

# ARIZONA PART C

## State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)



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The Department of Economic Security's Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) is Arizona's statewide, interagency system of supports and services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities and their families.

Our mission: Early Intervention builds upon and provides supports and resources to assist family members and caregivers to enhance children's learning and development through everyday learning opportunities.



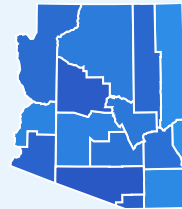
### Arizona Early Intervention Program

The SSIP is AzEIP's multi-year plan to assist families in helping their infants and toddlers with disabilities have improved social relationships. AzEIP has made infrastructure improvements, supported evidence-based practices (EBP), and developed an evaluation plan to measure progress towards reaching this goal in addressing the needs of children from birth to age three (B-3).



### State-Identified Measurable Result (SiMR)

Arizona will increase the percent of children who exit early intervention, in identified regions, with greater than expected improvements in their social relationships.



**10,903**

Children and their families served by AzEIP in 2017



= **1.97%**  
of Arizona children birth to age three



### Arizona's Progress (SSIP Phases)

Arizona is currently in Phase III, Year 3 of implementing the SSIP. Arizona uses the Primary Service Provider approach known as **Team-Based Early Intervention Services (TBEIS)**. This is a model in which a multidisciplinary team supports families by selecting one member as the team lead (primary service provider) to the family. Together with TBEIS, Arizona is using selected **DEC (Division for Early Childhood) Recommended Practices** related to family, instruction, and interaction to support social emotional development in children with disabilities and their families.

#### Phase I

2014 - 2015



- Infrastructure analysis
- Developed Theory of Action

#### Phase II

2015 - 2016



- Selected Primary Service Provider Approach as EBP
- Developed Evaluation Plan

#### Phase III, Year 1

2016 - 2017



- Infrastructure Improvements
- Increased access to data

#### Phase III, Year 2

2017 - 2018



- Statewide workgroup to propose B-5 screening strategies.
- SiMR region focus groups focusing on scaling-up practices



# Arizona's Theory of Action

## Accountability

Improve capacity to collect, access, analyze & interpret data



- Increase data quality
- Focus on data-driven decision-making
- Utilize performance measures and results data for program improvement

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## Practices

Scale up & sustain implementation of EBP

- Write functional IFSP outcomes that address social emotional development
- Develop professional development infrastructure to support TBEIS
- Align policies and practices with DEC Recommended Practices and DEC Personnel Standards

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## Fiscal

Develop & implement long-term fiscal plan to ensure financial sustainability



- Coordinate with referral sources to ensure comprehensive B-5 system to meet needs
- Maximize use of various funding sources
- Enhance capacity to recruit and retain



Build the capacity of Early Intervention Programs



Improve the number of children who show greater than expected growth in social relationships within the SiMR regions



# Arizona's Infrastructure Improvement Strategies

### ✓ Accountability

- Increased access to data and reports
- Held data quality sessions for leaders

### ✓ Data System

- Enhanced current data system
- Developed business requirements

### ✓ Personnel/Workforce

- Trained and supported Master Coaches in SiMR Regions
- Developed courses focusing on family capacity-building, activity-based learning and interest-based learning including TBEIS and coaching practices

### ✓ Governance

- Revised policies and procedures
- Participated in cross-sector stakeholder engagement for Birth to 5 population

### ✓ Finance

- Increased engagement across referral sources to maximize B-5 resources
- Developed agreement with AZ Medicaid program regarding reimbursement rates for providers



# Arizona's Practices

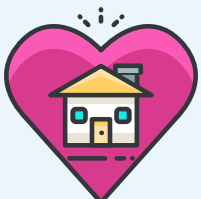
Evidence-Based Practices

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DEC Recommended Practices

## Team Based Early Intervention Services (TBEIS)

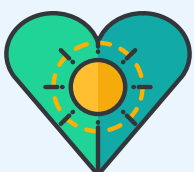
(based on Shelden&Rush's Coaching in Natural Learning Environments)



### Natural Learning Opportunities

Key components include:

- Natural learning environment
- Child interests and learning opportunities



### Resource-based Capacity Building

Key components include:

- Participatory help-giving practices
- Family-centered practices



## Family Practice (F5)

Practitioners support family functioning, promote family confidence and competence, and strengthen family-child relationships by acting in ways that recognize and build on family strengths and capacities.



## Instructional Practice (INS 13)

Practitioners use coaching or consultation strategies with primary caregivers or other adults to facilitate positive adult-child interactions and instruction intentionally designed to promote child learning and development.



## Interactional Practice (INT2)

Practitioners promote the child's social development by encouraging the child to initiate or sustain positive interactions with other children and adults during routines and activities through modeling, teaching, feedback, or other types of guided support.