rely on Medicaid for their health care. The goal of the Parent Advisory Council is to ensure that the true experts on Medicaid and NC Health Choice have a say in how these critical programs work for North Carolina’s children. To learn more about the Parent Advisory Council, please reach out to La-Mine Perkins, NC Child’s Community Engagement Specialist at lamine@ncchild.org.

<https://ncchild.org/about-us/our-people/parent-advisory-council/>

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities – NCCDD always welcomes the public’s voice. NCCDD looks for feedback from the community and people they serve. They host important listening sessions across the State that encourage people to voice their opinions on disability issues that affect them the most.

<https://nccdd.org/public-policy/take-action-now.html>

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Council on Educational Services for Exceptional Children - The Council on Educational Services for Exceptional Children (Council) is established as an Advisory Council to the State Board of Education. "Public comments are an essential and necessary part of CESEC fulfilling its role to advise the State Board of Education with respect to the unmet needs of children with special needs in the state of North Carolina. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit written comments at any time or attend the CESEC's quarterly meetings and register for public comment. Thirty minutes will be reserved on the CESEC agenda for public input at each meeting. All written comments must be received by at CESEC@dpi.nc.gov or Danyelle Sanders, Exceptional Children Division, 6356 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-6356 by 4 pm, 10 business days prior to the quarterly CESEC meeting. Any comments submitted after that time will be read and/or distributed at a later date."

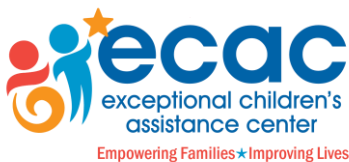
<https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/advisory-council/public-comment>

NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) Exceptional Children (EC) Division - State Performance Plan opportunities for Stakeholders - The NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) is responsible for developing the State Performance Plan (SPP) with strategies to improve and measure outcomes for students with disabilities. Just as parents are a critical part of the IEP team in developing their child's IEP, parents are needed on this team in developing the State Performance Plan (SPP). This plan will be submitted to the US Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs for review. There are two virtual stakeholder meetings each month from April-November, 2021. For schedule and login information, please contact NCDPI State Systemic Improvement Plan Coordinator, Lauren Holahan at lauren.holahan@dpi.nc.gov

North Carolina Infant Toddler Program invites all families currently receiving or recently exited from early intervention services to share their story. They may even feature your story on their website, with permission of course. You can email them at bearlync@dhhs.nc.gov or click on this graphic →→→→ at the bottom of their website.



<https://bearly.nc.gov/>



ECAC Opportunities – Are you interested in submitting your story, or a guest blog or awareness article for our newsletter, website or facebook? Please submit your request to: acombs@ecacmail.org

Are you interested in participating in a Focus Group, Family Advisory Board or Parent Panel? Please submit your letter of interest to: kmontague@ecacmail

Are you interested in serving on the ECAC Board? Please submit your request to: lweber@ecacmail.org