

ECEAP Family Support Pilot

DEL ECEAP is doing a two-year pilot to help us learn what helps families most and what resources are needed. We want to:

1. Learn about the best ways to help families advance their goals, well-being and self-reliance;
2. Test a statewide Family Strengths and Needs Assessment. The assessment helps to see family strengths, needs, and goals and note the progress that families are making.



What Did We Learn from Year One?

ECEAP contractors tested two family support models, EMPATH Mobility Mentoring® and the Family Development Matrix model. These models were chosen because they helped families in other states improve their well-being and family goals.

Year-One - Family Outcomes

Mobility Mentoring® Differences for families were seen in all 21 areas of family success. Areas of greatest change were adult education, budgeting, and goal setting.

Family Development Matrix Smaller differences were seen in 16 areas: employment, adult education, parent involvement, and goal setting.

Who participated? Fourteen ECEAP contractors serving families in cities and towns across the state tested each model. 1,552 families of different races, ethnicities, and home languages participated for the complete year.

What were the results? Families in both models made gains between the beginning and end of the year. ECEAP staff said they liked how the tools from these models helped them have deeper conversations with families, so they could make sure that services and resources fit each family's needs. They also enjoyed seeing families meet their goals.

What Is Happening in the Pilot in Year Two?

1. Based on the information gathered in year one, DEL decided that Mobility Mentoring® was the best model for ECEAP. Staff from 20 contractors attended the EMPATH Mobility Mentoring® training in August, 2016. These staff will train the family advocates. Family support services will begin when ECEAP starts in September. DEL ECEAP will provide ongoing training and support to contractors who are using Mobility Mentoring®.
2. Family support conversations will be guided by *ECEAP Bridge to Child and Family Self-Reliance*.
3. DEL will ask all ECEAP families to take a survey at the end of the year. This will help us learn what services helped most and what else we can do to improve services.
4. DEL will review the data and results. We will use this to recommend the next steps for family support in ECEAP.

"The biggest thing... that family support helped my family with was teaching me how to be a productive father and family member."

~PSESD parent

"A custodial grandparent ... was struggling with medical bills. I connected them with resources. Within 2 weeks they were on their way to getting that debt off their minds."

~ Family Support Specialist