



Relationship-Based Early Intervention in Natural Environments Using Evidence-Based Practices

Wisconsin Birth to 3 Mission: *The Birth to 3 Program is committed to children under the age of three with developmental delays and disabilities and their families. We value the family's primary relationship with their child and work in partnership with the family. We work to enhance the child's development and support the family's knowledge, skills, and abilities as they interact with and raise their child.*

Crossing Borders: ARRA Consortium Initiative

What do you wish you could do NOW if you had a few extra dollars to impact your work with children and families?

In the next two years ARRA funds will provide exciting opportunities for early intervention teams to rejuvenate themselves and pay attention to the work that drew them to early intervention.

This will be accomplished through the creation of consortium among county Birth to 3 Programs. The **Crossing Borders: ARRA Consortium Initiative** is designed to encourage two or more county programs to collaborate in the development of an application for ARRA funding. Consortia will address **Relationship-Based Early Intervention in Natural Environments Using Evidence-Based-Practices**. Teams will examine their current practices, the principles and evidence that guide those practices, and reflect upon and explore enhancements to their work. This includes:

- Community Outreach for Child Find and Referral
- Intake and First Contacts with Families
- Service Coordination
- Evaluation and Eligibility
- IFSP Development
- Provision of Supports, Services and Resources, including Ongoing Assessment
- Transitions

Border Check Point: Consortium Development

A consortium will include two or more county Birth to 3 Programs who make a commitment to identify common goals and priorities for enhancing their work with children and families while considering the Mission and Guiding Principles for Wisconsin's Birth to 3 Program and the supporting evidence. See ***Border Check Point: Resources***.

Border Check Point: Getting Started

- First, think about your county program's wishes.
- Find your partners with common goals and priorities, beginning at the Fall Regional Meetings.
- Work with a RESource facilitator or WPDP staff member to support your initial and ongoing plans. See ***Border Check Point: Guides***.
- Meet with your partners to prepare a Letter of Intent by December 11, 2009. See ***Border Check Point: Letter of Intent Guidance***.

Border Check Point: Funding

All counties are eligible for funding through a consortium of at least two counties. All applications that meet the criteria will be funded. RESource and WPDP staff will support each consortium in the development of a successful plan. ARRA funds will be awarded to individual counties with an approved application to assist them in implementing their consortium plans. There is approximately \$6,000 per year for two years for each county within a consortium. There will be county discretion in how the funding is spread across the two years.

Examples of what funds may be used for:

- Funding staff time and travel for participation in consortium activities
- Purchasing materials to support consortium activities
- Paying meeting costs for face-to-face (food, materials) or distance communication technologies (e.g., web/teleconferencing)

Funds are not to be used for speakers/presenters as there are other ARRA resources available. See ***Border Check Point: Other ARRA Resources***.

- Receive notice of proposed funding by January 2010.
- Submit completed applications by February 2010.

Border Check Point: Possibilities

Following are possibilities for enhancing the implementation of **Relationship-Based Early Intervention in Natural Environments Using Evidence-Based Practices**.

- Community outreach about the mission of Birth to 3
- Routines based interviewing and intervention
- Shifting practices from a child focused approach to focusing on adult learning strategies to support parents in enhancing their child's development
- Roles and practices for team members when utilizing a primary provider approach to services
- Coaching and consultation practices
- IFSP processes that reflect and guide the implementation of relationship-based interventions
- Team building to strengthen common principles, practices and role definitions
- Natural Supports and utilization of the CORE (Community, Opportunity, Reciprocity and Environment) materials
- Building ongoing assessment into your routine program practices
- Integrating technology such as video taping to enhance support to children and families
- Collaboration with other programs in your community (e.g. Family Resource Centers), including Tribal partnerships
- Increasing cultural competence and practices
- Contracting processes, job descriptions and funding resources
- Reflective supervision and team-based reflective practices
- Exploration of resource sharing across county programs and providers

A consortium may consider how the application addresses the implementation of **Relationship-Based Early Intervention in Natural Environments Using Evidence-Based Practices** for any child throughout the family's involvement in early intervention. You may choose to focus on specific situations such as: children with low incidence disabilities, English Language Learners, mental health/social emotional development, mild language delays, autism, children in foster care, and Native American children and families.

Border Crossing: Expectations for Participation

- Each consortium team includes representatives from each participating county. This could include program leaders, service coordinators, service providers, parents, and community partners and would depend on the priorities for the plan.
- Each consortium team has monthly contact with a RESource or WPDP facilitator to support the implementation of their plan.
- Each county completes ARRA required reporting.
- Representatives from each consortium team attend the two leadership events and fall and spring regional Birth to 3 Meetings.
- Representatives from each consortium team participate in statewide sharing of products and processes developed.

