

The Timeline of Consultation
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Since Caregiver Connections is a relatively new program to DuPage and Kane counties, below is a timeline to better explain the process of Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation for Child Care Providers, regarding child care provided to children ages 0 through 5 years old:

- ☆ A Child Care Provider would like Mental Health Consultation in DuPage or Kane County.
- ☆ Provider contacts Mandy Semenik, the Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant by Phone: (630) 418-1071 or *Email: msemenik@tricityfamilyservices.org
Providing the following information:
 - 1) Name of person (Ex. Mandy Smith)
 - 2) Position (Ex. Center Director or Center Teacher or Family Child Care Home Provider)
 - 3) Name of Childcare Home/Center (Ex. The Home Child Care)
 - 4) Location of Childcare Home/Center (Ex. 123 Alphabet Rd., Geneva/Kane County)
 - 5) Best means and time to contact you (Ex. Cell phone (630) 418-1071 after 9:00 a.m.)
 - 6) Interest (Ex. Would like to have observation of toddler classroom)*Please do not identify the names of any children in your care when communicating via email.
- ☆ Consultant will contact provider to set an appointment. Consultant will visit child care home or center during a day and time that is convenient for the provider.
- ☆ The initial visit will begin with the owner/director filling out a short pre-service survey. This survey allows the provider to indicate how he or she would like to utilize consultation.

The visit will continue with the interest of the provider.

Some possible uses of Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation:

- 1) Observation of Setting-no release needed, observe entire home/classroom setting
 - 2) Observation of Child- release from parent needed, observe specific child in home/class
 - 3) Meeting with Provider-discussing social, emotional, behavioral and developmental topics
 - 4) Meeting with Parent-discussing child's behavior in provider's home/center and at home
 - 5) Offering Support-discussing frustrations and needs of home/center
 - 6) Model/Teaching-displaying developmentally appropriate practices
 - 7) Referral-to Child & Family Connections, School System, and other professionals
 - 8) Screening- ASQ and/or ASQ-SE
- ☆ After the initial visit, the consultant and provider will discuss the visit. At this time, they will set up a follow-up appointment as needed. The provider will inform the consultant of progress and future consulting interests. If a child care provider feels that the home/center needs further information on a child care topic being addressed during consultation, the consultant can provide a professional training on the topic.

