

# Who's Who in Serving Our Little Ones

## *Planning and Strategies for Kids Ages 3 to 5*

Presenters:

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# HOUSEKEEPING



Interpretación en español: haga clic en el globo blanco en la parte inferior de la pantalla con la etiqueta "Interpretation." Luego haga clic en "Spanish" y seleccione "Mute original audio."



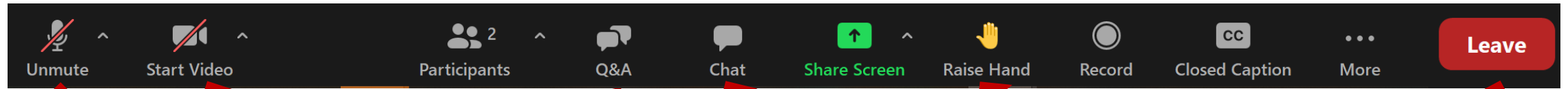
ASL interpreters have been "Spotlighted" and live closed captioning is active

- Raise hand, say first name and **speak slowly**



This meeting is being recorded

# ZOOM TIPS



Unmute mic only when it's your turn to speak



Turn your webcam on/off

All attendees can type questions/comments in the Q&A

All attendees can send chats

All attendees can raise your hand when you want to speak

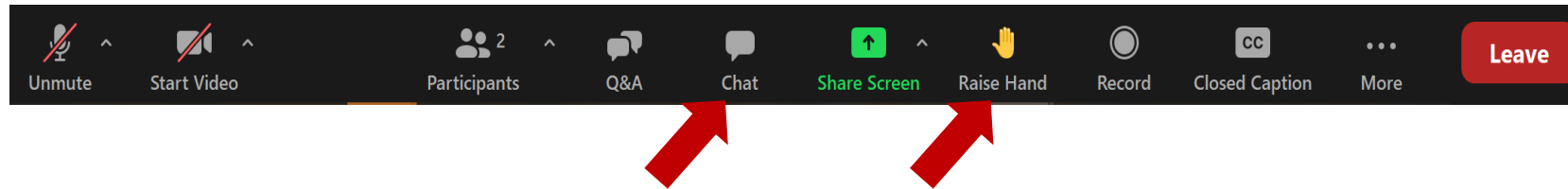
Leave the webinar at the end of the meeting



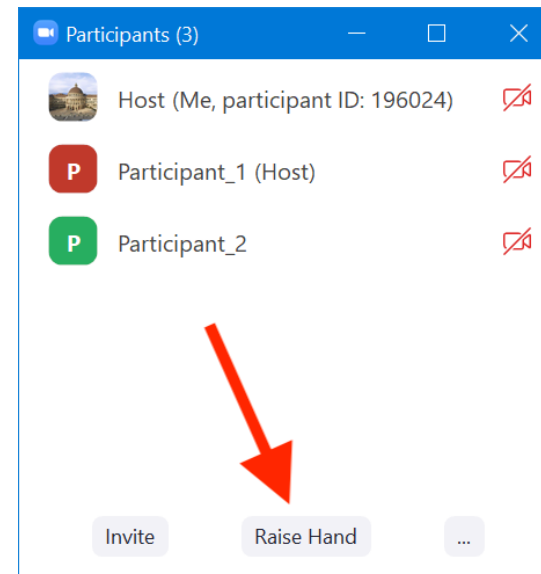
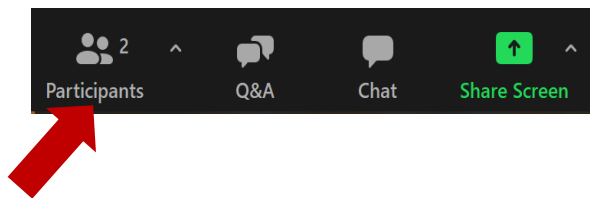
- Features will vary based on the version of Zoom and device you are using
- Some Zoom features are not available for telephone-only participants

# PROVIDING COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

Please use the “Chat” or “Raise Hand” to comment



You may need to click on “Participants” and a new window will open where you can “Raise Hand”



## Transition: What to Expect



# Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA)

Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) is also referred to Early Start Program. The services are available from birth to 3 years of age.

The Early Start Program is available statewide in California. Its services are determined through assessments and the services are documented in an Individual and Family Service Plan (IFSP). Services are delivered through local agencies and family resource centers. Early Start supports families by promoting collaboration with professionals and coordinating services.

Part B of the IDEA provides special education and related services for children ages 3 to 21. Special education is focused on helping children succeed in school.

# Timeline for School District Referral:

The child's referral to the school district must occur no later than the child reaching the age of 2 years and 9 months, or before the school district's break in services if the child will turn 3 during a school break in services.