Border Check Point: Resources

Birth to 3 Guiding Principles

<http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/birthto3/GuidPrinc.pdf>

OSEP-Services in Natural Environments Documents

<http://www.nectac.org/topics/natenv/natenv.asp>

CASE: Center for Advanced Study of Excellence in Early Childhood and Family Support Practices

<http://www.fippcase.org/casecollections.php>

The CORE of a Good Life: Guided Conversations for Parents on Raising a Young Child with Disabilities

http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/naturalsupports/pdfs/CORE_Guide.pdf

Border Check Point: Timeline of Activities

Planning			
Month		State	County
October 2009	Fall Birth to 3 Regional Meetings	Launch ARRA Consortium Initiative.	Begin to find partners for a consortium
November 2009	Consortium Applications Available	Resource, WPDP and State team available to assist in development of consortium members & priorities for the application	Finalize partners, identify priorities and begin to prepare Letter of Intent.
December 2009	Letter of Intent is Due on December 11	RESource, WPDP and State team available to assist in development of the application. State team will review the Letters of Intent.	County leaders within consortium collaboratively develop the Letter of Intent and begin to write application.
January 2010	Leadership Event	Inform county leaders/ consortium of proposed funding for each consortium prior to attending Leadership Event on January 27.	Attend Leadership Event on January 27.
February 2010	Applications Completed	Provide ongoing support in preparation of applications.	Submit applications.
Implementation			
Month		State	County
March 2010	Consortium implementation begins	Facilitate monthly consortium contacts.	Begin participation in monthly consortium contacts.
April 2010	Spring Birth to 3 Regional Meetings	Plan and facilitate meetings.	Provide input into agenda Consortium sharing and updates
May-September 2010	Ongoing Consortium Work	Monthly contacts with each consortium by RESource and WPDP.	Integration into routines
October 2010	Fall Birth to 3 Regional Meetings	Plan and facilitate meetings.	Provide input into agenda Consortium sharing and updates
Winter 2011	Birth to 3 Leadership Event	Plan and facilitate event.	Provide input to planning Consortium sharing and Updates
Spring 2011	Spring Birth to 3 Regional Meetings	Plan and facilitate meetings.	Provide input into agenda Consortium sharing and updates
Summer 2011: Reflections and Celebrations			
July 31, 2011: ARRA Funding Ends			

Border Check Point: Other Statewide ARRA Initiatives

The following ARRA initiatives will offer additional resource to support the work on consortiums.

Peer to Peer Mentoring: To build our capacity and sustain the work that takes place during the ARRA initiatives, a statewide network of peer-to-peer mentors will be created. The initial network will be developed over the next year with a focus on strategies for sharing our knowledge, experience, and expertise across county borders.

Statewide Events: ARRA activities will also be supported with two statewide Leadership Events (2010 and 2011) and during the fall and spring Regional Meetings.

Expert/Consultant Pool: Additional ARRA resources will be available from the DHS, Birth to 3 Program for consortium teams to pay for state and national content experts, as appropriate to address consortium priorities.

Service Coordination: Another priority of the WPDP/RESource ARRA commitment is to create opportunities for more ongoing support to new and experienced service coordinators. These activities may enhance the activities of consortiums.

Low Incidence/Sensory Impairments: ARRA funds will support a number of infrastructure building activities for children with low incidence sensory impairments (blind or visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing, deaf-blind). Opportunities for Birth to 3 staff to participate with these initiatives are in addition to the consortium initiatives.

Social Emotional Development and Infant Mental Health: ARRA funds for activities in these areas will benefit Birth to 3 staff. The ARRA funds for these initiatives will create opportunities for Birth to 3 staff to participate in activities of the *Social Emotional Foundations in Early Learning (CEFL)* and the new *Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Certificate Program*, UW- Madison.

Border Check Point: Guides

Please contact one of the following people for support in developing your consortium and writing your letter of support. *Please note that you are to identify the person you contacted in your Letter of Intent.*

Linda Tuchman, Director WPDP/ RESource
608-263-6467
tuchman@waisman.wisc.edu

Michelle Davies, Director RESource
608-742-8814 ext. 259
daviesm@cesa5.k12.wi.us

Kathy Boisvert, RESource Facilitator-Western
715-720-9177
kbois111@aol.com

Rene Forsythe, RESource Facilitator-Northeastern
608-742-8814 ext. 409
reneforsythe@sbcglobal.net

Meredith Green, Training Specialist & RESource Facilitator-Southern
608-265-5831
green@waisman.wisc.edu

Pamela Torres, Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council
715-588-3324
ptorres@glitc.org

Melissa Velez, RESource Facilitator-Southeastern
414-671-1220
velezm@cesa5.k12.wi.us

