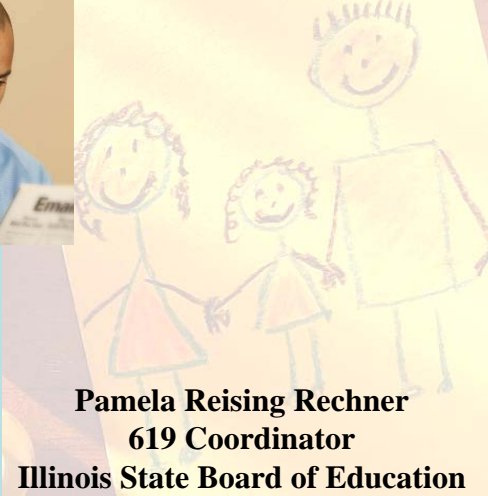


Transition Works for Illinois Early Intervention Families and their Children



Pamela Reising Rechner
619 Coordinator
Illinois State Board of Education



OSEP National Early Childhood Conference, December 8, 2008

Outcomes for Today

Describe Illinois' Early Intervention System

Discuss Illinois' development and use of multi-media products to encourage positive changes in transition practices

Discuss the impact of using a state-wide collaborative approach, including parent voices and perspectives, to shape changes in transition practices

Illinois EI System Today

★ 25 Child and Family Connections Offices



★ 4,500 Providers

★ About 22,000 children and families



Lead Agency

Illinois Department of Human Services

Illinois Interagency Council on Early Intervention

Child & Family Connections

Early Intervention Providers

Training Program

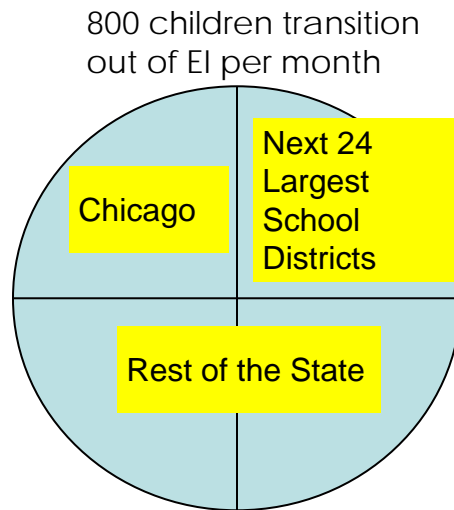
Monitoring

Central Billing Office

Provider Connections

Transition Challenges

- ★ 2 Lead Agencies
- ★ EI enrollment continues to increase
- ★ 1500 new cases each month
- ★ 900 school districts



Illinois Solutions

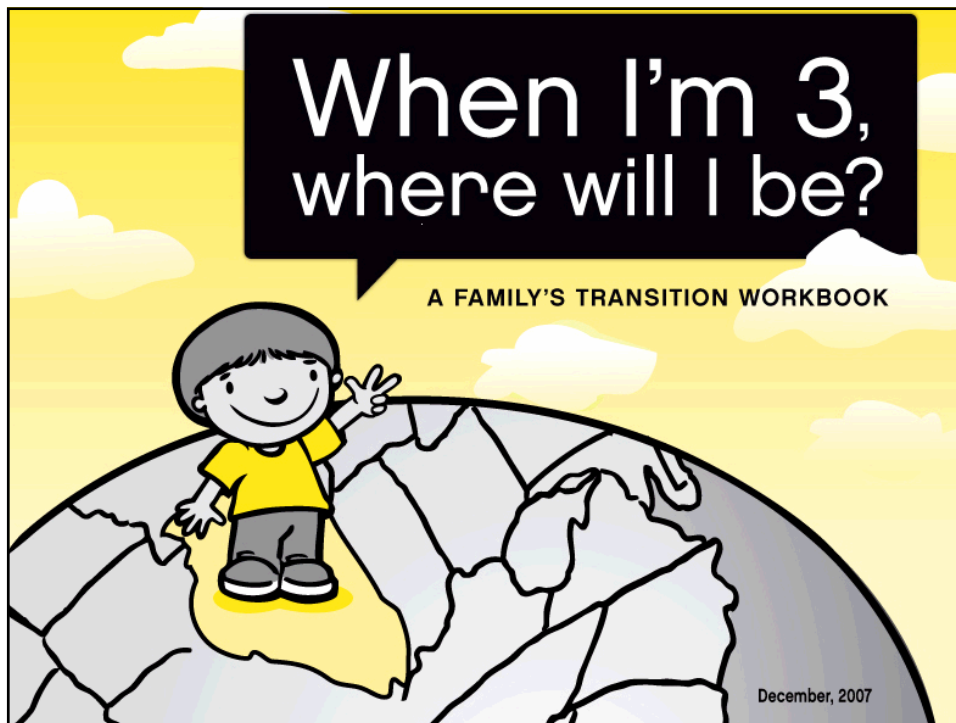
- ★ Transition Guidance Committee
- ★ Committee Outcomes
 - Children and Family Training Participants
 - Publication
- ★ Committee Products



