## **Under One Initiative**



Birth to Three is the largest mandated home visiting program in Connecticut. Early intervention leads to the best child and family outcomes when home visits are begun as soon as the delay or disability is identified. As a result:

#### Birth to Three has launched an initiative to:

- **Discover** how children with developmental delays can be identified earlier
- Increase the percentage of eligible children enrolled before their first birthday

# Birth to Three will meet this goal by working with individuals and agencies in Connecticut and other states to:

- Determine the most effective child find strategies
- Deepen our providers' expertise in supporting families of very young infants
- Expand our outreach materials and methods to better educate parents on the benefits of accepting an evaluation and enrolling their eligible infants in early intervention

#### Help families understand the importance of early intervention.

You can send an important message to parents when their babies may have a developmental delay. Talk with the parent about making the referral and completing the free developmental evaluation. If the baby is eligible, tell them that early intervention works best when it begins as soon as possible and encourage them to accept the supports that are offered.

### Eligibility

#### Children under age three who live in Connecticut are eligible because they either:

- Have a significant developmental delay or
- Have a diagnosed condition that is likely to yield a significant developmental delay (Go to
  www.birth23.org/referrals/referrals.html for a current list of automatically qualifying diagnoses, such as
  spina bifida, extreme prematurity, hearing loss, encephalopathy, autism spectrum disorders)

If a baby is not eligible and you or the parent still have concerns after 90 days or more, please re-refer for an updated developmental evaluation.

Interested in learning more?

Eileen McMurrer, M.Ed. ph. 860-418-6134 eileen.mcmurrer@ct.gov Connecticut IDEA Part C Child Find Coordinator Department of Developmental Services, CT Birth to Three System 460 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106-1308

REFERRALS: 1-800-505-7000 www.birth23.org