Elizabeth Wahl, Birth to 3 Professional Development Specialist
608-265-9423
martinkus@waisman.wisc.edu

Karen Williams, RESource Facilitator-Northern
715-623-5660
cozy@dwave.net



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Border Check Point: Letter of Intent Guidance

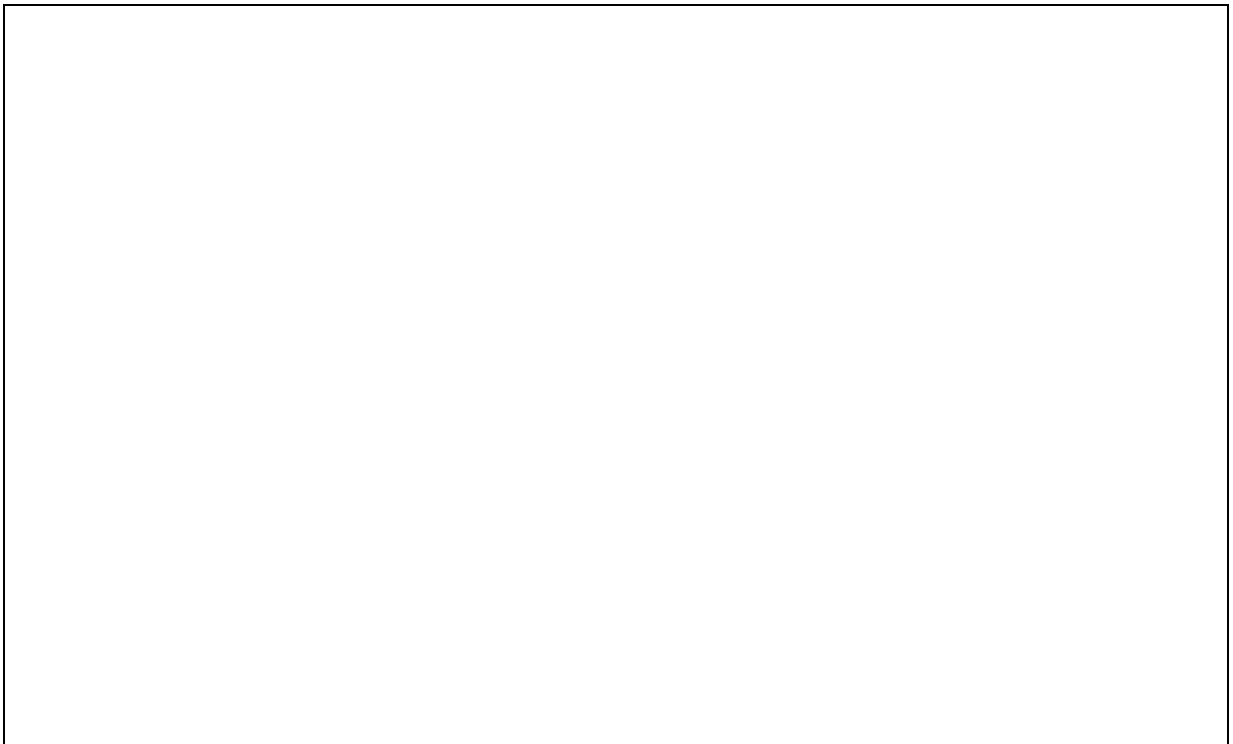
What do you wish you could do NOW if you had a few extra dollars to bring your consortium team together to impact your work with families? What would your consortium like to accomplish?

How do your ideas promote implementation of **Relationship-Based Early Intervention in Natural Environments Using Evidence-Based Practices?**

How will you build upon the existing resources and routines of the programs in your consortium?



What other resources (financial & human) do have to support your program's commitment to your mini-grant priorities. This may include parents and other community partners essential to meeting your goals.



Names of Counties in the Consortium:

Lead Contact Person for Each County/Program in the Consortium:

Name:

Phone:

E-mail:

Name:

Phone:

E-mail:

Add others as appropriate for your consortium.

Team Members by County Team:

Name	Role	Program Affiliation

RESource or WPDP facilitator Contacted (Support in Development of Letter of Intent):

Name:

Budget: Estimate the amount of funds your consortium will need, taking into account that there will be approximately \$6,000 per county per year over the ARRA time period (~\$12,000 per county). Consider that these funds will be allocated for personnel time and travel, meeting costs, and materials. You will need to submit a consortium budget detailed by county and activities in the application due in February 2010.



Submit to:

Linda Tuchman

e-mail: tuchman@waisman.wisc.edu

FAX: 608-265-3441

Mail: Waisman Center

1500 Highland Ave., S101D

Madison, WI 53705

Due Date: December 11, 2009