



SOONERSTART

SoonerStart Roles of the Clinical Social Worker

The role of the clinical social worker in the SoonerStart Early Intervention (EI) program is to provide a wide array of social work services. Social work services are specific to the needs of families and EI teams for the purpose of maximizing the efficacy of early intervention services. Social work services in EI are adjunct to those provided by resource coordinators and service providers. The social worker in this role is a member of the EI team. Social work services within the EI program may include the following:

- Provide consultation and training to EI teams related to infant and toddler development and family needs, as well as group process, group interaction, and other topics as requested by EI staff.
- Provide clinical case consultation in areas, which may include, but are not limited to, family dynamics, parent-child interaction, infant and adult mental health, child neglect and abuse/trauma, domestic violence, and crisis intervention.
- Work with EI resource coordinators, service providers, and families in their efforts to identify, mobilize, and coordinate community services to maximize effective EI service provision.
- Complete family assessments as requested by the EI team and the family in the development of the IFSP and/or for referral to other appropriate services.
- Provide direct service, which may include intensive case management and brief counseling for individual families as requested by the family and the EI team as directed by the IFSP.
- Serve as a liaison for the family and/or EI team with other community health/mental health/social services providers to assure a comprehensive and family-centered approach to providing EI services.
- Participate in EI team staffing as a resource to families and EI team members related to infant and toddler development, psychosocial information and family dynamics.
- Serve as a resource to the family, individual EI team members, the EI team, and other community providers as changes occur that may impact the IFSP.
- Serve as a resource to the community related to Child Find and to provide presentations to individuals or groups in the community on early identification, intervention and the SoonerStart/EI Program.