If the child was first identified for early intervention services when over the age of 2 years and 6 months, then the initial Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) meeting also must include the transition activities described above.



# During this time, the school must :

The school district that will be providing early intervention services to a preschool child over the age of three has specific responsibilities:

- It must ensure that the child experiences a smooth and effective transition to preschool programs.
- It must ensure that an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for special education services has been developed and is being implemented by the child's third birthday.
- If a child turns age three during the summer months, the IEP team must determine the date when IEP services will begin.
- The school district must participate in transition planning conferences arranged by the regional center.



# Role of the Regional Center Service Coordinator

Point of contact: be the single, go-to person for families to help them access the support they need;

Support access to services: assist families in accessing early intervention and other services outlined in the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP);

Coordinate services: work across different agencies to make sure all necessary services are connected and available;

Manage service provision: organize early intervention services and other services so that the child's needs are being met;

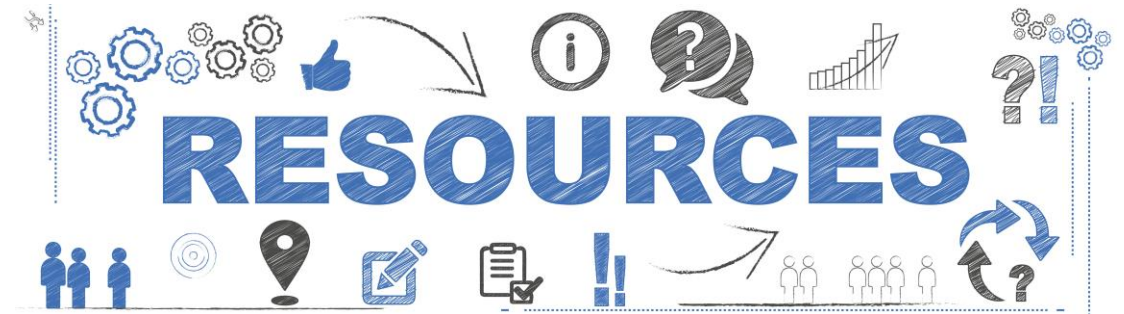
Facilitate timely delivery: facilitate the timely delivery of available services;

# Role of the Service Coordinator continued

Inform families of the availability of advocacy services and procedural safeguards;

Coordinate with medical and health providers and facilitate the exchange of information between service providers such as health providers, medical case managers, regional centers, and school districts; and

Facilitate the development of a transition plan to preschool services, if appropriate.



# Assessments Plans and Requesting Assessments

A request for an assessment can happen upon your initial referral for special education services and when addressing changing needs. An assessment is necessary to identify the need for services, which an individualized education program (IEP) will address.

The assessment plan is a document that outlines specific evaluations or tests that will be completed. It must be provided in the parent's primary language, include a copy of the notice of parental rights, a description of any optional dispute resolution mechanisms, and include any recent assessments that were conducted.

Parents must be provided with copies of all assessments. Parents can request copies of assessments prior to the IEP date.

# Individualized Education Program (IEP)

Before obtaining an IEP, your child will be evaluated, and an assessment plan will be provided to you. You have **15 calendar days** to approve or respond to the assessment plan.

The IEP is a legal document created in collaboration between the school district and the individual with special needs and their family.

The IEP document outlines **all** services and supports that the school district will provide the child to thrive in school.



# The IEP Meeting



## Process

- Current Functioning Levels
- Develop Goals
- Discuss Supports
- Discuss Education and Services
- Discuss Placement

## Role of the Parent

- Strengths
- Weaknesses and Problem Areas
- Functioning Levels
- Which Skills Need to be Developed

## Interpreter

Meanwhile...

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# ... the Regional Center Must Be...

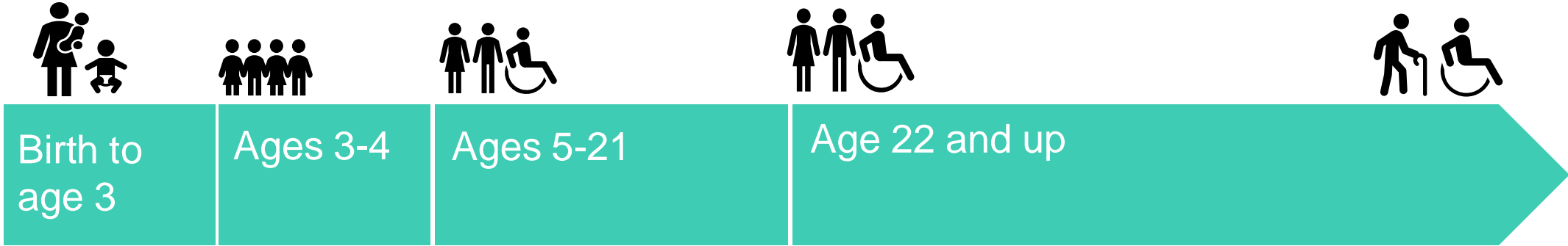
Evaluating children for:

- Provisional Eligibility
- Lanterman Act Eligibility

These eligibilities are necessary to establish regional center services after the age of three.



