



Community and Health Services
Social Services Branch

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of Community and Health Services Committee

FROM: Adelina Urbanski, Commissioner, Community and Health Services

DATE: February 8, 2012

RE: **Early Intervention Services Accredited by Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities**

In September, 2011, Early Intervention Services (EIS) received a three year Accreditation with a citation for “exemplary” practice across various aspects of program delivery from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF International). This is the second three-year award Early Intervention Services has received. EIS was the first program of its type in Ontario to receive accreditation from this international organization in 2008.

CARF was founded in 1966 and is a not-for-profit organization that promotes quality rehabilitation services. It does this by establishing international standards of quality based on input to an International Advisory Council from regional, national and international focus groups. CARF International has accredited rehabilitation services in Canada since 1969.

CARF International accredits specific program areas rather than agencies as a whole. Three specific program areas within EIS were accredited: Early Childhood Development, Case Management/Service Coordination, and Assessment & Referral. Assessment & Referral is a new program area added by EIS since the 2008 award. The accreditation process includes on-site surveys conducted by a team of professionals in related fields from across Canada. The surveys, conducted over three days, include a review of policies, administrative and client records, interviews with staff, persons served and related community based agency management.

The *Survey Report* cited “exemplary conformance to the standards....an innovative, integrated approach to service delivery....a seamless range of services that results in a positive experience for families and offers them a significant amount of expertise.” “It [EIS] has demonstrated organizational leadership and innovation in the area of early intervention for children zero to six years old. EIS has shown considerable effort towards increasing efficiencies while maintaining

quality of services through the implementation of strategic goals and plans to serve the community in partnership with its corporate structure.”

To maintain accreditation status EIS has completed a Quality Improvement Plan for any recommended areas and must submit Annual Quality Conformance Reports.

Adelina Urbanski
Commissioner, Community and Health Services

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