

Appendix B

Categorization of EI Provider Survey Open-Ended Questions

In your opinion, what changes could be made to help early intervention work better in your state?

1. Smaller caseload (11)
 - a. "High caseloads do not allow for FSS to research and really help families who really need more in depth help beyond the coaching model"
2. Collaboration with team members, community, school districts (16)
 - a. "Collaboration is key"
 - b. "More time to team and collaborate with team members within our organizations"
3. Need for EI specialized training for children who are D/HH (31)
 - a. "more training on specific resources for DHH families"
 - b. "Provide more D/HH training for early interventionists of all areas (physical therapy, speech therapy, developmental delay)"
4. Attract and retain more providers (22)
 - a. "Increased funding to increase salaries to be able to better attract and retain staff"
 - b. "More providers are needed"
 - c. "Increase pay to attract and maintain quality providers"
5. Improve ease of access to resources (7)
 - a. "Easier access to resources needed"
 - b. "education about resources available in the state"
6. Funding, information and services for families (17)
 - a. "funding for families"
 - b. "ongoing information to the families about hearing loss"
 - c. "more training about services/resources for families"
 - d. "learn what resources are available"
7. Referrals at time of diagnosis (10)
 - a. "Referrals at the time of diagnosis"
 - b. "Direct referral"
 - c. "Referrals going to correct agencies"

What's needed in regard to training? We need training in...

1. Resources for families (32)
 - a. "Resources for families"
 - b. "I would like more training in the programs that are available to support families by state or federal agencies"
 - c. "Educating parents and families who may face additional barriers"
 - d. "Coaching families on signing, total communication"
2. Ongoing formal training in EI (39)
 - a. "More training on due process"
 - b. "DHH students that also have other comorbid conditions"
 - c. "Early intervention related to hearing, functional sign, and Part C law"
 - d. "What early intervention services should look like"
3. Assessments for DHH children (14)
 - a. "Appropriate educational assessment for children who are deaf/hard of hearing"
 - b. "Any new assessments"
 - c. "Assessment and curriculum for children that are deaf or hard of hearing"

4. Hearing technology (32)
 - a. "Education on hearing technology"
 - b. "More training on how to support parents who are trying to use hearing aids for the first time"
 - c. "Continuing education for hearing technology as it is a constantly changing field"
 - d. "More training on adaptive equipment"
 - e. "Hearing technology, but this is hard as it's constantly advancing and changing."
5. Reading audiology reports (8)
 - a. "Understanding audiological reports"
 - b. "How to read audiology reports"
 - c. "Assistance with sharing the information with families as audiologists rarely participate in reviews"
6. Early Intervention (18)
 - a. "Early intervention related to hearing, functional sign, and Part C law"
 - b. "What early intervention services should look like"
 - c. Anything pertaining to early intervention for the D/HH community
7. Teaching families sign language (23)
 - a. "Coaching families on signing"
 - b. "More ASL training"
 - c. "How to teach sign language"
 - d. "Teaching children sign and spoken language"
8. Cochlear Implant (18)
 - a. "Learning more about devices (Baha, Cochlear implant, etc.)"
 - b. "Changes in the deaf community with cochlear implants and implications"
 - c. "CI's and troubleshooting HAT with cochlear implants"