A Multi-Media Approach

- ☒ Illinois State Board of Education website
(www.isbe.net/earlychi/)
- ☒ Statewide Transition Training Module
- ☒ Frequently Asked Questions
- ☒ Transition Tracking Form
- ☒ Family Transition Workbook and DVD
- ☒ Illinois Department of Human Services website
(www.dhs.state.il.us)

7



Family Transition Subcommittee



- ✓ Wonderful Parent Representation
- ✓ Input from ISBE, DHS, School Districts
- ✓ Collaborative process
- ✓ A determined group
- ✓ A group with a vision

9

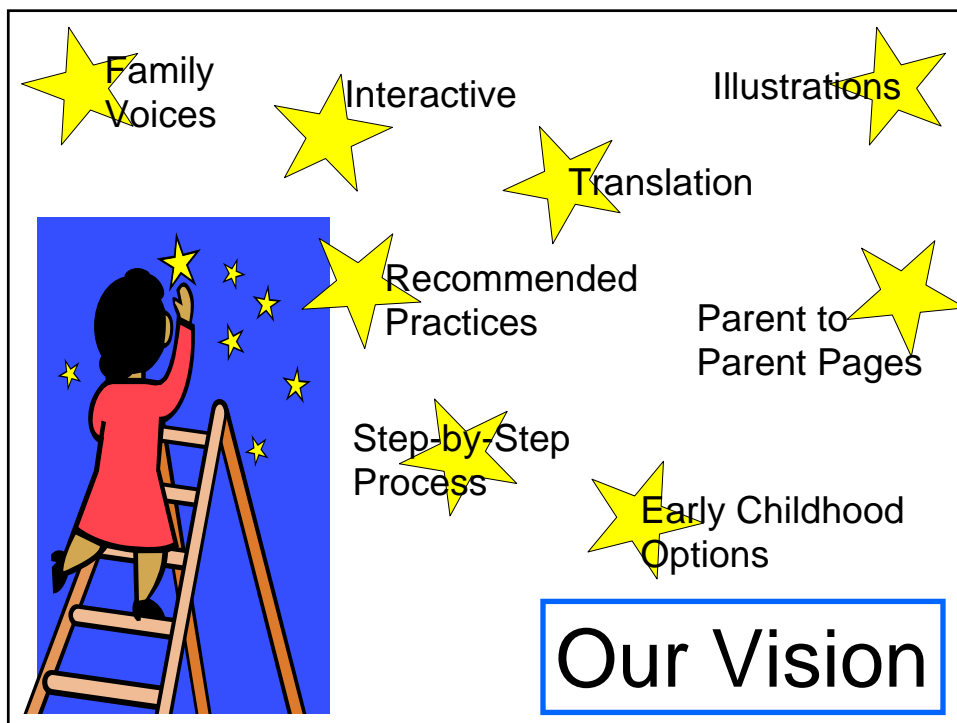
Our Process

10

Working Together

- ✓ Reviewed existing material
 - In-state
 - Other states
(www.nectac.org)
- ✓ Identified priorities
- ✓ Distinctly Illinois voice
- ✓ Lots and lots of discussion and brainstorming

11



Dreams for My Child

What happens after
Early Intervention?

What do I want for
my child?



13



Transition = Change



14

How do I feel about Transition?

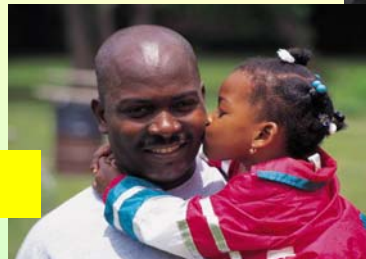
Hopeful



Anxious



Less than
Confident



Ready!

15

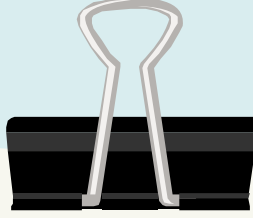
Step-by-Step to Transition



- Step 1 Dreams for My Child
- Step 2 Sharing Information
- Step 3 Transition Planning Conference
- Step 4 Evaluation
- Step 5 The IEP Meeting
- Step 6 Where will I be now that I'm 3?

16

Using the Workbook



✓ Statewide Roll-out and Distribution

✓ Local Use

Parent Training

✓ Discussed during statewide transition trainings

✓ Posted on the ISBE, DHS and Early Intervention Training websites



We're Not Done Yet!

- ✗ Workbook translated into Spanish
- ✗ Continued need for multi-media approach
- ✗ DVD Project – English and Spanish
- ✗ Collaboration with local school districts & families
- ✗ On-going Trainings
- ✗ Cross-agency partnership

Transition Now



★ Children with Transition Planning Conference

From 77% in 2005-2006
to 96 % in 2006 -2007

★ Children with IEPs on their 3rd birthday

From 76% in 2005-2006
to 95% in 2006-2007

★ Information sharing between ISBE and DHS

19

Lessons Learned

From many perspectives to one
voice

Collaboration can be difficult -
the end product is worth it

Collaboration leads to
ownership



DEC, 2006,

Illinois STAR NET Resource Specialists

20