# Eligibility





# Developing the Individual Program Plan (IPP)

The IPP is formed collaboratively in a meeting that includes the individual, family, service coordinator, service providers and others. It is a legal document outlining a person's goals, needs, and services that will be provided.

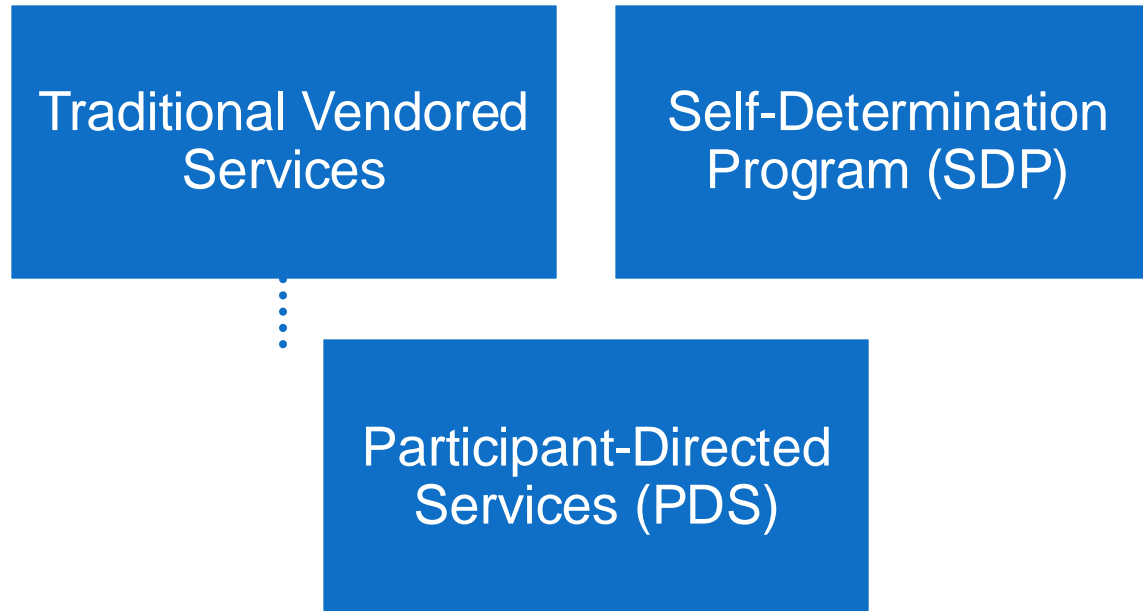
It therefore is important to have a clear understanding of the discussion.

Language interpretation must be provided if requested.



# Provision of Lanterman Act Services

Individuals and families can access regional center services in 3 ways:



All of these options are based on the Lanterman Act values of choice, individual decision-making, and promoting independence and community inclusion.

# Other Services

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# California Children's Services (CCS)

California Children's Services (CCS) is a statewide program that determines medical eligibility, provides authorizations for medical care, case management, financial assistance, and medically necessary physical and occupational therapy services to children who meet its eligibility criteria. The program is managed by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and is administered by the local county health care departments.



# California Children's Services (CCS) - Medical Therapy Program (MTP)

## Medical Therapy Program (MTP)

MTP provides physical and occupation therapy, Medical Therapy Conference services (MTC), and specialized equipment and other assistive devices to eligible children.

Children must be under 21 and have an eligible condition. There are no financial eligibility requirements.

Most services are at a Medical Therapy Unit (MTU) located on a school site. MTP staff attend IEP meetings when requested.



# Private Insurance

Private insurance is the insurance you obtain for your family. Some families get it through an employer. Other families buy it through [Covered California](#).

Private insurance varies greatly from plan to plan. It is common to receive PT, OT or behavioral services through private insurance.

Regional centers can help with copays, coinsurance, and deductibles.

If private insurance denies something, you can file a grievance. To do so, contact the [California Department of Managed Health Care](#) or [Department of Insurance \(CDI\)](#).

# Medi-Cal

Medi-Cal is California's Medicaid program. This is a public health insurance program which provides needed health care services for [individuals with low income](#), including families with children, seniors, persons with disabilities, foster care, pregnant women, and low-income people with specific diseases.

Medi-Cal is financed by the state and federal governments. It is administered by the DHCS, and is available through county social services agencies.





## Questions and Answers

