

Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers

Conversation with Families

The Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT) is authorized and required by Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) as amended by Public Law 108-446. The role of FICCIT is to assist public and private agencies in implementing a statewide system of coordinated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary, interagency programs providing appropriate early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and risk conditions and their families. Family involvement and outreach is an important element of the Council. As such, the Family Leadership Committee of FICCIT hosts quarterly meetings with families in the host city of each FICCIT Council Meeting. This meeting, “Conversation with Families”, is an opportunity for families to share their experience, wisdom, and vision about Florida’s Early Steps System.

The benefits are endless for families, FICCIT, the Early Steps State Office, and Local Early Steps and include networking, information sharing, and brainstorming within the community. The Family Leadership Committee of FICCIT is interested in what families have to say in order to make recommendations to better meet the needs of families of Florida.

In order to make these events successful, the planning process must be a collaborative, coordinated effort that requires a Planning Team. Attached you will find “Conversation with Families – Planning Team Responsibilities”. The Family Leadership Committee of FICCIT will take the lead in coordinating the “Conversation with Families” and have ongoing communication to ensure a successful meeting.

I look forward to meeting and working with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (850)-487-6301 or 1-800-654-4440.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Lou Ann Long

FICCIT, Family Leadership Committee Chair

lalong@centraldirectory.org

cc: Janice Kane, Susan Duwa, Sue Cannon, Joan Foss, Jessica Mattias, Tameka Davis, Family Leadership Committee