## Our Mission

Region 7 early intervention is dedicated to providing supports to families and community partners so that ALL children have the same learning opportunities and parents become decision makers and leaders in the child's learning. This is accomplished through a strong commitment to teaming, coaching, and principles of evidence-based practices.


**Early Development Network**
**Early Intervention Program**
3806 Howard Boulevard
Columbus, NE 68601
1.800.564.2805 or 402.564.4497
Website: http://sites.esu7.org/edn/


Early Development Network
Babies Can't Wait

# Do you have questions about your child's development?

## The Early Intervention Program can help you.

Early Development Network
Babies Can't Wait

## What is the Early Intervention Program?

The early intervention program can answer questions and provide you with information about your child's development.

If you are concerned about your child, you can call to have your child's development assessed and determine if they qualify for early intervention services.

The Educational Service Unit 7 area serves children (birth to 5 years) and their families living in Colfax, Butler, Polk, Merrick, Nance, Boone and Platte counties at no cost to families. This program is publicly funded through your local school district.

## How do I get started?

Anyone can make a referral with parental consent by calling the Early Development Network at **402-564-4497** or your local school district.

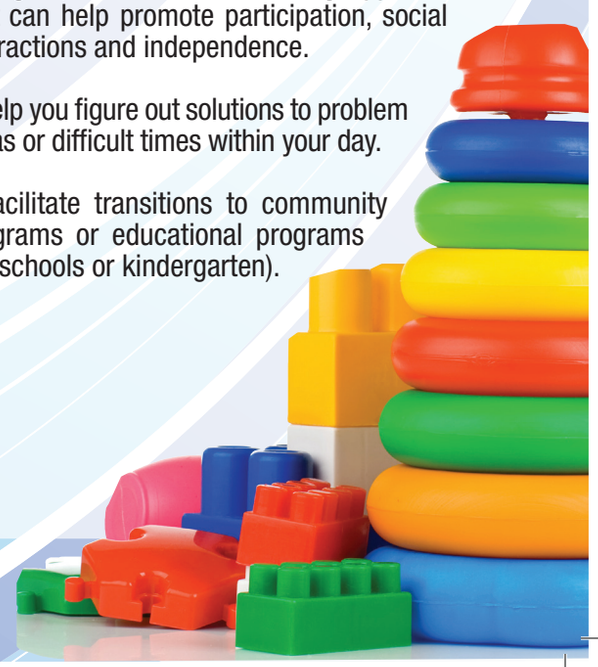
Children who may be eligible can include (but are not limited to) those with:

- challenging behaviors
- difficulties socializing and playing
- medical conditions (i.e. prematurity, syndromes)
- speech & language delays
- vision or hearing loss

Any of these may affect his/her ability to participate in activities with their family, peers or community.

First, families who have children birth through age three are connected with a Services Coordinator who can assist you in finding needed resources (i.e. financial, medical, educational, etc.) Then, a team of highly qualified & experienced professionals will gather information to assess your child's development and participation. This process will consider your satisfaction with their participation and prioritize what is important to you. The team will review results with you and discuss whether your child will qualify for early intervention. This service is paid for by your local school district at no cost to you.

## How can The Early Intervention Program Help Me?

**Your provider or services coordinator will...**

- provide you with information about your child's development, their particular disability, what to do with your child to help them participate and learn, and available resources.
- help you access basic necessities, materials and equipment, and financial resources.
- be positive, responsive, friendly and sensitive as they help you reduce stress, promote positive parent-child interactions, & make connections to other families.
- help you identify current formal and informal supports you have or need for your family.
- talk with you and other important people in your child's life (such as a childcare provider or teacher, grandparents, etc.) about his/her strengths, interests and learning opportunities that can help promote participation, social interactions and independence.
- help you figure out solutions to problem areas or difficult times within your day.
- facilitate transitions to community programs or educational programs (preschools or kindergarten).