



Early Intervention Resource for Families

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Introduction

- Support families receiving Early Intervention (EI) services
- Research shows there is a gap between referral and intake
- Address barriers to why families are not receiving services
- Creating an easily accessible resource for families or caretakers to
 - address the feelings of guilt and stigma behind having a child with a disability
 - educate to set clear expectations of what EI is and why it is important for their child and themselves
 - empower them to be an advocate for their child and family
- The purpose is to not overwhelm with more information for families to sit and read through
- This resource is to be an encouragement and to fully support their family in a way that is not a burden on anyone involved
- Increase parent and caregiver buy-in during sessions by understanding the importance of EI services for their child

Methods

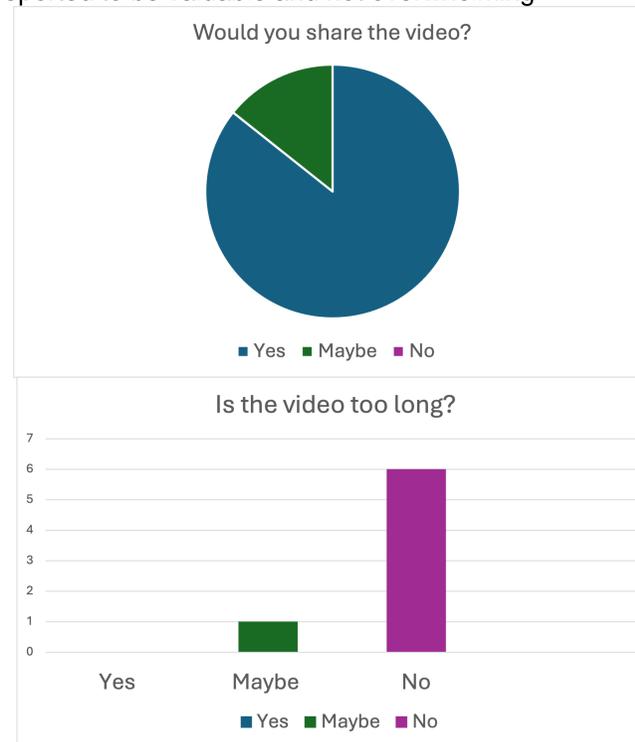
- Completed an in-depth experience at Alabama Institute of Deaf and Blind (AIDB)
- Attended meetings with staff
- Observed sessions with different providers
- Communicated with providers and families receiving services from AIDB
- Determined a video would be the best format for the resource, based off the culture of AIDB and the needs of the families
- Interviewed families receiving EI services to be apart of video
- Used Clipchamp and PowerPoint to create video
- Written and verbal language included to meet different needs
- Research says, “the human brain can process visuals 60,000 times faster than text, and viewers retain 95% of a message when viewing it in video, compared to 10% when reading it in text” (Moss, 2024).

Results

- Video completed and will be implemented at initial point of contact with families seeking EI services at AIDB
- Feedback provided by service coordinators to make revisions
- Final video is 13 minutes and 24 seconds
- While the video time might seem long all information is valuable
- Able to sustain attention due to inclusion of parent testimonies to be relatable to families seeking EI services

Results continued

- Survey sent with 7 responses for feedback from video including: 5 service coordinators, 1 potential family, and 1 current family
- Video reported to be valuable and not overwhelming



- Quote from site mentor and service coordinator at AIDB:

“I’m excited to share this video resource with new families entering early intervention. The comprehensive information provided offers a clear and reassuring overview of what families can expect from AIDB’s early intervention services. Featuring testimonials from current families the video helps to inspire confidence in those who may be new to specialized services, highlighting the profound impact that early intervention can have of a child’s development”

Discussion

- Occupation-based barriers were addressed in the video by minimizing guilt, increasing education of EI, and empowering families to advocate for their child
- Parent testimonies stood out the most by sharing their personal experiences which will be relatable to many

Discussion continued

Limitations:

- Not generalizable
- Only recorded in the English language
- Video is a large file to send
- Information that felt needed expanded or left out: referral and evaluation process, transitioning
- Limited feedback from families potentially receiving or currently receiving EI at AIDB

Conclusion

Implications:

- Allows families to have a sense of belonging and understanding of the purpose of EI
- Promotes interdisciplinary collaboration and guides to accessing services

Future Research/Projects:

- Creation of additional videos on topics of transitioning, eligibility, service coordination, each service provided at AIDB
- Video translated into Spanish and other languages
- Research-based projects by assessing benefits, strengths, limitations, barriers, increases in intake, etc.

References

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Acknowledgement & Contact information

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